

Status Report – Newlands Parish Council

The following matters have been resolved or are in the process of so being:

1. The tree planting issue in the Southern part of Wellington Park has been resolved with the affected trees being repositioned. A minor footpath from the end of Angus Road is being laid by the same contractors. This will finally allow the transfer of the remaining open space in the Winchester part of Wellington Park to Winchester City Council.
2. Agreement has been reached with Winchester City Council on snagging issues to be resolved before transfer of open space in Wellington Park from them to Newlands Parish. This should also now include the area noted above.
3. In preparation for the transfer of the commuted sums that will come with these transfers, the RFO is examining investment opportunities to optimise the use of these sums.
4. The two cultivation plot areas are nearing completion and should be ready to transfer to Winchester City Council prior to further transfer to Newlands Parish.
5. The dog exercise areas are due for completion and again will be transferred to Newlands Parish using the same process as noted above.
6. An initial proposal for the Community Centre has been received by the Parish Council but a number of issues regarding its layout are still to be resolved.

A number of matters are still outstanding since the previous report:

1. Further action is awaited regarding the proposed foot and cycle path from Brambles Farm to Houghton Avenue. A proposed meeting between the Parish, Havant Councillors and Havant officers has still not yet taken place.
2. Open space within the Havant part of Wellington Park has not yet been adopted and Havant Borough Council has now indicated that they have been advised that they are under no obligation so to do. A meeting is being sought with the new Director of Place and Planning to try to resolve this. Failure by HBC to adopt will present an issue regarding future maintenance as transfer to a management company is virtually impossible as residents could not be charged retrospectively for this. A possible solution suggested by Taylor Wimpey's Implementation Manager would be for the remaining unadopted areas to be transferred directly to Newlands Parish despite being outside the Parish boundary but this would require further consideration. The issue of the one plot already adopted by HBC which contained the now-removed play area, and also the Southern Water sewer manhole which has blown out yet again after heavy rain, needs to be resolved.
3. The bed of the Old Park Farm Stream is overgrown and still in need of remedial work by Taylor Wimpey. This needs to be addressed before any action can be taken on the previous item.
4. Agreement has still not yet been reached over the ownership and management of the Town Park which needs agreement from both District authorities and Grainger plc and has become more urgent as a result of uncertainties arising from the possible proposals for Local Government Reorganisation.
5. The S104 agreement between Southern Water and Taylor Wimpey is still outstanding, preventing any adoption of roads. This was raised publicly at the recent Water

Conference and a response has been promised though not yet received from Southern Water.

However, a number of activities are planned for the next few months:

1. Once open space in Wellington Park has been transferred provision of additional waste bins will be considered to address the current shortage of such facilities. This has become more urgent as a result of the decision by Abri to remove the two public bins that were installed many years ago when they were Radian, and the decision by First Port to remove the bins installed in Phase 5 which had been installed without approval from residents.
2. The Parish Council has acquired equipment and organised training for Speedwatch volunteers as a first step towards managing the significant speeding problems in the estate.
3. Ongoing concerns exist regarding the use by Grainger of UKPC as a parking control company with a growing number of drivers ticketed incorrectly for stopping in controlled areas. The contract with UKPC is due to expire this year and in addition as roads in the Berewood section are adopted UKPC will no longer be the monitoring agency as this will pass to Hampshire Highways parking enforcement.
4. Negotiations are underway with the Coal Pension Fund for the Parish to maintain the open space and SuDS in the western part of Plot 500 at Proxima Park. This will depend on agreement on funding for ongoing maintenance and inclusion in the overall open space management plan.
5. The issue still exists regarding the decision by Hampshire Highways to close Sickle Way to through traffic once Darnel Road has been adopted, despite confirmation from Hampshire and IOW Fire and Rescue that they will not allow such closure to take place. The matter has been referred to the County Council for a solution which will amend the original S38 justification for closure. A response has been

given that closure is still intended but this may be challenged as and when a TRO is proposed. Fire and Rescue are planning further objections in an attempt to prevent any closure.