Transport, Access, Housing and Parking Focus Group

Meeting 6
31 January 2013 7.30pm

Present: Andrew Grimes (Chair), Ian Young, Dawn Peer, Jean Leslie, Eddie Brown, Jeff Curtis, Mike Knowles.

Attending: Katy Hughes (SPC Meeting secretary).

Apologies: Nora Muir, Maureen Erdwin, Ray Sharp, Ian Dean.

1.   Welcome and introductions
Andrew Grimes welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2.   Minutes
The minutes of the meeting of 12th December 2012 were approved as a true reflection of the meeting.

3.   Neighbourhood Plan update
Andrew Grimes gave an update on recent activities, including the Consortium meeting held in the parish hall. He noted that Gleeson are currently consulting. It was noted that a planning application for 126 dwellings at Cutbush Lane has now been submitted.

Andrew Grimes reported on the upcoming changes to S106 and the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). It was noted that most of the SDL development will be determined under the existing S106 agreements, and not CIL.

Mike Knowles informed attendees of the workshops to review the local centre which are scheduled for 9th March. He spoke about local improvements agreed as part of the Manor planning application approval, including improvements to a pedestrian and cycle bridge across the M4 and the anticipated introduction of real time bus travel information and bus shelter improvements to some bus shelters along Hollow Lane.

It was noted that the loop service around the parish needs to be introduced after 50 dwellings have been occupied.

Attendees spoke about proposals for the Mereoak Park and Ride service.

Mike Knowles reported that there is no firm delivery timetable at present for the Cutbush Lane Science Park.

4.   Equestrian Report

Ian Young updated attendees on work carried out with the local Equestrian community. Attendees reviewed a report on a recent meeting held by local equestrian representatives.

Ian noted that here are some 200 local individuals employed directly or indirectly by local equestrian businesses. Attendees acknowledged the importance of involving the equestrian community in the Neighbourhood Planning process and thanked them for the work carried out to highlight important horse walking and exercising routes. Andrew Grimes requested Ian Young to ask them to provide any more available information on the economic impact of the local equestrian businesses.

5.   Proposals for a survey questionnaire

Attendees reviewed some example questionnaires used by other communities engaging in the Neighbourhood Plan process. It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering committee will be reviewing the next steps for the focus groups once the initial issues log process has been completed.

Andrew Grimes agreed to take the issues log away and draft the issues into questions for review at the next meeting.

6.   **Review of the issues log**

The remaining 21 items from the issues log were discussed:.

Issue ref.	Category	Description	Comments:
TAH10a	Road Network	Impact of additional traffic from Shinfield and Arborfield through Shinfield Rise to Reading (e.g. for work, hospital visits, station etc.).	Steps need to be taken to mitigate, in a timely fashion, the impact on traffic to ensure free flow of traffic.
TAH11	Road Network	Car parking at new village centre. How will it cope with school, health centre and new retail units?	Sufficient parking should be provided for the additional requirements taking in to account existing parking provision and ensuring sufficient disabled parking. Travel planning for existing employers.
TAH12a	Road Network	Phasing of housing and build up of the various travel demands	Infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner, keeping pace with the development, including traffic management on existing highway network.
TAH13a	Road Network	Phasing of Arborfield development and impact on the parish road network.	Ringroad infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner, keeping pace with the development, including traffic management on existing highway network.
TAH14a	Road Network	Phasing of road network development	This is a duplication of TAH13a and TAH14a.
TAH21a	Road Network	Managing exit / entry priorities at Black Boy and Magpie & Parrot junctions to prevent residents being unable to leave Shinfield village in rush hour by car or bus.	We need to ensure that we are able to leave the village. Consortium believe that this has been factored into the planning for both road network points.

TAH23b	Road Network	Development of internal travel routes to primary healthcare.	Proposal in place to improve footpath 12. Bus loop planned east west within the community.
TAH36	Road Network	Ensure all adoptable roads are wide enough for parking and passing traffic.	Bus routes will be 6.1M wide. Design standards are already in place for this.
TAH37a	Road Network	Ensure car parking is away from carriageways	Remove (along with TAH38)
TAH45	Infrastructure	Ensure developments reinforce utility services e.g. electricity, gas, water, drainage, telecoms etc.	Electricity - UoR will need to put additional supply in. Gas available. Water - new booster station in Hyde End Road which will improve pressure in Spencers Wood. Foul water - some major infrastructure required to be implemented. Telecoms - sufficient infrastructure is already in place. Surface water drainage infrastructure to be engineered and managed. Avoid increasing riparian responsibilities.
TAH46	Infrastructure	Replace overhead electrical and telecom services when replacing/upgrading these services for new developments	Can we link some of the existing developments into the new electricity networks in areas where there are regular problems with the network?
TAH48	Infrastructure	Ensure provision of fibre optic networks.	This is already in place unless you are closer than 300M to Spencers Wood exchange.
TAH50	Social Policy	Ensure building layouts promote social cohesion	We want developers and WBC to consider the need to create a sense of community within new developments.
TAH51	Social Policy	Ensure social housing tenure support social cohesion	Tenancy policies that apply to any local authority properties should promote social capital. We would like to see a good mix of social housing that facilitates lifecycle and staying within the community.
TAH67	Social Policy	Support long term social housing tenancies	This is predominantly covered in item TAH51.
TAH73	Social Policy	Ensure new developments continue with a mix of housing tenure to promote social cohesion	This is a duplication of item TAH50
TAH78	Road Network	Achieve appropriate road and traffic management measures in each part of the village in a timely manner.	Merge 78 and 79 together.
TAH79	Road Network	Reduce speed limit to 30 mph in each village centre and wherever there is a row of dwellings on at least one side of the road if the road is excessively twisted.	Remove this as it is now part of TAH78.
TAH80	Road Network	Design of residential roads should discourage excessive speeding.	Members discussed the issue of 20MPH being unenforceable according to TVP. Issue description was changed from "Reduce speed limit to 20 mph on all purely residential roads"
TAH87	Horse riding,	All footpaths, cycles paths and bridle ways	Raise public awareness of the network.

	foot and cycle	routes to be signposted from main roads.	
TAH88	Horse riding, foot and cycle	Link Shinfield with all adjoining communities via non road means - including a foot/cycle path link to Arborfield.	This is particularly important as we recognise that Oakbank school does not intend to grow to a size sufficient for the future needs of this community and we wish to enable cycle travel to a future secondary school in Arborfield.

7. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 21st March 2013 at Shinfield Parish hall, at 19.30 hrs.