

HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL

HAVERHILL AREA FORUM

5 December 2016

Present:



Cambridgeshire:

Councillor Roger Hickford, Cambridge County Council
Councillor Stuart Miller, Horseheath Parish Council
Councillor Enid Bald, Linton Parish Council
Councillor Beatrice Ward, Linton Parish Council
Councillor Henry Batchelor, District Councillor Linton
Councillor Daniel Hoddinott, Castle Camps Parish Council

Essex

Councillor Alan Carter, Sturmer Parish Council
Councillor David Porth, Sturmer Parish Council
Councillor Elizabeth Naylor, Sturmer Parish Council
Duncan Ogilvy, Bartlow Parish Council
Councillor Nigel Chapman, Steeple Bumpstead Parish Council
Councillor Ian Westrope, Steeple Bumpstead Parish Council

Haverhill Town Council

Mayor David Roach
Councillor Paula Fox
Councillor Pat Hanlon
Councillor Betty McLatchy
Councillor Ivor McLatchy
Councillor Barry Robbins
Councillor Tony Brown

Suffolk

Councillor John Burns, Suffolk County Council
John Mayhew, Chamber of Commerce
Nick Burford, Chamber of Commerce
Paul Donno, Chamber of Commerce
Nathan Loader, Kedington Parish Council

Apologies:

Haverhill Town Council

Councillor Andrew Bramwell
Councillor Maureen Byrne
Councillor Quillon Fox
Councillor Winny Yang

Essex

Paul Bishop, Chairman of Clare

In attendance:

Stephen Segasby, East of England Ambulance Service.
Colin Poole, Town Clerk Haverhill Town Council
Alisha Jenkins, Apprentice Office Assistant

2 members of the public

Welcome

The Mayor of Haverhill, Councillor David Roach, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MINUTES

		Action
HAF /012	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> The above apologies were noted.	
HAF /011	<u>A1307 Discussion</u> R. Hickford: There is a meeting about the A1307 being held in January by City Deal, that everyone is welcome to attend. P. Donno: The Chamber of Commerce proposal is to construct a completely new road following a different route as the current road is not fit for purpose or business. T. Brown: How much resistance are you expecting to get from local Parish Councils and will this set the new road back a few years? I would be interested in seeing other proposals, rather than just settle for the first idea; which is why we need a business plan based on a robust transport study. P. Donno: We are working hard from a business point of view and have been looking into a traffic study. J. Mayhew: There was a meeting 6 weeks ago that was well represented by the Haverhill Town Council, St Edmundsbury Council and Suffolk County Council. It was agreed at that meeting that we're not just counting the heads of those that are using the road, we are looking for where people enter and leave the road. There is another meeting being held on the 16 th December, by this time there should be a high level of data ready to use to help build up our case for the road. R. Hickford: We're using the ANPR survey to look at the traffic that avoids using the A1307 but rat-runs instead, as well as where traffic goes from the A1307 – it doesn't all go to Cambridge; much will head north and south on the A11/M11.	

<p>S. Miller: Representing Horseheath, we're not happy with the idea of upgrading the A1307 to a dual carriageway. Our village is dissected by the road as it is, to be dissected by a dual carriageway would be a death-knell for the village.</p> <p>D. Roach: The discussion today isn't about exact routes or choosing specific solutions, but identifying what we need to know to make decisions.</p> <p>J. Burns: Disappointed that the ANPR survey is not extended into Suffolk as the Masterplan and the business plan should focus on all the areas that the road affects, there has to be a strategic solution.</p> <p>R. Hickford: The data from the ANPR survey will be released in the New Year, before the next Forum meeting in March.</p> <p>P. Hanlon: People have started to cut through the surrounding villages trying to get to Cambridge or past Cambridge quicker. The village roads will not be able to keep up with the amount of potential traffic that may come their way if nothing is done.</p> <p>D. Hoddinott: In Castle Camps we're facing a lot of traffic issues, this is being contributed by Saffron Walden traffic heading to join the A1307 at Linton as well.</p> <p>I. Westrope: It seems unfair that Essex County Council is not pulling their weight to help solve the problem, considering that they are helping to contribute to the traffic.</p> <p>E. Bald: Everyone seems to be just looking at their own little area, but there is a much bigger picture. Saffron Walden has such tiny Roman roads, which are filled with traffic so people are going to look to avoid the town centre. If a new road was built south of Linton then that would take some of the growth of traffic from Saffron Walden.</p> <p>J. Mayhew: We are not being specific yet about where the new road should go. If nothing happens then the surrounding villages may become gridlocked at peak times of the day in the morning and in the evening and no one wants that.</p> <p>D. Roach: Cambridge is always going to drive business and housing needs up as houses are so expensive in Cambridge, which the surrounding towns will have to accommodate the extra people, which generates the traffic.</p> <p>P. Hanlon: Matt Hancock needs to understand the needs of the villages. We need to</p>	
--	--

get him here to one of these meetings or get the village representatives to go down and meet him.

P. Donno:

There will now be 4,000 new homes and a research park which is helping to build a strong business case and then we can get the money to work on a new road.

E. Bald:

It only seems like the Chamber are focusing on a road, and not exploring any other options whilst we wait for the data to come back.

J. Mayhew:

Haverhill is growing and it needs to grow. 15,000 homes and 20,000 jobs follow that road. We need to go forward here and raise money to get a new road and try not to make the same mistakes again. We need to get a solution before all of those new houses are built and will then be joining the traffic to that road.

D. Hoddinott:

It will take a long time to go through just the planning process and the proposals of ideas for a new railway. We just need to look for an option that will have minimal damage on the surrounding villages.

T. Brown:

We must work to establish the political will to get things done.

C. Turner:

We are 16 years down the line since this issue began and nothing has happened. we need to identify the solution and then we can look to get some money to get it delivered.

B. Ward:

The fear some Linton residents have is that whilst the discussion is that we are going to aim to get a new road, the sub-plot is to aim high but just settle to upgrade the existing A1307.

P. Hanlon:

It wouldn't be very cost effective to do that.

R. Hickford:

No one wants that.

D. Hoddinott:

At the moment there is only 1 speed camera. Is it not possible to get several more speed cameras in place temporarily until we have the money to change the road?

R. Hickford:

Speed cameras are issued on roads that have a high cluster of fatalities. We know that a lot of the accidents happen on that road on the weekend when the road is not as busy and people can get up to the speed limit of the road.

Safety and peak time congestion are our two main points that's we are

	<p>making our business case on.</p> <p>E. Ward: I don't believe that speed is the problem for the road. There are 17 different junctions attached to the road and people get impatient and take risks and that's when people get hurt and get into accidents.</p> <p>C. Turner: If you go onto the Google Maps traffic app, it is live data powered by google analysing the whereabouts of android phones. Could we get in contact with Google Analytics and ask them if they would share the data that they have got for that road.</p> <p>R. Hickford: Yes, our consultants already use that data.</p> <p>D. Roach: We need to make sure that we get all the relevant data needed for that road and that we keep pushing the right people to help to get something done about the A1307 road.</p> <p>The Action points arising from this meeting are to highlight concerns to both Essex and Suffolk Highways about the need to fully engage with Cambridgeshire on the matter of upgrading the A1307, to address the perception these counties regard this as not their problem. Also, to request cutting back of overgrowth vegetation by signage on the A1307 Haverhill bypass.</p>	<p>CP: Send letter to Suffolk County Council & Essex County Council.</p>
<p>HAF /012</p>	<p><u>Open Forum</u> Action points from the last meeting.</p> <p>J. Burns: Ambulance workers have a set time of 8 minutes to get to an accident, so does that mean that you get a pat on your back if you get there in 7 minutes and 59 seconds but classed as a fail if you get there at 8 minutes and 1 second?</p> <p>S. Segasby Yes that is the time frame that we are measured against. There are two different categories that accidents are put into, R1 is urgent medical attention needed and R2 is the non-threatening injuries. Response figures for R1 accidents in Suffolk are good and the Haverhill area is marked as above average and also R2 was statistically good in the area.</p> <p>C. Poole Could you please explain the priority system for responses, in that the presence of a first responder or paramedic affects whether and when an ambulance might attend?</p> <p>S. Segasby Yes. A medical director decides on the appropriate response for each incident – for instance a heart attack always means an ambulance is</p>	

	<p>dispatched and won't be diverted. But a lesser incident, say a fall, having a paramedic attending means that incident is being addressed and unless the situation becomes life-threatening any ambulance on-route may be diverted to a higher priority call.</p> <p>Mayor Roach thanked Mr Segasby for attending the forum.</p> <p>P. Hanlon: Following on from the discussion at the last forum regarding text alerts for appointments being timed to early, the CCG took this back and have now updated the system to now also alert people the day before their appointment and to give the opportunity to cancel the appointment if they no longer intend to keep it. Reportedly, this change had led to appointment waiting times getting better; before the average waiting time was 3-4 weeks and is now 1-2 weeks.</p>	
<p>HAF /013</p>	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u> Proposed meeting dates: Monday 20th March 2017 Monday 26th June 2017 Monday 25th September 2017 Monday 27th November 2017 These will be at the Haverhill Arts Centre.</p>	

Closure

The meeting closed at 8.45pm and was followed by refreshments & networking.