

**MINDENHURST  
COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP  
MINUTES**

<b>Meeting date:</b>	Tuesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
<b>Time:</b>	6pm – 7pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Microsoft Teams
<b>Skanska attendees:</b>	<p>Leisliane Garcia (<b>LG</b>), <i>Development Director – Skanska</i>  Peter Cater (<b>PC</b>), <i>Development Manager – Skanska</i>  Niki Dufour (<b>ND</b>), <i>Community Relations Manager – Skanska</i>  Robert Smith (<b>RS</b>) – <i>Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)</i>  Michael Russell (<b>MRu</b>) – <i>Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)</i>  Nick Sutcliffe (<b>NS</b>), <i>Director – BECG</i>  Samuel Carr (<b>SDC</b>), <i>Account Manager – BECG</i></p>
<b>Community attendees:</b>	<p>Councillor Paul Deach (<b>PD</b>) – <i>Surrey County Councillor &amp; Surrey Heath BC</i>  Councillor Adrian Page (<b>AP</b>) – <i>Surrey Heath BC</i>  Councillor Morgan Rise (<b>MRi</b>) – <i>Surrey Heath BC</i>  Clare Kennedy (<b>CK</b>) – <i>Deepcut Neighbourhood Forum</i>  Revd. Daniel Natnael (<b>DN</b>) – <i>St Barbara’s Church, Deepcut</i>  Keith Maynard (<b>KM</b>) – <i>St Barbara’s Church, Deepcut</i>  Sarita Bishop (<b>SB</b>) – <i>Principal Planning Officer, Surrey Heath BC</i></p>
<b>Apologies:</b>	<p>Jacques Olmo (<b>JO</b>) – <i>Mytchett, Frimley Green, and Deepcut Society</i>  Councillor Helen Whitcroft (<b>HW</b>) – <i>Surrey Heath BC</i></p>

**1. Welcome**

- **NS** opened the meeting.
- Colleagues from Skanska and DIO introduced themselves.

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021**

- No comments were raised regarding the minutes of the previous CLG meeting.

### 3. Project update

- **NS** shared his screen, displaying a series of slides to the CLG during the course of the meeting.
- **LG** offered a project update, explaining that since the previous meeting public consultation had taken place and that feedback has been received. She explained that Sarita Bishop is currently following up on comments from consultees on the reserved matters application and that submission is now expected in June 2021.
- **LG** noted that the pedestrian and cycle route on Mindenhurst Road has been opened. She explained that details of the food store operator should be announced in Summer 2021, and that an update will be provided to the CLG once this decision is reached.
- **DN** asked whether the team were pleased with the community engagement. **LG** replied that the results of the consultation and Skanska's response to them would be outlined during the next meeting item.

### 4. Response to consultation

- **NS** outlined the public consultation process that had been undertaken, noting the wide geographical reach and publicity that had been deployed. He explained that 916 unique users viewed the website; 100 questions were submitted during the two webinars; and that 27 people left feedback. He explained that the low-level of feedback suggests that Skanska's reserved matters proposals were relatively uncontroversial in the community.
- **NS** highlighted that 66% of feedback came from the Deepcut area, 22% from Heatherside, and 12% from Frimley Green.
- **NS** displayed a pie chart highlighting answers to the question: "To what extent do you agree that the combined infrastructure proposals will improve the quality of life for local residents?", noting that more than half of respondents either strongly supported or supported this statement.
- **NS** highlighted that traffic and car parking are recurring themes in all the infrastructure feedback, citing different concerns about the car parking spaces to be provided for the Sports Hub (concern that there would not enough parking for matches) versus fears of too much parking for the formal park leading to it being a destination generating additional traffic.
- **PD** sought to offer some context to the feedback regarding car parking, noting that:
  - what people are worried about on match days is that a lack of spaces will lead to parking at Dettingen Park; whereas
  - if there is not enough parking for the already popular Village Green plus the formal park and the pub when it opens there will be a problem.
- **NS** gave an overview of the responses to the questions regarding the sports hub (where over 70% support was recorded) and the formal park proposals where over 60% support was recorded.

- **NS** outlined that there was a strong (60%) support for a new Church Hall in the feedback, with 50% supporting or strongly supporting the view that the Church and Church Hall should be linked. However, he noted that a significant number of people were uncertain on this point.
- **CK** explained that the main issue for village residents is that people are parking on the road, in part because the signs for the free parking are not large enough. She suggested that there should be some consideration of double yellow lines on Deepcut Bridge Road.
- **SB** sought clarification on whether respondents meant the formal park, when they referred to the “public park” in their feedback. **NS** confirmed this was for the formal park.
- **SB** said she was confused by the view that the car park is too large, suggesting that the proposals are essentially just resurfacing and improving what is already there in terms of lighting, connectivity, surfacing.
- **NS** displayed a summary of written feedback, noting that overflow parking, use of parking in the evening, and the potential increase in traffic were all raised. He explained that the new Mindenhurst Road opening will have a material benefit in addressing these concerns.
- **NS** noted that bicycle storage, the management of the Church Hall, and general welcoming for the additional footpaths and green space also featured in the feedback.
- **NS** clarified that while some comments in the responses touched on GP surgeries and school provision, these were outside of the scope of Skanska’s reserved matters proposals.
- **SB** indicated that the local Clinical Commissioning Group (or CCG) does not want to have a new facility on site and has asked for a financial contribution from Skanska instead.
- **CK** asked whether a copy of the feedback report displayed by **NS** could be shared to the CLG. **NS** responded that a copy will be placed onto the Community page of the Mindenhurst website.
- **RS** stated that DIO would take away and consider the traffic and parking feedback received. He explained that he wants to make sure the development is open to many access methods, e.g. cycle and foot, and not just via car.

## 5. Construction Communications

- **ND** explained that since the CLG last met, Skanska is now sending out monthly newsletters, summarising construction works and highlighting any impact that these will have on residents. She explained that these will detail work completed and community events, as well as other news that may come through.
- **ND** stated that Skanska has also sent out its first monthly e-newsletter covering the same info as the printed version, but with links to the stories covered. She explained that all of the newsletters will be available on the website under the Community tab.
- **ND** highlighted that 50 people attended Skanska’s sunflower planting event on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May, despite the weather, during mental health awareness week, thanking everyone who helped promote the event.

- **ND** explained that Skanska is pledging its support to the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Keep Britain Tidy *Great British Spring Clean*, noting that Skanska project staff will be active on 1<sup>st</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> June to pick litter. This initiative will be advertised on the community noticeboards.
- **MRi** informed the group that several of his residents had been in touch asking when the zip wire the park will be fixed. **ND** replied that the parts should be arriving next week.
- **PD** expressed his gratitude to Skanska for upping its communications game, observing that while he used to get many emails about this development, he is now receiving more queries about other smaller developments.
- **CK** asked whether she could receive high-quality versions of the pictures displayed by **ND**. **ND** agreed to provide these.

## 6. Next Steps

- **LG** explained that, in terms of next steps for construction, Skanska still have to ensure that it has full approval in place before it can work on the central sang and central green swathe, but she highlighted that this is the top priority.
- **LG** explained that Skanska's next monthly update will include more information on what is happening on site.
- **LG** noted that Bovis and Cala continue to work on houses in Deepcut, and she is pleased to see new residents coming into the community.

## 7. Any Other Business

- **KM** explained that, while the Church community believe that Skanska have done a great job on the SANG, footpath trails, infrastructure, and so forth, they are unhappy about the pressing situation with the fabric of the former Garrison church. He noted that the Church has been closed for a year because of COVID and in that time no work has been done to the building, which means that the community now has no place to gather or worship other than the car park.
- **KM** asked when work on the Church will begin, expressing concern that the current listed building consent might expire. **KM** stated that they have asked whether there are any surplus MoD buildings that could be made available in the meantime for use by the church.
- **RS** responded that he is going to visit the Church on 19<sup>th</sup> May to check on the situation. He explained that there is a possibility that DIO could allow an interim occupation of the church, or an alternative former MoD building in the interim, but he has not yet liaised with the rest of the MoD. He stated that he would provide a further response to **KM**.
- **LG** replied that Skanska has undertaken the consultation for the Church link and it is incorporating final design for submission in Summer 2021.

- **DN** emphasised that he feels hugely disappointed in DIO, noting that the community has supported the Army for hundreds of years, yet feels very let down.
- **RS** recognised the need to find a way forward, noting that given the planning application process necessarily takes time he will explore potential interim options with **MRu**.
- **SB** explained that the Council granted listed building consent for works to the Church back in 2019, explaining that permission exists to repair the fabric and spire, subject to submission of materials relevant to conditions. She added that, from her understanding, the delay has arisen from a desire not to undertake work to the Church separate from the Church Hall scheme.
- **LG** explained that works cannot start without adequate access and scaffolding, which is what remains outstanding. She indicated that it would be time-consuming to apply for new consent, so Skanska want to put in one application for Church access and the Church Hall at the same time.
- **ND** mentioned that she has received a query from a resident asking whether there is a waiting list for the allotments. She questioned the councillors on who will be managing this.
  - **PD** replied that she should direct such resident enquiries to him; and
  - **MRi** replied that the best person at the Council will be Daniel Harrison;
- **MRi** asked whether Deepcut residents would get first refusal on the allotments.
  - **SB** replied that the Council do not know yet, but think that will be the case;
  - **MRi** suggested that he, **PD**, and **HW** should have a separate conversation about this.
- **NS** confirmed that the next CLG will take place between **6pm and 7pm** on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021**.
- **NS** thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7 pm.