

**MINDENHURST
COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP
MINUTES**

Meeting date:	Tuesday, 27 th July 2021
Time:	6.30pm – 7.00pm
Venue:	Microsoft Teams
Skanska attendees:	<p>Leisliane Garcia (LG), <i>Development Director – Skanska</i> Peter Cater (PC), <i>Development Manager – Skanska</i> Niki Dufour (ND), <i>Community Relations Manager – Skanska</i> Robert Smith (RS) – <i>Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)</i> Michael Russell (MR) – <i>Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)</i> Nick Sutcliffe (NS), <i>Director – BECG</i> Samuel Carr (SC), <i>Account Manager – BECG</i></p>
Community attendees:	<p>Councillor Paul Deach (PD) – <i>Surrey County Councillor & Surrey Heath BC</i> Howard Hyde (HH) – <i>Mytchett, Frimley Green, and Deepcut Society & Deepcut Neighbourhood Forum</i> Alan Barnard (AB) – <i>Deepcut Neighbourhood Forum</i> Revd. Daniel Natnael (DN) – <i>St Barbara’s Church, Deepcut</i> Keith Maynard (KM) – <i>St Barbara’s Church, Deepcut</i> Sarita Bishop (SB) – <i>Principal Planning Officer, Surrey Heath BC</i></p>
Apologies:	<p>Councillor Morgan Rise (MR) – <i>Surrey Heath BC</i> Councillor Helen Whitcroft (HW) – <i>Surrey Heath BC</i> Clare Kennedy (CK) – <i>Deepcut Neighbourhood Forum</i> Jacques Olmo (JO) – <i>Mytchett, Frimley Green, and Deepcut Society</i> Councillor Adrian Page (AP) – <i>Surrey Heath BC</i></p>

1. **Welcome**

- **NS** opened the meeting.

2. **Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18th May 2021**

- No comments or corrections were forthcoming.

3. **Project Overview**

- **LG** updated the CLG on the timescales for the new pub, noting that construction had begun and that this would likely take 10 months to deliver.
- **LG** informed the CLG that Skanska continues to discuss the design of the Loop Road with the County Council and Borough Council, and that it is in final stages prior to submitting details to Surrey Heath.
- **LG** informed the CLG that Skanska is focused on submitting the remaining of reserved matters applications, with the formal submissions phased over summer, autumn, and winter.
- **LG** explained that over summer 2021, Skanska will be doing undertaking further surveys of St Barbara's Church in order to bring forward further renovations, noting that the CLG should expect to see activity there over the next few months.
- **LG** noted that Skanska have started to move bats from the RLC HQ Officers Mess building, and that once that work is complete then demolition will commence.
- **LG** added that the Central SANG and Green Swathe will be subject to a few determinations, but that this work will start in next few months.
- **PD** asked how the flood mitigation measures and flood defences have held up under recent rainfall.
 - **LG** replied that every time it rains Skanska send in a team to inspect the area – and that at the moment these defences are holding up well, with all measures implemented in the last 12 months working well.
 - **LG** added that Skanska have implemented additional procedures at the pond – though there had not been a need to use the process as yet, because the temporary basins in the Southern SANG had not overflowed.
- **DN** asked when works would begin on the land between the two CALA Homes sites.
 - **LG** replied that the works taking place at this location relate to removing vegetation to allow pre-enabling works to take place before soft and hard landscaping can be installed. However, she clarified that these works cannot proceed until we have a full planning permission. She explained that the planning application is currently with lawyers, who are finalising the legal agreement.
- **SB** added that the SHBC are just working out the terms of legal agreement and long-term maintenance of surface water drainage for the Green Swathe.

4. Newsletters

- **NS** displayed the June and July newsletters on screen, asking whether the CLG had any comments or questions arising from these.
- No comments or corrections were forthcoming.

5. Use of Drones

- **PC** outlined that Skanska had recently taken part in a trial, authorised by the Civil Aviation Authority, of civilian drones operated remotely from a significant distance, which is why the community may have heard one in the area.
 - He explained the trial offered an opportunity for Skanska to deliver innovation to construction processes.
 - He outlined that while drones currently need to be flown within eyesight range for safety reasons, more remote use might allow surveys and inspections of buildings and sites to be undertaken without the need to put workers on scaffolding at great height, thereby reducing costs, health and safety risks, and carbon emissions.
 - He added that the BBC's Click technology programme was on site two months ago to observe this test, which took place in an enclosed and fenced area, but Skanska are not yet aware of when this footage will be used on television.
- **PD** outlined that he has business experience of commercial drones, explaining that he welcomed Skanska's willingness to innovate. However, he noted that residents' safety would be his key concern and he would be keen to know whether operators were on the ground who could take control where necessary.
 - PC confirmed that this was the case.

6. Community Events

- **ND** gave the CLG an update on the Wild Week of community events taking place between 26th July and 1st August, describing the events to celebrate local nature and wildlife, including the recent Minibeast Hunt through the Central SANG and the upcoming Bat Walk.
- **PD** welcomed the Wild Week events, describing himself as very excited by the nature and biodiversity that has been created by the SANG.

7. Any Other Business

- **PD** asked what Skanska feel they have achieved from these CLG meetings, noting that, from his point of view, most of the information presented at the meetings could have been acquired from the development team.
 - **LG** replied that, in her view, the main purpose of these meetings is to create a communications channel between Skanska, key councillors, and major community groups, adding that the forum provides a forum for concerns to be expressed and for Skanska to listen and respond.
 - **LG** continued that Skanska were open to feedback on the running of the CLG, both in relation to its frequency and current virtual set-up via Teams, and asked CLG members with a view on these points to contact **SC** via email.
- **PD** asked whether Skanska feel planning issues are starting to move faster than they had been previously.
 - **LG** replied that while all stakeholders are now working together and committed to progressing the issues, progress is still not as fast as Skanska would like.
- **PD** stated that he was disappointed to hear how long things are taking to deliver the refurbishment of the Church, asking why there has been a delay.
 - **LG** replied that surveys of the Church will be undertaken this year, which will provide the information Skanska need to fulfil the conditions set out within the extant planning permission relating to materials. She clarified that once that has been once this has been actioned, Skanska can seek to put together the information necessary for the Church refurbishment and deliver a formal Reserved Matters submission. She explained that the work on the Church is phased within the wider delivery.
- **PD** reiterated that he does not wish to see any unnecessary delays with getting the work done.
- **DN** highlighted that the longer the Church is closed the more that needs to be done to restore it. He added that his primary concern is the spiritual welfare of the community; despite having use of the local school for worship now, it does not fully deliver on their needs.
- **HH** queried whether Skanska's upcoming survey of the Church would assess the full range of maintenance needs for the Church and not just seek to rectify the outstanding issues from the 2012 assessment.
 - **LG** clarified that the repairs to the Church would be based on a survey that examines the current condition of the Church right now, including the current maintenance needs.
 - **SB** replied that Listed Building Consent for works on the Church, granted in 2019, includes conditions that oblige Skanska to provide a lot of detailed information. She explained that this information requires an up-to-date survey to inform the submission.
 - **HH** indicated that he was reassured by these replies.

- **HH** queried when the community can expect to see the Deepcut Bridge Road work delivered.
 - **SB** replied that Surrey Heath Borough Council are not currently happy with the Deepcut Bridge Road submission and that there is an outstanding job for **SB**, SCC Highways, and the SHBC Tree Officer to re-walk the route and understand the nature of the tree loss. She added that she would like to see the retention of as many trees as possible.
- **HH** queried when the community can expect to see the new supermarket open and operating. He indicated that the local community has not anticipated the loss of the only supermarket in the village – and that this has been hard for people who do not have cars.
 - **SB** replied that Skanska and the Council share a commitment to delivering the food store, which they know to be important to local residents – and that the aim is to provide this amenity as soon as possible.
 - **SB** added that Skanska have received information from Skanska regarding the supermarket and that SHBC's retail consultant is looking at it.
- **HH** queried when the community can expect to see the enhanced bus service begin operating.
 - **SB** noted that the trigger-point for the enhanced bus service has not yet been reached, but that SCC Highways are assessing it at the moment as part of the overall S106 agreement, so that it can come forwards as the development progresses.
- **PD** added that communications between Skanska and the community are now much better – and as a result the community are much better informed about what is going on than they were before.

8. Date of the next meeting

- **NS** confirmed that the next Mindenhurst CLG would take place at 6pm on **Tuesday 7th September 2021**.
- **SC** shared calendar invitations and virtual meeting links to attendees immediately after the meeting.