

**Hampshire and Isle of Wight
Local Government Landscape Group**

**HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT LOCAL GOVERNMENT LANDSCAPE
GROUP**

**Wednesday 27 September 2006
Havant Borough Council Offices**

Present:

**Paul Johnston - Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
Mark Wilson – Hampshire County Council
Stephen D’Este Hoare – East Hants District Council
Tim Dyer – Eastleigh Borough Council
Julie Boschi – Havant Borough Council
Julie Gilbertson - Havant Borough Council
Jan Anderson – Portsmouth City Council
Viv Fifield – Winchester City Council
Catherine Harris – New Forest District Council.**

1. Apologies

Paul Best, Peter Phillips, Mike Tartaglia-Kershaw

2. Minutes of 20 July 2006 meeting.

Agreed

3. Landscape Institute/South-West Branch.

- Pathway to Chartership has just been launched
- Landscape Institute South West has a web-site www.lisw.org.uk
- LISW has a visit to Poole on Sat 14 October entitled ‘Perception of Urban Areas’ £2 per person and a good chance to get the old sketch book and pencils out. Contact LISW for more info.
- LISW currently arranging a Christmas event – no details yet, but watch this space.

4. Landscape Magazine.

An article was submitted for consideration for the November Issue of Landscape Magazine. No feedback yet apart from requests for additional photographs, although awaiting the editors knife to slice parts out as it was impossible to keep to the word limit.

PJ to email a copy to all on HLGLG, however, the size of the article with pictures is rather large, so I’ll try to make a pdf and send it around.

5. Validating Planning Applications

SDH is involved in a review of the procedures for validating planning applications, based on the ODPM's guidance 'Best Practice for Validating Planning Applications' and was wanting to see if there was any general consensus as to what should be included with respect to landscape issues.

A few of the group had been involved to varying degrees in this and landscape issues are covered in some degree in documents required for various applications – eg site survey; EA's, Design Statements, AIA's Ecological Assessments; Nature Conservation etc. However, the consistency of provision of this information seemed to vary.

Stephen is to continue working on this and will update the group as he progresses.

6. Play Strategies

Jane Hunter at HCC wanted to make everyone aware of the Big Lottery Fund scheme for play funding. £200,000 is available for each district but will be dependent on the existence of a Play Strategy.

Mark Charters at HCC is the contact for this in the Education Department.

Details also available on the Big Lottery Fund website or can be accessed via the Play Council website.

7. Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan

Mark updated the group on the progression of the site selection process.

At the moment there is an initial informal discussion on the sites chosen, which can be accessed via HantsWeb in the Mineral and Resource Section of the Planning page.

There will be a more formal consultation next summer.

8. New Projects

SDH – New initiative in Whitehill/Bordon. £40,000 Capital Scheme within the town centre and community centre to improve the environment.

TD – SDA is heading towards an EIP

- Landscape and Townscape Character Assessment being done in Eastleigh. The landscape element is being done in house and the team are currently trying to work out how to tie the two assessments together.

JA – The old Tricorn site is being redeveloped and is a joint PCC/Private project that will take in Commercial Road aswell

- Landscape Assessment being undertaken for the Station frontage
- Small amount of environmental work being done in Southsea town centre
- 'Decent Environments' Initiative is continuing, which involves improving the areas around the base of some of the city's towerblocks.

MW – Revisions to the HCC Landscape Character Assessment are in the pipeline

PJ – In light of the Inspector's decision in the last Local Plan Inquiry to reject the policy on listed gardens, a future area of work is likely to involve a more comprehensive assessment of sites that are on the list.

9. AOB.

Benchmarking questionnaire

Could everyone who has not yet replied to Julian Evans' Benchmarking Questionnaire please do so – any queries or problems please contact Julian on 01256 845412.

HLGLG Website

Mike Tartaglia-Kershaw has kindly offered to become our webmaster, looking after and updating the site. He wants to know what sort of things the group would like to see on it. All to consider for the next meeting.

Following the meeting, Julie Boschi took us on a guided walk around some of the work that has been recently implemented by Havant Borough Council as part of the Liveability programme. This took in some interesting pieces of artwork and street furniture based around the town park and the spring at Homewell.

Next Meeting – Thursday 20th November, New Forest DC (12.45pm – NB change of time).