Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Government Landscape Group

Minutes of meeting held Thursday 27th January 2005 Avalon House, Winchester

Present

Paul Best Hampshire County Council
Neil Jones Eastleigh Borough Council
Clare Collins Rushmoor Borough Council
Jill Colclough Test Valley Borough Council
Stephen d'Este Hoare (Chair) East Hants District Council

Paul Johnston Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

Neil Williamson New Forest District Council
Viv Fyfield Winchester City Council
Julian Davies Eastleigh Borough Council

Circulation

HLGLG members; Dorset Landscape Group; HIPOG; LI Public Sector Committee

The meeting opened with a presentation by Paul Grover. He is the new Director of the Solent Art and Design Centre. He outlined his background and that of the new Centre. In particular he explained the role of the Centre and how it could be of use to all local authorities and others in the future. The Centre is a resource to be used and he is keen to develop good working relations with us and the communities with which we work.

1 Apologies

Julie Boschi, Mark Ellison, Mike Tartaglia-Kershaw

2 Minutes of meeting held 18 November 2004 Agreed

3 Matters arising

Suggested that HLGLG meetings are held in the afternoon to allow site visits in the summer months without having to rush back for meetings – agreed to implement.

4 Action Plan Review

- Members to find most recent version of Action Plan and circulate to group/ bring to next meeting. VF to investigate and forward to SDEH.
- Deferred discussion until next meeting

5 Landscape Guidance Working Party Update

- Agreed to use Landscape Checklist as a basis to the Landscape Guidance
- Graphics to be incorporated to give a good practice guidance section
- Agreed to produce document on the web which will be adoptable in principle as an SPD by individual authorities. Also to be produced in Powerpoint presentation format which will also be available to everyone for presentation/explanation purposes.
- Meeting to be arranged Mid-February to discuss and produce graphics
- Agreed target of bringing draft to next meeting (17th March 2005)
- Topics that were covered previously will still be in, but with reduced text. Graphics however will be expanded.

5 Landscape Southwest (RP)

- A second home zone event planned for this year, but date and location not yet planned.
- SW Branch website now accessible.

6 New Projects and Innovations

Winchester (VF)

- DC work overwhelming at present.
- Draft Biodiversity Action Plan ready.
- Have funded wildlife trust to manage SSSI water meadow on Keats Walk in Winchester.
- High Hedges issues!

Hampshire (PB)

- Cultural Centres Gosport centre to open in March 2005 and well worth a visit.
- Winchester cultural centre next on list.

Eastleigh (JD)

- Emerging Town Centre Action Plan being discussed
- Confirmation was given at end of November (2004) for progress with highway improvements at Factory Road and Lee Road – abandoning use of kerbs in favour of having common surface with differing materials.
- Design brief for Fair Oak village has bee compiled and consultation starts in February 2005.
- Principles of Development Document completed.

East Hants (Sd'EH)

- County Villages Initiative ongoing committee April/May
- Planning Inspector's report on the Local Plan is expected very soon

Rushmoor (CC)

 Rushmoor Design Awards to be launched at end of Feb to try and boost public knowledge of good design in general.

Basingstoke and Deane (PJ)

- Local Plan Inquiry still ongoing finished written reps, informal hearings have now started.
- Neighbourhood renewal developing plans for next year.
- Environment and regeneration grant 35 applications to assess and put most appropriate forward for funding.
- Popley Fields Work
- DC consultations

Test Valley (JC)

- Nothing new to report
- Inquiry to finish end of February

New Forest (RP)

- Hythe promenade scheme to start on site in early summer and Milford Seafront scheme has been completed.
- Open Space Co-ordinator now been recruited
- About to launch into PPG17 Study outside consultants to be employed.
- Design Statement Guidance Ongoing
- National Park Authority to be set up from April this year.

7 High Hedges

- Still uncertainty about which departments are to take on the work load in each council.
- There is talk of funding for joint officer between authorities to spread costs. Are you interested?
- Awaiting next move from ODPM in redrafting the Regulations.

Next Meeting

Please note that the next meeting is now in the afternoon - 2pm Thursday 17th March 2004 at Council Offices, Petersfield