



Reports from outside bodies

May 2016

Stagecoach Bus Company Meeting

Held at Yateley Town Council Offices 6 April 2016

Present:

Richard Tyldsley, Operations Manager, Stagecoach Bus Company
Adrian Collett (YTC)
Graham Cockarill (YTC)
Gerry Crisp (YTC)
Tony Spencer (YTC)
Jane Biscombe (YTC)

Issues raised

Surrey CC review of bus services

A transport consultation by Surrey County Council, proposed a change to the No 3 bus, changing buses at Camberley. Many Yateley bus users take the bus to Frimley Hospital, and many missed the 14 March deadline.

Yateley Town Council contacted Stagecoach to discuss the service, and they agreed to meet on 6 April at the Council Offices. However, in the meantime, Ann Kern and The Tythings Coffee Club had contacted Surrey CC and, as a consequence of their answers, announced that the service would be unchanged, days before the meeting.

Richard Tyldsley, area operations manager, met with councillors, and confirmed that the proposal had been under consideration to improve the timekeeping along the route from Aldershot to Yateley, and thought that having pairs of buses shuttling between Yateley and Camberly and Camberly to Frimley, would facilitate more accurate timekeeping. Now they were negotiating a changeover at Frimley Hospital. Far from reducing the service they were looking to increase it, in fact considering increasing the regularity to every 10 minutes, and extending into the evening. The Council informed them of the potential Yateley bus market and lack of services to parts of Frogmore and Tudor Drive, and Mr Tyldsley would investigate our ideas and report back.

Also discussed the lack o bus services from Yateley to Farnborough and Fleet to connect to the rail network, which Mr Tyldsley undertook to investigate and report back.

We discussed bus shelters, but the bus operators only undertake to put up bus stop signs and timetables and may find funding for up to 5 RTIs, which inform how long the wait fo the next bus is and the route the bus will take. Some bus stops have a tag that can be scanned by a smart phone and gives the user live information about the bus service.

Report from Representatives on Outside Bodies

More information can be found on www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables where there are live timetables and www.traveline.info which is not live running but is a free app. The App he recommended Bus Checker, retails at £3.99.

Next meeting to be arranged.

Hart District ALC Meeting

Held at Church Crookham, Eastleigh on 12 April 2016

Cllrs John Keane and Tony Spencer attended.

The venue

Local Councillors explained that the convoluted route to the new sports hall was through the new estate because the new, and more direct, link road promised would likely be built after the final 300-400 houses were completed. The total build was 972 houses on the old Gurkha barracks.

Hart DC Report

Daryll Philips spoke about Devolution and that the Greater Manchester Combined Authority are already on their third deal already, with an elected mayor being a precondition of getting an agreement with government. Prospective devolved bodies are dealing directly with the Treasury and not with ministers. One of the problems is that Whitehall doesn't recognise a 2-tier system of counties and districts, let alone parishes, so they are finding it easier to deal with unitary authorities.

Solent have gone alone but not signed yet, as County still have a block on it, or at least feels it holds sway, but the Government says that Hampshire do not have the ability to block a deal with any of the authorities within the county. So, North Hampshire have got together and putting forward their own proposal for devolution. The Government are saying that if the present authorities do not sort out themselves into sustainable devolved regions, the government will impose their own pattern of devolution on them.

Housing is in the deals but in different ways, older schemes spoke about acceleration of house building, while now they seem to be about meeting needs only. Government is not keen on have referendums for devolution but want to rush it through, even though the deals seem less attractive to local authorities now, especially as business rates are no longer part of the deal.

East Hants Council are interested in being party in shared services, saving £50m over 10 years across the five authorities.

Local Plan, there were 4600 responses and East Hants are going through the inputs now, while otherwise in election purdah. Hart DC Councillors will hear the results first, which will be presented to the council by the end of May, and announce the results at the beginning of June. HDALC councillors are concerned that they are being left out of the loop and will not be consulted or informed before the details of the consultation go public. Hart consider the daft local plan in August. All files have been moved to East Hants and part of the Planning Dept have moved over with it, but the head of East Hants Planning is in charge and East Hants will be drafting the local plan. The plan should be submitted by March 2017 to the Secretary of State, but the planning inspectorate are overworked and it could be 18 months before responding to the local plan.

In answer to questions from councillors, the elections of the 5th May, Districts will be counted on the night, the PCC verified overnight and counted at 1030 on Friday, in concert with Southampton. The 23 June referendum will be counted on the night.

Hart's standards committee reports complaints are low locally.

Report from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Hart are carrying out a Brownfield land study, with only 400 identified so far. Eastleigh BC are looking at our sites and from a marketability perspective. Ancells and Bartley Wood, Blackwater & Hawley and Yateley, have areas included. Patrick Barrage's report will be circulated to parishes, and was the following day.

Parish reports

Crondall have updated their conservation documents, through consultation and adoption. Have used email to generate interest in the public attending council meetings. They have bumped up their precept. Report growing crime problem with tractor sheds being broken into.

Dogmersfield had 50 attend their Annual Meeting and have a steering committee working on their neighbourhood plan.

Greywell are fighting a plan to put 170 houses on a strategic gap and had a public clean up of the village. Finally got their WWI War Memorial erected in November 2015, 97 years after the end of hostilities.

Winchfield's planning exercise cost £10,000, but have raised £50,000 among contributors. Clerk retiring and a new appointment made, found replacement by advertising through HALC. Looking forward to an 8-day music festival in the summer.

Reports presented

Hart Local Children's Partnership and Hart Community Safety Partnership.

Next meetings

Dates 12 July and 10 October but venues to be decided. Yateley Town Council have since offered either dates, as have Blackwater & Hawley, and both will be visited and venues confirmed by Alistair, HDALC chairman.

Blackbushe Airport Consultation Meeting

Held at Hart DC, Fleet on 21 April 2016

Cllrs Tony Spencer and Gerry Crisp attended
Cllrs Adrian Collett and David Simpson represented the County

Chairman of the meeting Mick Lambert, airport manager
Cameron Ogden, Blink MD
Emma Whittaker, Hart Planning, took notes
Various parish councillors representing Hartley Wintney and Blackwater & Hawley
Others present from Terence O'Rourke, planning consultants who put the document together, and Blink.

Cameron Ogden passed around the prepared document and said that Blackbushe Airport had suffered from no investment over the years since BCA bought it. The airfield wasn't part of BCA's core business, so they took little interest in it. PremAir, who operated helicopters from Blackbushe, have closed their doors and BCA have taken over their hangar space and redeveloping it, and sold the airport to Blinkbushe.

Blinkbushe are the holding company that own the airport, bought after 18 months of negotiations by Sir Peter Ogden. Now the owners want to put investment into the Airport to bring the facilities up to modern expectations. The ownership of the airport and its use in the future is not a short term investment, it is a family business and in this long term. The Ogden family are involved in education and want to include the community in this investment. Blinkbushe and Blink are individual companies, Cameron Ogden's company Blink, which operate a fleet of small executive jets, is wholly owned by the Ogden family, and they have taken over the lease of the airport from the holding company.

Firstly, more buildings are required as the 40 000 square feet of hangar space used by PremAir have gone to BCA. Also, space is needed to bring in rental income, to improve the sustainability of the Airport. They need hangarage on site, and there are no facilities for customers and passengers, customs, security, flight crews, etc. They intend to focus on maintenance and aviation engineering in the area to occupy the new-builds. There is demand locally, they believe, and they have put together a good business model. The 1200m runway has its limitations so the Airport will only attract a limited range of users, but there is demand for a good mix of users other than Blink, which they want to encourage with the appropriate facilities.

Phase 1 proposed adding 12 500 sq ft of offices and workshops for maintenance, which will create new jobs on a small scale. Also including 48,000 sq ft of hangar space tailored to suit individual users.

This could be followed by a Phase 2 of around 97 000 sq ft to accommodate flying clubs and schools currently occupying the site, access along the perimeter so retaining a single access/exit to A30. Hampshire Highways will be asked to look at this early into the planning stages, as the cost of providing traffic control may be prohibitive.

Cameron Ogden assured that Aerobility will be contained within the new structure as the clubs and schools were the lifeblood of the community that is Blackbushe. He thought that concentrating the various clubs into a

Report from Representatives on Outside Bodies

single club would be encouraged. He was aware of the charitable investment that has gone into the facilities that Aerobility have built up and, during and following the development, they will be accommodated with facilities equal or better than they have at present, at no additional cost to them. The Blackbushe Cafe are looking to refurbish their facilities anyway, and they will be incorporated into the scheme as part of the desired mix of businesses.

When PremAir went, 75 jobs were lost, but replacement businesses could bring 100-120 jobs, including Blink, who will be creating 20 jobs in the next two years.

Blink's activities will make up about 1000 movements, compared with a total Airport use of 46 000, but there will be a change in the mix following the proposed development. Currently Blink have 350 movements per year, using 9 jets, which they plan on increasing to 20 aircraft, involving 2000 landings per year, along with other similar users. However, with aircraft maintenance firms attracted to the airport, there would be fewer light aircraft movements, because currently they are flying off to other airfields for maintenance. So, 1000/year or 2-3% of the total now, will move to 3000/year, or 8-9% of total movements, over a 10 year period, but the noise profile of jets (and modern light aircraft) gets better year on year.

On the subject of complaints about overflying built-up areas, Mick Lambert explained that with only one owner of the airport fliers will have to conform to instructions, as Blink have handed over control of the air to the Airport air control. He said they have not had any complaints lately and they do take complaints seriously, for example sometimes fliers are directed where they wouldn't normally go by Farnborough, who direct the air traffic in this area. The helicopters were more of a problem and they always had a stock answer for the complaints; PremAir had the Royal Flight and Police helicopters and often put the blame on them, so it was difficult for Blackbushe tower to control. In future helicopters will be controlled by the tower, that is the plan that Blink want.

The Welsh Drive was discussed and Blackbushe have an alternative route in mind, which has worked elsewhere. So the traditional route is retained for historic purposes, but walkers have a safe route around the airfield's activities. Adrian Collett related that in 1981, after Hart and Hampshire had allowed the hangar to be built across the right of way, but before the walls were infilled, he and other interested parties walked the original route, the last time it was ever walked.

The issue of common land was raised, Blink and Terence O'Rourke said they were looking into this as something that will have to be addressed, as there is no more land on the airfield that can be exchanged. Planning consent on common land requires two separate planning schemes. BCA were in the same predicament: they have planning permission for their expansion but not common land permission. There is Forestry land on the west of the common that could be made available.

Blink intend starting to engage the planning process within a month. There is an Extraordinary Meeting on Monday 25 April but this is not open to the public, so Blink asked if this meeting could be held under wraps until they have informed Aerobility and the other airport users of their schemes by the end of next week.

3rd Bramshill (Yateley Green) Scout Group 37th Annual Meeting

Held at Monteagle Scout Lodge on 27 April 2016

Although this is not strictly a body that Yateley Town Council is represented on, all councillors received an invitation to attend and, I was the only councillor to attend, I thought I would report back to full council.

As Chris Jenner, Group Chairman, was absent and stepping down from chair, VC Philip Mace opened the meeting and, after housekeeping and introducing Paul Hedges, District Commissioner, handed over to Group Scout Leader Ray Bunce to conduct the meeting, approval of minutes, reports received and election of officers.

The Accounts were presented, which are healthy, and include £1000 received from the Yateley 10k Road Races.

Reports from the various sections followed, demonstrating how the membership of the group were expanding. GSL Bunce explained that with Eversley out of action for some years now, the catchment extended to Finchampstead. They run 3 colonies of Beavers now (Forest, Copse and Woodlands), with a substantial waiting list, activities included cooking, cycling, pond dipping and archery in the first term, followed by exploring the airfield, the Green Cross Code, building and burning a model of the Houses of Parliament (wouldn't we wish!), were visited by their local PSCO, then more recently, Irish dancing, visiting St Peter's Church, doing experiments, visiting Tesco at The Meadows to learn where our food comes from and taste bread, cheese and fruit. They did some camping and both Remembrance and St George's Parades. The Beavers celebrate their 30th anniversary this year.

Two Cub Packs operate from 3rd Bramshill, the second on only a year old, growing from 8 to 29, indulging in lots of activities, including domestic skills, learning about Uganda (did you know that to check when a child is ready to go to school they ask the child to reach across the top of his head to touch his ear - apparently a child can't do this until he is about 6 years old!) Looking forward to the summer and kayaking, hiking and camping. This year will be special as Cub Scouting is 100 years old.

The Scouts section are on the young side, but in a couple of years' time will be pressing for Gold Awards. In recognition of the achievements of the Troop, 6 lad and 4 leaders were invited among the 250 to witness Her Majesty's Birthday Trooping of the Colour. Again, they had what sounded like an exhausting range of activities throughout the year.

Ray Bunce (GSL) then presented his report, reflecting the earlier reports, and how they are exploring extending the Lodge to include storage space and refurbishment of the kitchen. He continued with reporting on the kayak and canoe club, running three sessions a week on Hawley Lake from Easter to early August and in July last year took 49 Cubs and Scouts to Stoke Lake, Gosport for experience on white water. In September they participated in the Basingstoke Canal Challenge, raising money for Accessible Boating for the disabled. The Shooting club has run almost every Friday since they started in Autumn 2013. The Cycle club included a session down at the

Report from Representatives on Outside Bodies

velodrome track at Calshot, which is so oversubscribed nowadays. The problem being that we are so far away to make evening trips unworkable and weekend sessions are prioritised for regular users.

Pam Ancell (GSL) was presented with a 5 year service certificate by Ray Bunce.

Chris Jenner (chair), Alan Chamberlain (administrator) and Stuart Finn (hall manager) were stepping down. The nominations of new Group Chairman Roger Parker, Vice Chairman Philip Mace, Treasurer Claire Baker, Clare Puttock, plus Executive Committee members Ian Gosling, Pam Ancell, Ian Puttock and Julie Phillips-Stafford were elected en bloc. The positions of Secretary and Hall Manager remain vacant.

Roger Parker took over the chair and explained who he was and his vision for putting together a number of projects including IT were well received.

Paul Hedges, District Commissioner, presented a Wood Badge to Beaver Scout Leader Susan Sabatakakis, explaining that the first wood badge was worn around Robert Baden Powell's neck before presenting it to the first Leader in 1919, and that tradition has continued ever since. It was explained to the DC that the colonies of Beavers plan together, which minimises the administration. The Akelas of the Cubs do the same; it works well.

in AOB an appeal was made for manning on the stands at May Fayre, setting up at 7am and particularly in the early afternoon at the hog roast, when queues can get quite busy.

After the AGM and before the Scouts arrived for their evening activities, the Scouts put on a show of singing and sketches from the show they are planning, which will raise money for malaria nets.