

Minutes

A27 Arundel Bypass Scheme

Title:	A27 Elected Representative Forum		
Date:	28 February 2023	Time: 18:00 - 20:00	Location: Arundel Town Hall
Attendees:	<p>Sandra Fryer (SF) – Independent Chair</p> <p>Councillor Tony Hunt (Cllr TH) – Arundel Town Council, Mayor</p> <p>Councillor Trevor Bence (Cllr TB) – West Sussex County Council, County Councillor for Fontwell</p> <p>Councillor Peter Fenton (Cllr PF) – Slindon Parish Council, Parish Councillor</p> <p>Councillor Andy Vawer (Cllr AV) – Walberton Parish Council, Parish Councillor/ Vice Chair of Planning</p> <p>Councillor Andrew Ratcliffe (Cllr AR) – Walberton Parish Council, Vice Chairman</p> <p>Councillor Sam Langmead (Cllr SL) – Lyminster and Crossbush, Parish Councillor</p> <p>Councillor McElvogue (Cllr DM) – Walberton Parish Council, Parish Councillor</p> <p>Councillor Toby Hewson (Cllr HS) – Walberton Parish Council, Parish Councillor</p> <p>Councillor Sue Wallsgrove (Cllr SW) - Barnham and Eastergate Parish Council, Parish Councillor</p> <p>Councillor Mario Trabucco (Cllr MT) - Aldingbourne Parish Council, Parish Councillor</p> <p>Bryan Curtis, Poling Village Council, Chairman</p> <p>Tim Burr (TB) – South Downs National Park Authority, Member</p>		
Observers:	<p>Darryl Hemmings (DH) – West Sussex County Council, Transport Planning and Policy Manager</p> <p>Karl Roberts (KR) – Arun District Council, Officer, Director of Growth</p> <p>Vicki Colwell (VC) – South Downs National Park Authority, Principal Planning Officer</p>		
Project Team:	<p>Andrew Jackson (AJ) – National Highways, Programme Lead</p> <p>Jan Simpson (JS) – National Highways, Stakeholder Manager</p> <p>Mark Hepburn (MH) – Linkconnex, Project Director</p> <p>Phil Wayles (PW) – Linkconnex, Design Project Director</p> <p>Rhys Mander (RM) – Linkconnex, Design Project Manager</p> <p>Alan Feeney (AF) – Linkconnex, Traffic Lead</p> <p>Ian Bamforth (IB) – Linkconnex, Planning and DCO Lead</p> <p>Helen Judd (HJ) - Linkconnex, Flood Risk and Water Lead</p> <p>Alison Stevenson (AS) – Linkconnex, Design Manager</p> <p>Paul Boughen (PB) – Linkconnex, Stakeholder Engagement Principal</p> <p>Lily Judson (LJ) – Linkconnex, Stakeholder Engagement Consultant</p>		
Apologies:	<p>Councillor Isabel Thurston (Cllr IT) – Barnham and Eastergate Ward Councillor</p> <p>Alison Crabb (AC) – Barnham and Eastergate, Clerk</p> <p>Councillor Joy Dennis (Cllr JD) – West Sussex County Council, Councillor for Hurstpierpoint & Bolney</p>		

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	Councillor Shaun Gunner (SG) – Arun District Council, Leader
Circulation List	Attendees, Observers and Apologies
Meeting Organiser:	Paul Boughen – Linkconnex

No.	Item	Action (by whom, by when)
1.	Introductions	
	Following introductions, SF covered the conduct of the meeting.	
2.	Project update	
	AJ provided an update on the programme and timescales for the project and said that the Development Consent Order (DCO) application will not be submitted before 1 June 2023.	
3.	Supplementary Consultation update	
	<p>PW provided an update on the Supplementary Consultation including the number of attendees, consultation responses, and examples of comments received.</p> <p>Cllr TB asked for an update on progress of sensitivity testing of signalisation at Fontwell East Roundabout and he voiced his concerns regarding safety and traffic speed in this location. AF said that this work was ongoing and results would be shared with West Sussex County Council (WSCC) when available. Cllr TB asked whether the results will be shared with Walberton Parish Council. AJ noted that this is the responsibility of National Highways Operations Department who would be invited to the next meeting to provide an update.</p> <p>Cllr SW asked whether air quality is being assessed and AJ responded that it is and the figures will be provided as part of the DCO submission.</p> <p>Cllr TB asked whether there was any information showing the level of the support for the Scheme and traffic in Walberton at the Supplementary Consultation. JS responded that comments that support the Scheme and that mention Walberton traffic will all be available in the Consultation Report which will be submitted as part of the DCO.</p> <p>PW explained the four minor amendments which are being explored as a result of the supplementary consultation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alterations at the northern end of Yapton Lane. • Improved pedestrian/cycling facilities at the northern end of Tye Lane. • Revised kerb alignment for the existing Arundel Road Junction with the A27 (to improve safety).The Yapton Lane turn back (allowing vehicles from Yapton Lane to make a turning to Arundel). 	<p>Action- LCX to share sensitivity test results with WSCC.</p> <p>Action- NH to arrange for Operations to provide update at the next meeting</p>

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	<p>Cllr TB asked whether there is a connection between the Yapton Lane turn back proposals and the funding of proposed detrunking works. AJ responded that there had always been a requirement for detrunking within the Scheme.</p> <p>Cllr TB asked whether the Yapton Lane turn back would create a new local rat-run. AF explained that the traffic modelling did not show that this would take place and added that detrunking would make the route slower and less attractive as a rat-run.</p> <p>Cllr PF asked whether there would be an increase in traffic at Shelbridge Road. AF said the Scheme design would prevent this from happening.</p> <p>Cllr TB asked whether the project team has engaged with local growers and asked whether HGVs will use the turn back to travel to Arundel. It was explained that modelling indicated clearly that the majority of HGVs will continue to use the new bypass route to head east.</p>	
4.	Designated Funds projects, Arundel to Lyminster Engagement	
	<p>AS provided an update on the Designated Funds project for the Arundel to Lyminster cycleway and explained plans for an engagement event on 20 March 2023. AS said that landowner engagement was ongoing across the length of the route and that a priority for the proposals was to improve walking and cycling access into Arundel. SF asked how landowners were being engaged and AJ said that NH/LCX are consulting with landowners, the community and as well as with Lyminster and Crossbush Parish Council and WSCC.</p> <p>Cllr BC gave his view that the residents in Poling would be supportive of the Scheme and requested to be contacted regarding the engagement event. Post-meeting note: details of consultation event emailed to Cllr BC on 08.03.23</p>	
5.	DCO update	
	<p><u>Avisford Park Golf Club</u></p> <p>IB provided an update on Avisford Park Golf Club and said that Crest Hotels became the new owner of the hotel and golf course in late 2022. IB explained that National Highways has commissioned the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf Needs Assessment. • Golf course architect to prepare alternative layout designs. • Commercial Viability Assessment. <p>Cllr TB asked whether there have been any archaeological finds at this location and AS confirmed that nothing significant was found. AJ said that trial trenching covered a percentage of the local area although there would always be potential for additional finds. AJ explained that all findings were reported to WSCC and</p>	

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<p>details of findings would be included in the Environmental Statement (ES).</p> <p>IB explained the options for the future of Avisford Park Golf Club following the Supplementary Consultation. He also explained that Arun District Council (ADC) had indicated a wish to retain golf at this location, potentially as a municipal facility. IB said that LCX is engaging with the new hotel owners to establish their preference for the future of the club. If the Golf Course closed then off-site mitigation would be required, working with England Golf and ADC.</p> <p>SF enquired after the timescales for deciding on the future of the Golf Club. IB said that a decision is required by the end of the Examination stage; this is anticipated to take a minimum of twelve months from submission of the application. AJ said that it was important to understand ADC's position on the Golf Club and KR said that a greater understanding of the options was required to inform any decision.</p> <p>Cllr BC asked whether the Golf Course could be brought forward for development by the hotel. It was reiterated that the land is privately owned and this would be a decision for the landowner. KR confirmed that it is unknown whether development would take place at this location. Cllr MT asked whether potential development sites impact the traffic model and AF confirmed that only active planning applications are considered in the traffic model, not speculative development.</p> <p><u>DCO process</u></p> <p>IB provided an update on the DCO process. NH is regularly talking to the Planning Inspectorate (PINs) and that Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) would be produced between NH and Local Authorities and statutory bodies.</p> <p>Cllr TB asked whether WSCC's Statutory Consultation and Supplementary Consultation feedback would be addressed in a SoCG. IB confirmed that NH intends to provide feedback to WSCC prior to the DCO submission and the Consultation Report would provide a response to many of the issues raised.</p> <p>Cllr TB asked the project team to confirm that a previous article named 'Spotlight on Storrington' would not be published again. JS confirmed that it had been removed from the NH website.</p> <p>Cllr MT asked whether SoCGs would be agreed with parish councils. PW confirmed that would not typically take place and that parish councils would engage by registering as an interested party and make relevant representations to PINs through the examination stage.</p> <p>Cllr TB gave his view that the Parishes that were most affected by the Scheme and needed to have an SoCG. SF explained that</p>	
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	Parishes should make individual written representations at examination. IB said that examples of an SoCG will be shared following the meeting. Post meeting note – examples attached. IB explained that once the DCO application is submitted the process can take up to 18 months and the timeline is largely dictated by the Planning Inspectorate.	
6.	Ford Road	
	AS provided an update on the Ford Road Roundtable meeting held on 20 February 2023. The modelling showed that only a full grade separated junction would be safe and there were many reasons why such a junction could not be included within the scheme.	
7.	Update on Flood Modelling	
	<p>HJ provided an update on the flood model and outlined the engagement that has taken place with the Environment Agency (EA).</p> <p>Cllr AV asked whether there would be adverse flood impacts elsewhere due to the Scheme. HJ said that the wider impacts have been considered and the proposed flood compensation areas would provide appropriate compensation.</p> <p>Cllr TH asked whether the existing Lower Tidal Arun Flood Risk Management Scheme (LTRAS) would be modified and whether the EA is working to this or the Scheme model. HJ responded that a meeting with the EA on 03 March 2023 would discuss this matter and an update would be provided following the meeting. Cllr TH asked for examples of any outstanding issues with the EA. RM confirmed that one existing issue relates to drainage from the viaduct which will be discussed at the previously mentioned EA meeting.</p>	Action: Team to share the outcome of the 03 March 2023 EA meeting
8.	Update on actions	
	<p>JS provided an update of the actions from the last Elected Representative Meeting, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flood modelling - Ford Road junction - One to one engagement - Selection of the position of Chair - Terms of Reference. Attendees agreed the Terms of Reference - Consultation with the forum on the agenda 	
9.	AOB	
	<p>Cllr TB asked whether scoping for the incinerator at Ford Road had been considered in sensitivity tests. AF responded this had not taken place as the planning application had not progressed, but agreed to review its planning status.</p> <p>SF explained that the date of the next ERF is not known but will be confirmed. KR asked whether the ERF would continue to meet post DCO submission and JS said that the project team will be led by guidance from the Planning Inspectorate during this stage.</p>	Action: Team to confirm the date of the next ERF

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	<p>SF encouraged NH/LCX to include an update on bat mitigation at the next ERF meeting.</p> <p>JS outlined work to develop a social value approach, utilising the Scheme supply chain. Cllr TB requested that the team engage with WSCC Education team and review the Arun Local Plan in relation to the social value approach.</p>	<p>Action: Team to provide bat mitigation update at next meeting</p> <p>Action: Team to engage WSCC Education in relation to social value approach</p>
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NEXT MEETING

Date: TBC	Time: 18:00 – 19:30	Location: TBC
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