

Minutes

A27 Arundel Bypass Scheme

Title:	A27 Arundel Bypass Elected Representatives' Forum		
Date:	19 July 2022	Time:	18:00-20:40
		Location:	MS Teams
Attendees:	<p>Sandra Fryer (SF) – Independent Chair</p> <p>Cllr Trevor Bence (Cllr TB) – West Sussex County Council, Councillor for Fontwell</p> <p>Cllr Grant Roberts (Cllr GR) – Arun District Council, District Councillor</p> <p>Cllr Tony Hunt (Cllr TH) – Arundel Town Council, Mayor</p> <p>Cllr Bryan Curtis (Cllr BC) – Poling Village Council, Chair for Poling Parish</p> <p>Cllr Jan Rees (Cllr JR) – Slindon Parish Council, Parish Councillor / Chair</p> <p>Cllr Joy Dennis (Cllr JD) – West Sussex County Council, Councillor for Hurstpierpoint & Bolney</p> <p>Cllr Gary Markwell (Cllr GM) – West Sussex County Council, Councillor for Arundel and Courtwick</p> <p>Cllr Sarah Linfield (Cllr SL) – Slindon Parish Council, Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Andrew Ratcliffe (Cllr AR) – Walberton Parish Council, Vice Chairman, Chair of Planning</p> <p>Cllr Sue Wallsgrove (Cllr SW) - Barnham and Eastergate Parish Council, Parish Councillor</p> <p>Cllr Mario Trabucco (Cllr MT) - Aldingbourne Parish Council, Parish Councillor</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>Roger Spencer (RS) – Arun District Council, Officer</p> <p>Vicki Colwell (VC) – South Downs National Park Authority, Principal Planning Officer</p>		
Project Team:	<p>Andrew Jackson (AJ) – National Highways, Programme Lead, A27 Arundel</p> <p>Merwin Man (MM) – National Highways, Project Management</p> <p>Peter Philips (PP) – National Highways, Route Manager - South Coast Central & Kent Corridors</p> <p>Jan Simpson (JS) – National Highways, Stakeholder Manager</p> <p>Charlotte Brown (CB) – National Highways, Stakeholder Manager</p> <p>Matt Davis-Bawn (MDB) – National Highways, Project Support Officers</p> <p>Mark Hepburn (MH) – Linkconnex, Project Director</p> <p>Rhys Mander (RM) – Linkconnex, Design Manager</p> <p>Alan Feeney (AF) – Linkconnex, Traffic Lead</p> <p>Alex Bullock (AB) – Linkconnex, Planning and DCO Lead</p> <p>Alison Stevenson (AS) – Linkconnex, Design Manager</p>		

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	<p>Alan Lewis (AL) – Linkconnex, Environment Lead</p> <p>Sian Pritchard (SP) – Linkconnex, Stakeholder Engagement Lead</p> <p>Paul Boughen (PB) – Linkconnex, Stakeholder Engagement Principal</p> <p>Akasya Guner (AG) – Linkconnex, Stakeholder Engagement Graduate</p>
Apologies:	<p>Andrew Griffith (AG MP) MP – MP for Arundel and South Downs</p> <p>Cllr Isabel Thurston (Cllr IT) – Barnham and Eastergate Parish Councillor and Arun District Councillor</p> <p>Cllr Sam Langmead (Cllr SL) – Lyminster Parish Council</p>
Circulation List:	Attendees
Meeting Organiser:	Paul Boughen – Linkconnex

NB: As outlined within the ToR, notes of Forum meetings will not be a verbatim account of the discussion but are intended to act as a summary of the topics discussed together with the agreed actions.

No.	Item	Action (by whom, by when)
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
	<p>The Independent Chair welcomed all attendees.</p> <p>Cllr GR stated an objection to the Terms of Reference (ToR) based on his view that un-elected advisors should attend. SF reiterated that only local authority officers could attend as observers. Cllr GR stated that a request for a meeting sent to NH had not been responded to and SF stated NH should respond to this matter. Post-meeting note: letter sent by NH to Cllr Roberts 20 July 2022</p> <p>Cllr GR requested sight of the legal advice stating that members of the public should not attend the Elected Representatives Forum (ERF). National Highways (NH) Programme Lead, AJ, stated that the legal advice would not be provided.</p> <p>Cllr TB noted that this was Cllr SW and Cllr MT's first attendance at the ERF. SF stated that the ERF offered involvement to parishes in the local area at its inception. AJ also went on to explain the scheme's consultation zone, as outlined in the Statement of Community Consultation, encompassed these parishes.</p>	NH to respond to Cllr GR
2.	Safety moment	

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	AG presented a safety moment related to the red alert weather warning in the UK. Cllr GR challenged the usefulness of safety moments.	NH/LCX to consider use of safety moments at ERFs
3.	Today's session and meeting conduct	
	<p>Cllr SW queried why Barnham and Eastergate Parish Council (BEPC) had not been invited to previous ERFs. AJ responded BEPC was invited after the point was raised by Cllr TB at Statutory Consultation. AJ offered a meeting between NH and BEPC.</p> <p>Meeting recording commenced</p>	NH/LCX to arrange a meeting with BEPC
	Terms of Reference – review and approval	
	<p>Cllr GR stated a lack of trust in NH and again requested evidence of the legal advice stating the ERF should not include the general public. AJ re-iterated that legal advice itself would not be shared as it was legally privileged but he read out the email that was sent to the ERF on 14 July 2022 outlining the legal rationale:</p> <p><i>“The ERF meetings sit outside of the statutory process and differ to a public event or exhibition held as part of the consultation. The nature of the meetings i.e as being between specific elected reps from certain bodies should be maintained. If this is not the case then these are a different type of meeting entirely with less focus and could be likened more to a consultation.</i></p> <p><i>As such, members of the public should not be invited or attend future meetings. The Forum will continue to include elected representatives with appropriate officers from councils and statutory bodies as observers. This unfortunately means that ‘advisors’, who were previously at the discretion of the independent chair, will not be invited to attend this or future fora”</i></p> <p>Cllr MT asked for a meeting between NH and Aldingbourne Parish Council which AJ agreed to. Cllr MT also asked if Elected Members could gain access to ERF minutes and AJ confirmed these are on the scheme website.</p> <p>Cllr TB explained that questions and issues posed in the WSCC cabinet report response to the 2022 statutory consultation were unanswered. SF stated that if appropriate, an item about the WSCC statutory consultation response could form part of the agenda for a future ERF.</p> <p>AJ stated that NH/LCX applied the Gunning Principles to consultation and that the Environmental Statement and</p>	<p>NH/LCX to arrange a meeting with Aldingbourne Parish Council</p> <p>NH/LCX to provide response to WSCC statutory consultation feedback at a future meeting</p>

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	<p>Consultation Report will be available at DCO submission and will explain consultation feedback and how it has been addressed. AJ stated that NH/LCX are working to address all comments received from statutory bodies and there will be a supplementary consultation on aspects of the scheme design which have changed.</p>	
4.	May Minutes and Actions – review and approve	
	<p>Cllr GR stated that he did not approve the ToR or the May minutes, stating he found these to be inaccurate, and will not approve until legal advice is shared with the ERF.</p> <p>Cllr TB and Cllr BC stated that they could not comment on the minutes as they did not attend the May meeting. AJ stated that the May minutes were representative of the meeting and discussion and had been produced in draft and circulated to ERF members for comment within the agreed ten working days. Cllr GR commented that he did not approve the minutes or the ToR. The remaining eight Elected Representatives in attendance did not give comment. As a result, the ERF did not conclude a way forward with agreeing the May Minutes or ToR.</p> <p>Following negative comments on the content and delivery of the meeting in the Teams chat function, SF commented that inappropriate comments in the chat function should not be made and that everyone should act in a respectful way.</p>	
5.	Supplementary Consultation and Programme - update	
	<p>RM explained that as per NH's Annual Report and Delivery Plan Update (DPU) published on 14 July 2022, the latest start of works date had moved by six months to summer 2024. RM stated that NH/LCX will look to carry out a supplementary consultation at a date which is to be determined and it will include updated proposals for Walberton traffic mitigation and Avisford Park Golf Club.</p> <p>Cllr TB referenced WSCC's Statutory Consultation response and felt that answers should be provided to questions posed before undertaking further consultation. Cllr GR commented that elected members should be involved in the development of the supplementary consultation and Cllr MT queried the level of technical information at supplementary consultation, to which RM responded that a Non-Technical Summary of technical information will be produced.</p> <p>Cllr SW queried if traffic modelling was based on 2019 statistics and AF confirmed it was not. Cllr SW asked if the new housing</p>	

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	<p>development figures were taken into account and Cllr TB raised concerns around access onto the new route in the context of increased predicted housing development in the local area. AF responded that NH/LCX had taken DfT guidance for core forecasts into account. Cllr SW commented that this might mean that modelling is done on out of date figures, to which AF confirmed that this is not the case as modelling is based on DfT guidance, which is regularly updated.</p> <p>Cllr MT sought clarification on the scheme's eight-minute travel time saving presented by NH at statutory consultation. AF stated that the eight minutes saving does not include Chichester and Worthing traffic modelling flows, but the overall model does include Chichester and Worthing delays – these are taken into account in the overall economics.</p>	<p>LCX to engage with interested parties around the topic of traffic.</p>
6.	<p>Economic benefits and impacts</p>	
	<p>AJ explained four different elements of benefits the scheme could achieve including community, economy, transport and environment. AF explained economic impacts for businesses and communities, including an improved strategic road network with reduced accidents.</p> <p>AF explained the traffic model calculates the impact of each journey and its carbon impacts to which Cllr TB stated that the approach does not consider impacts on Fontwell East and West roundabouts. AF responded that the model does include the traffic increases and decreases in those areas. AJ added that NH recognises implications for traffic at Fontwell Roundabouts and is considering potential longer-term solutions, and that work may inform, but would not be part of, the DCO examination for the A27 Arundel Bypass Scheme.</p> <p>Cllr TB requested evidence of air quality monitoring undertaken by ADC. Post-meeting note: ADC responded “We carry out NOx monitoring at various points across the district using diffusion tubes and produce an annual report on air quality. The latest report is being finalised. More information and previous reports can be found at the link below (scroll down to air quality). A number of new sites were introduced in 2020 in order to investigate air quality in areas where there had been no previous monitoring or where new roads, or homes are planned in the future Air quality Arun District Council”</p> <p>Cllr GR reiterated the need for Ford Road Junction and requested confirmation of the calculation of the number of new homes that would justify its inclusion in the scheme. Cllr GR commented in</p>	<p>NH to confirm position on request for housing numbers</p>

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	<p>the meeting chat that a modelling figure of 685 houses was unrealistic, and Arun District needed to deliver 2,200 homes.</p> <p>Cllr GR also requested the results of the Flood Modelling Report and queried whether the scheme would go ahead following the Delivery Plan Update (DPU). In response to these three points: AJ confirmed that there is no definitive figure for housing at Ford Road junction and explained NH/LCX are undertaking sensitivity testing on this. AJ confirmed that NH/LCX would share the Flood Modelling Report in September and explained the only implication from the DPU for A27 Arundel Bypass is the change to the Start of Works date previously mentioned.</p> <p>Cllr MT sought advice on how inflation is taken into account in traffic modelling and whether the data from the modelling will be shared. SF noted that the agenda had over-run and agreed again that traffic would be added to the next ERF agenda, and could be discussed in detail in the meeting with Aldingbourne Parish Council.</p>	<p>NH Flood Modelling report to be shared in September 2022</p> <p>Traffic to be added to agenda for meeting with Aldingbourne Parish Council</p>
	Break	
7.	Wider opportunities	
	<p>MM spoke through designated funds and the wider opportunities which these funds could create. AS then explained the RIS 2 figures, the process for feasibility studies and how the A27 Arundel Bypass Scheme could benefit.</p> <p>Cllr GR requested for the Flood Modelling Report to be included in future consultation. SF responded that this would be added to the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	<p>Flood Report to be added to next ERF agenda</p>
8.	Update - Ford Road: <i>Post-meeting note: This was not discussed in full due to time constraints.</i>	
9.	Meeting actions: <i>Post-meeting note: This was not discussed due to time constraints.</i>	
10.	Future Forum meetings	
	<p>SF suggested Tuesday 20th September 2022 for the next ERF, and requested all attendees, collaborate on the agenda.</p> <p>Cllr MT commented that the outcomes of the revised ToR should be discussed at the next ERF.</p>	<p>NH/LCX to seek the Forum's input on the agenda for the next ERF</p> <p>NH to circulate ToR</p>
11.	Questions	

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	Cllr SW queried the history of Elected Representative Forums. SF responded that the first Forum took place in 2019. Post-meeting note: <i>Elected Representative Meetings commenced in 2018.</i>	
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Meeting ended 20:40

NEXT MEETING

Date:	TBC	Time:	18:00 – 20:00	Location:	TBC
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