

Hawkwell Parish Workshop

Please note that the following comments are not necessarily the views or policies of Rochford District Council. In the interests of clarity and consistency, all comments recorded on the day have been noted below, even where the responsibility for action does not fall within RDC's remit

1 Summary of Notes and Findings

Comments received during the Presentation Stage

See Presentation document for full Presentation given at the Workshop

- The number 8 bus service only runs two an hour, very unreliably with no evening service.
 - The poor bus service means it is not used, therefore is facing review to reduce the service. It is however felt that the reverse situation of an improved, reliable bus service would increase the numbers of people who use it.
 - Poor bus service directly increases car use – a major issue within the parish
 - Buses are also very poorly publicised with suggestions that the bus route to Shoebury has 'never been seen'.
- The roads within the Parish are insufficient for present day traffic volumes
 - New roads are desired to ease gridlock at peak times, especially prior to any further housing.
 - Magnolia Road identified as a potential route to ease current congestion on Hall Road/Rectory Road.
 - A new road has been suggested from Rettendon Turnpike to Shoebury with links to Purdeys industrial estate and other key areas, before housing becomes a barrier to road developments.
 - It has been highlighted that there are risks to new roads, such as ribbon development, drainage, encroaching upon existing housing, using Green Belt land and only further encouraging future development.
- Rail Brides are bottlenecks, throughout the district, all need widening or new routes made

- Hall Road/Ashingdon Road Rail Bridge needs widening as this is a major bottleneck.
 - Discussions need to be held with Network Rail over these issues to solve the issues highlighted.
- There are concerns that the highways survey for the future Airport Business Park to be built was not sufficient due to not taking into account the impact on highways traffic of the new and future housing developments in the local area.
- A new policy to restrict development under infrastructure constraints
 - Currently, schools are at capacity, doctors practices are oversubscribed and the road network is under immense pressure.
- It is felt that doctors practises throughout the parish are oversubscribed and that new houses will put the practises under unreasonable pressure.
 - With any new developments a new doctors practise should be provided.
- Small site developments (infills, windfalls) are favoured within the parish over large developments.
 - Small sites should be developed in conjunction with Rochford District Council
 - However there are concerns around infill sites due to the already dense nature of the parish
- Currently the infrastructure improvements made as a result of large sites are seen as inadequate, even negligible.
- Statistics need to be collected to understand the real picture and have evidence to repel unsustainable developments. Housing Post 2025 needs to be based on robust evidence.
 - Traffic counts along Ashingdon Road, and other busy routes – to be performed at both peak and off peak times.
- The community has identified the abundance of 4/5 bedroom houses that are being provided by developers, yet these do not reflect the need of the local community.
 - The local community would like to see developers providing bungalows and starter homes.
- There are issues with surface water drainage within the parish due to drains and sewage capacity already being insufficient. There are increasing concerns the impact that further developments will have on drainage.

- There are a lack of cycle lanes
- Broadband has issues with speed and reliability across the parish
- Policy names should be easier for residents to identify when relating to allocated sites
- Hawkwell Parish Plan should be considered and utilised as an information and statistical source. The Parish Plan should be built upon to bring it up to date.
- New Town/Village to the west of Rayleigh should have been taken forward, instead of building large housing estates linked to road networks which are already under a lot of stress.

Comments received during the Discussion Stage

See Map documents for full annotations and notes made at this stage

- Street lights should be kept on throughout the night, any cost saving is not greater than safety.
- Pelican crossings along Ashingdon Road change from green to amber to red far too quickly, not giving drivers sufficient time to stop, causing safety issues for both driver and pedestrian.
- Hall Road / Cherry Orchard Way roundabout needs traffic light signals.
- Some roundabouts along Ashingdon road should be replaced completely with traffic lights, due to a number of collisions from people not giving way to minor roads.
- Parking near Hockley station is spilling out into residential areas as drivers take advantage of free parking. Implement new restrictions?

Next steps

- Parish Council and parishioners to be continually engaged and notified of updates
- Issues & Options document Autumn 2016: Open, visioning, range of options. To meet with parish before hand to ensure compatibility

2 Summary of Feedback

How informative did you find the day?: Respondents answered an average of 2.5 out of 5

How would you rate the presentations?: Respondents answered an average of 2.7 out of 5

How would you rate the discussions?: Respondents answered an average of 3.1 out of 5

Respondents felt that aspects that were done well included:

- Everybody was able to input during the discussions.
- All ideas and opinions were discussed together.

Respondents felt that aspects that could be improved on included:

- Ideas could be voted on during workshop.
- A brainstorming session would have provided many ideas/opinions to take away.
- Advertisement of the event could have been improved.

Respondents felt that the project should be taken forward by:

- A future meeting using discussions from the evening considering the existing local plan.
- More members of the public need to be involved.
- More workshops need to be held in the future.
- The two way communications during the workshop are desired in future workshops too.
- Consultation with residents should occur more frequently and on a wider range of developments.

Additional Comments:

- Not enough residents attended.