

ALTON TOWN COUNCIL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MONITORING PLAN – MARCH 2019

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE			
OBJECTIVE	POLICY NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
1a	DE1	Town Setting and natural assets	Alton Town Design Statement review currently on hold
	DE2	Building design and town character	All applications consider this policy. Generally speaking where requests have been made to developers to alter house styles they have been receptive. However we are keenly aware that on major developments housebuilders have a “template” footprint which is only marginally altered to make reference to local vernacular. New NPPF is stronger on design and it is suggested that as part of the new local plan consultation that EHDC give thought to reconvening the former design panel to assist in raising the standards of design and providing thoughtful, expert feedback on applications.
1b	HO1	Housing Mix on development sites	The only significant anomaly has been the application 25050/056 McCarthy Stone which was determined as C2 use and outside the scope of affordable housing despite ATC objection that the site should be deemed as C3 use. The Renaissance Retirement proposal for the former magistrates’ court site was withdrawn 9 months ago with no indication of a resubmission date. CALA homes have indicated that they will be looking to provide 40% affordable on the redevelopment of the former Coors Brewery site, due to come to planning in 2019
1b	HO2	Storage facilities for household waste	Most applications conform with this policy but to date there has been a couple of notable instances where applications do not meet this policy, particularly in town centre change of use applications where due to constraints on outside space applicants are seeking to have internal storage of waste. It has been suggested that in these former commercial locations, communal external commercial waste bins could be located and shared.
1c & 1d	HO3	New Housing site allocations	Windfall figures not up to date. Last figures obtained Oct 2017 2014/15 - 68 2015/16 - 31 2016/17 - 25 No major applications have so far been granted outside of those contained within HO3 except McCarthy Stone (60)

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			Full application for 57 at the former Magistrates Court and Police Station withdrawn. Reserved matters for all applications which had outline consent when the NP came into force (major developments) have now all been submitted.
1c & 1d	HO3(a)	Land at Borovere Farm	Reserved matters now approved. Site Access roundabout now completed. Bridge works now commenced January – July 2019 (bridge itself) Developer Miller Homes
1c& 1d	HO3(b)	Land at Lord Mayor Treloar	Reserved matters planning application submitted to EHDC on 16 th July. Developer Crest Nicholson. Awaiting decision.
1c & 1d	HO3(c)	Land at Cadnam, Upper Anstey Lane	100+ houses now occupied. Developers Persimmon and Martin Grant Homes
1c & 1d	HO3(d)	Land Off Wilsom Road	2 x houses brought forward to date, outline consent granted Oct 2018..Application for remaining 23 dwellings due 2019
1c & 1d	HO3(e)	Land at Will Hall Farm	First houses occupied. A number of proposed amendments to the Reserved Matters have been submitted and are awaiting decision.
1c & 1d	HO3(f)	Land Adjacent to Alton Convent School	Understood to be submitted Spring/ Summer 2019
2b	TR1	Pedestrian networks	<p>Work is on-going in respect of the creation of a Weywalk to create a river walk and to link the new housing developments at Will Hall Farm and the former brewery site with the town centre and the station. Signage for the whole of the route has now been ordered.</p> <p>The eastern gateway scheme (minus Station Forecourt scheme) is complete. Station Forecourt scheme appears to have been shelved by EHDC following the project being unable to complete in time to draw down the grant funding. – awaiting further news.</p> <p>A park and stride scheme has been approved for Anstey Park and with the Town Council now has ownership of the car park contained within the open space at Barley Fields, this will provide additional space for parents to park and allow children to utilise the pedestrian crossing near the school.</p> <p>The Town Council walking festival was extended to cover a month long period for 2018 given its increasing popularity and will continue as one month in 2019. With the completion of path improvements across the open space in the public gardens both King’s Pond and Flood Meadows will seek to utilise developer’s contributions to improve accessibility along their pedestrian routes.</p>

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			<p>Alton has now regained accreditation as a Walkers are Welcome town with the launch of Walk Alton and the new website in March 2019. It is hoped that in due course all of the walks for Alton currently in use can be collated into a booklet.</p> <p>Discussions have commenced with the South Downs National Park authority with a view to Alton becoming an official gateway town to the park to assist with promoting walking in Alton and the surrounding countryside.</p>
2b	TR2	Cycle Routes	A meeting was held with Sarah Hobbs (EHDC) early November 2016 to consider the proposed cycling strategy for Alton and possible junction improvements for cyclists. To date no further progress. An action upon the Town Council is to seek comments from Alton Cycling Club on planning applications that do (or should) involve highway proposals, cycle links or facilities, to inform the Town Council's response.
2b	TR3	Cycle Storage and parking	All planning applications to date have complied with storage requirements. The Town Council will need to look at additional secure cycle storage and parking in public spaces to assist in making Alton a welcoming town for recreational cyclists.
2c	TR4	Bus Service Provision	All application considered to date comply with this policy requirement
2d	TR5	Parking provision and standards	ATC has raised objection on a number of occasions only to have the objection overruled in respect of the planning balance. A position statement has been prepared and approved by ATC and EHDC to help clarify the policy but there is still concern over its application, particularly in respect of brownfield town centre sites (Brewery and Magistrates Court sites specifically) The position statement highlights that ATC is aware of the issues but also responds to the allegation from some developers that the policy is not NPPF compliant, which it is. All major sites coming forward to date are ANP compliant.
3b	CH3	Health Facilities	An updated evidence base for Health has now been prepared (Appendix 1)
3b	CH4	Community Hospital	An updated evidence base for Health has now been prepared (Appendix 1)
4a	ED1	Schools Expansion	<p>ED1 supported in response to proposed expansion of the Butts School and St Lawrence. Applications approved.</p> <p>An updated evidence base for Education has now been prepared (Appendix 2)</p> <p>Current school places plan - link https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schoolplacesplan</p>

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			MS confirmed currently formula is .3 child per property. In respect of a new school government requirement is now 2 form entry so 420 places (30 children x 7 years x 2 form) so minimum no. of new homes over and above those granted permission is 1400 before a new school required for Alton. Confirmed no current capacity issues in Alton. Of those major developments already granted 210 school places are being created, 290 required but there was overprovision at Wooteys which could accommodate the deficit.
5b	ES1	Reuse of commercial brownfield Land	Police/Magistrates Full application awaited. Previous application withdrawn Former Brewery site purchased by CALA homes. Full application due in 2019 Tesco site currently being marketed. Commercial Site at Wilsom Road refused on appeal. Lynch Hill refused 2018, alternative site access application approved.

ALTON TOWN COUNCIL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – POLICIES FOR MONITORING

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE			
OBJECTIVE	POLICY NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
3a	CH1	Community Centre	An audit of existing community facilities has been undertaken to establish requirements for any facility on the former brewery site. Discussion also active with the Community Centre to confirm required provision. First round of Public consultation undertaken spring 2018. Work being done to look at viability of options proposed pending second round of public consultation in Spring 2019
3a	CH2	Sports Centre	Reserved Matters planning application granted approval 5 th March 2018. Liaison Meeting now set up for construction. Project Board meets every 3 months. New Centre due to open early 2020 with demolition of old centre shortly after.
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE			
OBJECTIVE	POLICY NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
3c	CH5	Local green spaces and open space	All sites remain under the control of ATC as designated green spaces with the exception of St Lawrence Churchyard which has been highlighted as controlled by PCC but will be monitored to ensure no further encroachment/change of use to playing space. In more general terms an audit of existing open space, sport and recreational facilities was undertaken by EHDC in 2018 and published early 2019. ATC has now agreed to adopt a small number of parcels of land at the Treloar Heights development and is negotiating with Redrow Homes to adopt the land at the Lower Field at Will Hall Farm.

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3c	CH6	Playing Fields (Jubilee Fields and Anstey Park)	CH6 supports the development of new playing field space but at this time there are no applications pending which make such provision. ATC agreed the rebuild of the netball courts at Anstey Park (completed July 2018) and new trim trail (installed March 2017) ATC currently working on a replacement skate park for Jubilee Fields (2019)
3c	CH7	Allotments	There are currently no sites identified for additional allotments, however there is scope to develop further at Hawthorns if demand dictates. Currently there is a small waiting list and no level of demand which would trigger the expansion of Hawthorns.

ALTON TOWN COUNCIL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – ALTON TOWN COUNCIL ACTION POINTS FOR MONITORING

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE			
OBJECTIVE	POLICY NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
1a	DEAP1	Maintenance of Alton Town Design Statement in line with the JCS and Neighbourhood Development Plan	ATDS to be updated. See Policy DE1 above.
1b	HOAP1	Ensuring adequate emphasis given to the provision of affordable housing in planning applications	Objection raised to McCarthy and Stone application on this basis but determined to be C2. C3 Applications will be monitored to ensure 40% affordable housing allocation is upheld by EHDC wherever viable to do so (However new NPPF is putting the required figure going forward at 10% for affordable home ownership but silent on other forms of tenure.) It is understood CALA homes are working towards 40% for the brewery site.
1b	HOAP2	Ensuring Alton Local List is taken into consideration in planning applications, maintaining and updating the Alton Local List as appropriate.	As with ATDS, Alton Local list requires updating alongside Conservation Area. CA is currently post consultation and being finalised by EHDC.
1b	HOAP3	Environmental and energy conservation standards	Lifetime home standard no longer applies. Policy vacuum at this time but all developers urged to include the highest standards.
2a	TRAP1	Whitedown Lane and Western Bypass	See updated Neighbourhood Plan Evidence Base.
2a	TRAP2	Works on key junctions	See updated Neighbourhood Plan evidence base February 2019. With the exception of a public exhibition on the preferred option for the Anstey Road/Anstey Lane junction in December 2018 there has been no update on any other scheme to date.
2a	TRAP3	Streetscape and traffic speeds in town centre and near schools	20mph speed limit in town centre in place as of 01/07/16 and extended out towards the Station as at 01/12/17. Traffic Calming removed from Lenten Street December 2018

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2b	TRAP4	Improved conditions on public highway for pedestrians	EHDC have not progressed their Cycling and Walking Strategy which was due to go to public consultation in 2017.
2b	TRAP7	Reduction in car usage for school transport	Park and Stride Scheme for Eggars School at Anstey Park is now in operation with a new gravel path alongside the main entrance. Barley Fields car park now available for school use (May 2017). However, these still require car use to access this sites. Onus is on the schools to promote walking bus etc.
2b	TRAP8	Promotion of cycling by pupils and students	ATC to contact schools and colleges to ascertain plans
2b	TRAP9	Improvements to National Cycle Route 224	<p>David Allen met with EHDC and Sustans September 2018 when they confirmed the route of NCR224 through the town so that EHDC and Sustans could identify the signage to be added, amended or removed.</p> <p>The road junctions at which new or altered signing is required to accommodate the westerly direction route in the vicinity of the Community Centre and other changes as follows:</p> <p>The two route changes are -</p> <p>A. No longer go through the car park between Church St and Victoria Road</p> <p>B. The westerly route to go via the High Street for a few hundred metres.</p> <p>So beginning on the east -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Junction of Victoria Rd and the car park adjust signs for both ways to face along Victoria Rd 2. Junction of Chautsingers Rd and Church St - left turn sign heading west, right turn sign heading east are required 3. Junction of Church St and Vicarage Hill - continuation sign heading west ie down towards the High St, remove right turn sign into Vicarage Hill heading west. Left turn sign from Vicarage Hill into Church St is correctly positioned. It just needs the NCN number changing to 224. <p>The next signs are only for the route heading west -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Junction of Church St and High St/Normandy St - right turn sign 5. Suggest a continuation (straight on) sign on the High St half way between Church St and Market St since the High St is busy and cluttered with signage 6. Junction of High St and Market St - right turn sign required 7. Junction Market St, Lenten St and Amery St - continuation sign (this is where the west route joins the east route again). <p>These to be added to the list DA has already provided EHDC/Sustans with all the junctions that needed re-signing from route 23 to 224.</p>

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2b	TRAP10	Improved signage for cyclists	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a pressing need for proper cycle facilities across Whitedown Lane, which should be implemented as part of the South Alton developers' proposals. This will enhance links to Chawton, Farringdon and Four Marks. This has not been addressed by the Developer 2. The opportunity to link the Beech cycle path (A339) to the town centre by way of Will Hall park, the water board land and a proper route across Flood Meadows should be pursued.- This is ongoing. 3. Changes to the cycle provision at Borovere Lane / the west end of The Butts (near the Toucan crossing) are required; the installed facility is considered to be inherently unsafe. 4. On the existing Anstey Road / London Road cycle path, priority should be given to cyclists over house accesses etc. 5. Clarification on the legality of use by cyclists of the various alleys and footways in the town is sought, with "no cycling" signs and barriers being removed where cycle use is permitted. ATC to remove barrier on entrance to King's Pond from Waterbrooke. <p>In respect of TRAP 9, 10 & 11, a small group met with Sarah Hobbs (EHDC) on 8th November 2017 to discuss the forthcoming cycling strategy for Alton, in advance of a public consultation early in 2018. NO PUBLIC CONSULTATION TO DATE.</p>
2b	TRAP11	Safe cycle connections with surrounding villages	Tracey Webb (EHDC) to help facilitate this following the meeting with DA and Sustans in September 2018. Most signs identified at the meeting as requiring installing/replacing now in place.
2c	TRAP12	Improved bus services within the town	Service 9 (Monday to Friday only) covers Eastbrooke and Wooteys. Discussions on going in respect of Saturday service by way of taxi-share or community bus.
2c	TRAP13	Improved bus accessibility between Alton and the outlying villages	<p>Service 65 retained during 2017 review. Discussions with Stagecoach in early 2017 established that additional service to Chawton utilising the 64 not possible due to timing constraints.</p> <p>March 2019 timetable changes.</p> <p>Previous hourly service 13 from Basingstoke to Alton and then Bordon, Whitehill and Liphook now runs only every 2 hours. On the intermediate hours a bus still leaves Basingstoke for Alton bearing the number 13, and then changes into a 23 at Alton and proceeds to Haslemere. So we now have "regular" service to Haslemere.</p>

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2c	TRAP14	Improved late evening bus services to other towns	Improvements on the 64 service which runs until 11.20pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and around 8.15pm on other nights. Last bus from Basingstoke (13) leaves 7.20pm, 6.30pm on Saturdays.
2c	TRAP15	Co-ordination of rail and bus timetables at Alton Station	64 and 65 both drop off/pick up at Alton Station
2c	TRAP16	Direct train connection to Guildford and redoubling of track to Farnham	Direct trains from Farnham to Guildford commencing May 2019. There are no plans to extend the track towards Farnham.
2d	TRAP17	Additional spaces for off-street parking	No additional spaces proposed at this time as EHDC have stated car parks are not operating at capacity. EHDC have terminated the agreement with ATC for spaces within Lady Place car park which has necessitated ATC re-letting Hampshire County Council. EHDC undertook a review of parking late 2018, results are awaited.
2d	TRAP18	Levels of charging in off-street car parks	EHDC increased parking charges as of June 2017 despite strong opposition from ATC. EHDC offer free parking at Yuletide and Small Business Saturday.
2d	TRAP19	Very short stay parking	See TRAP 18 above.
2d	TRAP20	Parking control measures	ATC has introduced 4 hr restrictions at selected open spaces to increase availability of parking for users of parks and open spaces by restricting business use of spaces.
2d	TRAP21	Parking for coaches	Coach parking available behind Iceland and at Anstey Park
2d	TRAP22	Station parking	Main car park is operating at full capacity but overflow not being utilised as issues over paying the third party provider for pay and display. Knock on effect along residential roads surrounding.
3b	CHAP3	Community Hospital	See Policy CH3
3b	CHAP4	Monitoring the provision of all health and care-related services	See updated evidence base for healthcare (Appendix 1)
4a	EDAP1	Future school, nursery, and pre-school provision	Expansion approved to Butts School. Planning approved for new nursery next to Anstey Park. Clerk spoke with Martin Shefferd (HCC) on 6 th March 2018 in respect of future Confirmation that the approved housing in Alton is served by the expansion of existing schools. There will be an increase of 210 places at the Butts and St Lawrence through expansion which will cater for the requirements of 978 new homes at Cadnams, Will Hall Farm and South Alton. Wooteys is currently not at full occupancy it can take 90 and currently has an intake of 62/63. The preference now is to expand current schools rather than provide new as these have to be free schools however if seeking a site for a new school the requirement is for a 2 hectare, flat, regular shaped site to accommodate a minimum of 420 school places, car parking and open space. 420 places = 1,400 new homes and the school has to

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			demonstrate that it would be full by the end of year 3. Consideration also has to be given to the surrounding area and their provision inc. Chawton and Four Marks (which is going to 2 form entry) In respect of secondary education, Eggars and Amery Hill are able to accommodate the developments coming forward. There will be a 1200 capacity school being built at Whitehill and Bordon and Bohunt has just introduced 6 th form so Alton College not at full capacity. Update currently being undertaken as part of Local Plan
5b	ESAP8	Land for industrial and commercial business parks	Outline application for 7hectare site at Lynch Hill withdrawn as refused by Planning Committee February 2018. Resubmitted and refused in November 2018. Alternative access application approved November 2018. Wilsom Road application refused and dismissed at appeal. Land at Holybourne Roundabout for Services dismissed at appeal. Tesco site still for sale.
5b	ESAP9	Achievement of the appropriate mixed use development of the brewery site	Development Brief completed summer 2016. CALA home appointed to develop the site Pre-app still awaited.

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE			
OBJECTIVE	POLICY NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
3a	CHAP1	Community Centre	Public Consultation on options for a new community facility on the former brewery site is took place March 2018. One option may be to replace the existing community centre with a new build on this site or in Bank car park. Another maybe to take an offsite financial contribution and refurbish the existing facility and/or other facilities. All options put forward being tested for viability before a further consultation in Spring 2019
3a	CHAP2	Sports Centre	20-year contract, agreed at EHDC's Full Council meeting on 23 February 2017, sees Everyone Active run all three facilities on a day-to-day basis. The agreement commenced 1 st April 2017.The new facility at Alton is being built on the current site, next to the existing centre which will continue to be used while the new facility is under construction. It will include a six lane 25m pool, a six court sports hall, two fitness studios, squash courts and a gym. It will also provide a destination spa, clip and climb and a soft play area and crèche. Reserved matters planning application granted 9 th March. ATC represented on the Project Board. Meeting with ATC and Alton Gymnastics held in May to establish their requirements for offsite provision. A further meeting held in March 2019 to progress.
5a	ESAP1	Establishment of Town Centre Management function	Business Development Manager employed in Alton by EHDC, joint funded project August 2016 – December 2018. Town Centre development to be considered as part of joint

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			working initiative between ATC and EHDC starting spring 2019 with a view to securing external funding Autumn 2019. Town wide free WI-FI launched by ATC in January 2019
5a	ESAP2	Flexible leases and other incentives to business start ups	Flexible leases are already available on Town Council properties, and it is a long-term project to gauge appetite for flexibility from private landlords.
5a	ESAP3	Maintenance of unoccupied high-street property	Retail Improvement Grant Scheme was set up with this ESAP in mind, but the funds were primarily used by businesses to improve customer service rather than the aesthetics of the premises.
5a	ESAP4	Primary and secondary shopping-area boundaries	Consultation will take place as part of the review of the local plan. The Town Clerk has met with Glynis Watts, accompanied by BDM to look at options for Primary and secondary shopping-area boundaries given the current uses of the High Street and changing focus.
5b	ESAP 5	Promotion of the town as a business location	This will form part of the new ATC/ EHDC external funding initiative (detailed above)
5b	ESAP6	Business communication systems	Working with Hampshire County Council and their programme to ensure that any upgrades available for the current provision are utilised. Superfast broadband has reached 95% of Hampshire, and that figure is on target to reach 97.4% by the end of 2019.
5b	ESAP7	Business links to local education establishments, and enhancement of local career opportunities	BDM was in regular contact with ACCI, not for profit training organisations, secondary schools and colleges in Alton to assist with career opportunities. Assistance with independent advice and guidance and engagement with businesses to enhance their CSR and employment reach is ongoing and has proved to be successful to date.

OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE			
OBJECTIVE	POLICY NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
2b	TRAP5	Footpaths, alleyways, and public rights-of-way	Town Council continues to hold regular Footpath Wardens meetings and run the Annual Walking Festival. Walker are welcome status approved for the Town and a new Walk Alton initiative and website launching on 23 rd March 2019. Discussions on going with SDNP as a destination town for walking as a gateway town to the National Park.
2b	TRAP6	Improved signage for pedestrians	Additional directional signage ordered to assist tourists in accessing Chawton from the Butts. Open Spaces Committee asked for Open Spaces Map to be included in the new town map to facilitate access – now completed and published May 2018 New main Entrance signage for ATC owned Public Open spaces installed April 2017. ATC undertook refurbishment of the town centre finger post signs summer 2017.

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COMMUNITY AND EVENTS COMMITTEE			
OBJECTIVE	POLICY NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
3c	CHAP5	Promotion of the usage and financial health of the town's amenities	

Appendix 1

Alton Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring - Update of Health Provision 2019

Background.

In 2014/15 a review of healthcare provision was undertaken for Alton as part of the preparation of the Alton Neighbourhood Plan which was made in February 2016 following a public referendum. As a result of the review of healthcare and subsequent public consultation, the following two policies were agreed.

CH3 Health facilities

Proposals to expand current health care facilities in Alton to meet the needs of a growing local population will be supported, with the extension of the two surgeries in the town identified as a priority.

CH4 Community Hospital

The Alton Community Hospital site will be safeguarded for health uses for the duration of the plan period. Additionally, any proposal to extend the current facility to offer an enhanced level and range of health care service to the town will be actively encouraged.

There were also two action points arising.

CHAP3: *We will lobby North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group to maximise use of a range of specialist facilities and appointment capacity at Alton Community Hospital. We will engage with local providers to ensure that capacity is increased commensurate with population growth, and that standards and levels of provision of all health services are maintained or improved.*

CHAP4: *We will assist in establishing an Alton group charged with monitoring the provision of all health and care-related services.*

Subsequent to the making of the Alton Neighbourhood Plan (ANP), the **North Hants Clinical Commissioning Group** (NHCCG) set up a Strategic review of Healthcare in Alton in 2016 followed by a series of stakeholder meetings(1).

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Regular attendance at all the meetings since then have continued to keep us updated (2,3). From these consultations the NHCCG came up with a Transformation Plan (4,5). Ongoing regular **Health and Wellbeing Partnership meetings**, run by Community First and set up in collaboration with the NHCCG and EHDC enable stakeholders to highlight current needs and suggest ways forward. The setting up of the Kings Arms Youth provision in Alton was an action taken after one such meeting. Funding streams, however remain a stumbling block to many initiatives.

GP surgeries are set up at the behest of the NHCCG and there are still currently 2 practices in Alton; the Wilson Practice at the Health Centre and Chawton Park Surgery. These currently serve 30,000 patients with both practices still looking to expand their buildings to accommodate more GP services. This extra capacity will be needed because of the increase in population due to local building developments. Both surgeries still provide a minor injuries clinic and have on-site pharmacies. They have indicated that where new development arises consideration should be given to funding additional recruitment and training of community nurses and therapist to assist with outreach work in the community. Whilst additional promotion of utilising other forms of access to GPs surgeries, such as telephone consultations and on-line submission of images to aid in diagnosis would prove beneficial to reduce waiting times for appointments, both surgeries report that currently they are fortunate in attracting and retaining sufficient GPs, bucking the national trend of a shortfall in provision.

Alton's 2 practices have joined forces with 3 others from Four Marks, Medstead and Bentley to form the **A31 Community Wellbeing Hub**(6). Patients are enabled to interact with a variety of organisations that can assist in providing specialist support or useful information across a wide range of topics. Members of the Hub also support each other offering extended hours appointments...

The ANP consultation showed that the **Alton Community Hospital** was very important to Altonians. As Chair of the Patient Participation Group (PPG) at Chawton Park surgery, I invited the newly appointed Chair of the Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust(HHFT), Steve Erskine, to meet with us at the Surgery in February 2019. He was accompanied by the Chief Operations Manager at HHFT, Julie Maskery. The Town Clerk, Leah Coney was also able to attend. It was a very informative meeting with the following notable points arising:

- While the Community Hospital is owned and run by Southern Health, the HHFT are now working more collaboratively with them and appreciate the strategic importance of the hospital.
- The Trust own and run the X-ray department and hold many outpatient clinics there. They are also hoping to introduce more 'kit' to be able to offer more local services. We suggested a dialysis machine and a bone scanner would be good.
- The Inwood ward has been closed for some time and now houses the Community nursing team and it is not likely to re-open as a ward.
- The Anstey ward still cares for step up/ step down patients from Basingstoke hospital. There is also an end of life suite .
- In line with the NHS long term plan (7) the HHFT will '*boost out of hospital care*' to ensure patients do not spend too long in hospital. We did suggest that this move away from hospital care to care in the community would need careful management and a good deal of extra funding to implement and felt the reintroduction of District Nurses would be a good idea.

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- There is to be a capital investment programme for HHFT which is in the business case stage at the moment but will include additional/replacement equipment for the Community Hospital. It is suggested that some level of S106/CIL funding from new residential development could be used towards this.
- In discussing the CALA (former Coors) Brewery Site, the issues of a care home was raised. It was suggested that a conversation could be initiated with HCC and CALA to see if there was any merit in HCC becoming involved in such a project as they are one of the few local authorities to run their own care facilities.
- Both the GPs Surgeries and HHFT agree that an element of keyworker housing for Alton would help in recruiting retaining key staff. Winchester city Council recently launched a new programme to recognise the need to help people who provide essential public services to our community, but who fall outside the government's definition of key workers (10) This is a positive example which we would encourage EHDC to explore for the two residential site allocations proposed for Alton.

The **latest EHDC Local Plan**, which is out for consultation, has a section on Health in the Interim Infrastructure Plan 2019 (8). It mentions the 'Better Local Care' initiative but much is currently focused on Bordon.

The information about Alton in the document is scant and contains inaccuracies. It makes no reference to Basingstoke or Winchester Hospitals which provide most of the hospital services for the town (presumably because they are outside the Local plan area) which is a serious omission. Given that the Local Plan has a duty to cooperate with adjoining districts/boroughs then this needs to be rectified, particularly in respect of transport issues between Alton and Basingstoke. 70% of referrals hospital referrals for residents of Alton are to Basingstoke, yet public transport is insufficient in terms of frequency and is indirect.

In conclusion, the policies contained within the Alton Neighbourhood Plan and the Action Plan points accompanying it remain current and up to date but EHDC need to be aware of the local issues (raised above) and consider the suggested funding and key worker housing requests as part of the Regulation 18 consultation for the Local Plan

Councillor Pam Jones

Alton Town Council and Chair, Chawton Park Surgery PPG

February 2019

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