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| Committee | FULL COUNCIL |
| Date | 12th November 2018 |
| Agenda Item | 14 |

Town Infrastructure Report Update

This is an amended and updated report, which is represented to Council following a review of the concerns expressed at the meeting held on 13th August 2018.

Housing Growth

The last housing trajectory forecast was published by Braintree district Council on their website dated 30th June 2018.

This forecast shows that 680 dwellings are expected to be built in Halstead over the next five years.

In addition to this a number of planning applications have been submitted which, if approved, would further significantly increase this. These are,

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| 1 | Kings Road, "Hunwicks site" | - | 47 dwellings | - | currently refused |
| 2 | Land adj to Crowbridge Farm | - | 70 dwellings | - | currently refused |
| 3 | Land West of Mount Hill | - | 71 dwellings | - | pending consideration |
| 4 | Land adj to Blamsters Farm | - | 16 dwellings | - | pending consideration |
| 5 | Land at junction Brook St/Fenn Rd | - | 70 dwellings | - | pending consideration |

Plus other smaller developments pending consideration

Doctors' Surgery

Following the Council meeting on 13th August Dave Gronland and Mick Radley have both, as concerned Halstead residents and not in their capacity as Councillors, continued to have meetings with Dr Kreis and the Practice Manager, to push for additional capacity at the Doctors' surgery. Positive meetings were held in September and October.

The surgery desperately needs additional consulting rooms to cope with the current and growing population and to support this, detail of housing growth and projected additional population has been provided to the surgery. Cllrs Radley and Gronland have considerable business acumen and are offering their experience to the surgery to move this forward.

Their approach has been to encourage the Practice to engage in dialogue with the CCG, NHS England and the landlord. In doing this, to actively work through the issues and take actions to move forward the programme required to implement the provision of additional consulting rooms. It is the responsibility of those organisations to take the necessary actions.

All these organisations have many demands upon their time and it is vital to keep them working on a solution for the surgery for the benefit of the residents of Halstead. It is only by keeping the pressure on that they will secure the improvements at the earliest opportunity.

Although Cllrs Radley and Gronland have developed a good positive working relationship with Dr Kreis and the Practice Manager, future meetings will need to include direct contact with

representatives of the CCG, NHS England and the landlord. To accelerate further progress being made it is important that these organisations are constantly reminded of the pressure that the surgery is under, and the impact of the constantly increasing additional housing burden.

The benefit of this type of contact was borne out in a meeting in March 2018 they had, as Councillors, with Kerry Harding who is responsible for NHS Estates in East of England.

It would not be possible for Cllrs Radley and Gronland to attend extended meetings with all parties just as members of the public. Acting as Councillors representing the concerns of the residents of Halstead would enable them to attend and push the organisations for improvements at the earliest opportunity.

For clarity, any commercial aspects of this activity, contract negotiations, or subsequent actions arising from these meetings will be the responsibility of the relevant authorities and/or the Elizabeth Courtauld Practice and as such not the responsibility or liability of HTC or it's Councillors.

Any matters needing the consent of HTC will be brought to Full Council. Regular reports will be made on any meetings held in connection with this project.

Recommendation: that HTC supports this work and agrees for Cllrs. Radley and Gronland to represent the Council as described in the above report.



Sarah Greatorex
Town Clerk