

## **APPENDIX A**

### **COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016 QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

#### **Question to the Chairman of Transport and Highways Committee, from Councillor John Wilmott**

Would the Chairman of Highways and Transport agree with me, although it is good to see the work on the Hucknall bypass, now being officially started from last Monday 11th January 2016? Why is there so much work being done all at the same time by all the utilities? There are traffic lights and diversion notices up everywhere in Hucknall. Has there been a Business Plan set up by the County Council for all these works to be commenced at the same time?

#### **Response from Councillor Kevin Greaves, Chairman of Transport and Highways Committee**

I do agree that it is good news that works on the long awaited Hucknall Town Centre Improvement Scheme finally started on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January. The investment will mean that Hucknall can now look forward to a revitalised town centre, with sections of the High Street pedestrianised, and new roads and junctions to reduce congestion in the town. This project will create an attractive shopping centre, attract new retailers and promote the regeneration of Hucknall. The scheme will also incorporate flood relief measures. These are designed to deal with some of the problems that have been experienced in the town center in recent years.

As part of the scheme a new road from Station Road/Ashgate Road to Baker Street/Annesley Road will be built, taking thousands of vehicles a day away from the high street. This will allow a pedestrian zone to be created along the high street between Baker Street and Watnall Road.

This is great news for Hucknall and I am pleased that we have been able to play a key role in securing this project, and that we will continue to play our role as the project progresses.

Utility diversion works are required for the new road and to minimise disruption and delays as much as possible. The project team has tried to ensure that where possible the majority of utility diversion works were completed in advance of the main contractor arriving on site. Where there is an overlap, this will be managed by the site team and the contractor has also appointed a full time public liaison officer whose role will be to work with local residents and businesses.

The public liaison officer has a drop in office on Annesley Road (entrance directly opposite Carlingford Road) and local residents are urged to call in if they have any questions on the scheme. The opening hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm. Along with that, over 14,000 leaflets were sent out to every resident and business within the town last summer, informing everybody of the impending works and there is also a communications plan in place. Traffic management notifications will continue to be sent out via email every week forewarning of road works in the local

area and local residents are urged to sign up to the distribution list at [hucknall@tarmac.com](mailto:hucknall@tarmac.com). The public liaison officer has posted out letters to residents, businesses and affected stakeholders in Hucknall informing everybody about this email distribution list and updates will continue to be provided on the scheme's County Council webpage.

As the scheme is within a town centre, it will undoubtedly cause some disruption to motorists and residents during the construction phase. I can, however, assure everyone that officers and the contractors will do all that is possible to minimise disruption and congestion.

**Question to the Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee, from Councillor David Martin**

Could the Health Scrutiny Committee prolong the short notice given in closing the doctor's surgery in Underwood, which will affect 1,285 patients. Could the closure be deferred in order to investigate business partnerships? This closure was given at short notice and we ask for more time.

**Response from Councillor Colleen Harwood, Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee**

The Health Scrutiny Committee will be considering the closure of Underwood Surgery at its meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> January.

The Health Scrutiny Committee does not have the power to compel a health service provider to defer its decision making.

The Health Scrutiny Committee has the power to make comment on proposals for substantial variations or developments of a service from health service providers, and it is sensible for the committee to receive details about the outcome of the public consultation before we make our response, so that the response can be informed by patient and public opinion.

Where the Health Scrutiny Committee's comments contains a recommendation and the consulting organisation disagrees with the recommendation, the Health Scrutiny Committee must be informed and the consulting organisation and the committee must take such steps as are reasonable to reach an agreement.

I understand that Councillor Martin is a new a member of the Health Scrutiny Committee and he will have the opportunity to give his views on the Underwood Surgery closure to the committee on Monday. I would also like to say that I am more than happy to meet with Councillor Martin should he wish to discuss the process in more detail.