

Heathrow Local Focus Forum – Tuesday 29th September 2020

4.00pm – 5.30pm Virtual – DRAFT Meeting Notes

Name	Borough/Organisation
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Attendees- Members

Cllr Wendy Matthews	Iver Parish Council
Ian Millin	Chair – Stanwell Village Hall
Elaine Mells	Pavilion Association
Nigel Mells	Pavilion Association
Peter Hood	Colnbrook Residents Association
Jane Taylor	HASRA Chair – Sipson Resident
Christine Taylor	HASRA – Harlington Resident
Armelle Thomas	HASRA – Harmondsworth Resident
Graham Young	Richings Park Residents Association
Becky Coffin	Director of Communities, Heathrow
Darielle Proctor	Community Engagement & Investment Lead
Elizabeth Beale	Community & Charity Partnership Manager, Heathrow

Attendees-**Guest Speakers**

Dr Rebecca Bowden	Director, Heathrow Community Trust
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Apologies

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1 Welcome and apologies

- 1.1. Becky Coffin (BC) welcomed members and noted the above apologies.
- 1.2. BC explained that questions can be asked via the Teams Q&A box and speakers will take questions at the end of their sections.
- 1.3. BC introduced herself, explained she took on the role of Director of Communities in March 2020, at a very difficult time. She assured members that community engagement remains important to us. She mentioned that in her previous sustainability role with Heathrow, she had presented to LFF members on Heathrow 2.0 (Heathrow's sustainability report).
- 1.4. BC noted that one request for an agenda item had been received (Cranford Agreement – Peter Hood) and that she would cover this during the operational update.

2 Operational Update

- 2.1. BC said that since March, Covid-19 has had a devastating impact on aviation, including at Heathrow. BC highlighted the information shown on slide 4, including the extent to which passenger numbers fell in April 2020. She explained that the business had to respond very quickly to this, including consolidation of operations, single runway operations, and temporary pay reduction for management. BC explained that in August, passenger numbers were still down 81.5% compared to usual, with long haul markets, including North America, particularly impacted. Cargo is still down 32%, even with the increase of cargo-only flights. She said the Heathrow hadn't seen the recovery the airport had hoped for over the summer, particularly due to low consumer confidence, and quarantine exemption only applies to around 30% of Heathrow's routes.
- 2.2. BC said that it was imperative that a testing solution is found, and that a facility has been set up in T2, but that government support is required.
- 2.3. BC explained that due to reduced operations, Heathrow has utilised this period to undertake some extensive repairs to the Southern Runway. BC explained that the delivery of the infrastructure to enable easterly alternation was intended to take place as part of the Expansion project. She said that after the decision of the Court of Appeal in February 2020, Expansion was subsequently paused, and Heathrow has need to re-evaluate all of its airspace change programmes. BC said that all capital expenditure projects are on hold, unless they are safety critical. She highlighted that Easterly Alternation still remains a key commitment for Heathrow, but due to the current crisis, Heathrow is not able to give clarity on when this will be delivered, but as soon as more information is available, we will update members.

3 Heathrow Community Trust

- 3.1. BC introduced Dr Rebecca Bowden (RB), director of the Heathrow Community Trust. She thanked RB for all the work the trust has been doing.
- 3.2. RB spoke through slides 6 to 17. She explained that HCT managed to run 4 'normal' grant round in 2020 before Covid started (young people, Communities together and two lots of HAPI – colleague grants). RB explained that on the 26th March, HCT put all their programmes on hold, as Heathrow had to put their contributions on hold. She said

that HCT moved quickly to support current grant holders repurposing their funding to support Covid related activities, as well as awarding £94k of emergency funding. RB gave examples of some of the community groups that have benefited from funding, including Stanwell Events, Denham United Ladies Football Club, Sight for Surrey and Boxes of Delight. RB explained that they share all their data on '360 giving' which anyone can access to find out more about who they've supported.

- 3.3. RB explained that they have just distributed a further £96k of Covid resilience funding, to allow community groups to adapt their programmes to continue to support their beneficiaries. RB said that HCT's usual grant programmes remain closed for foreseeable future, but hopes HCT will be able to release further emergency funding before the end of 2020.
- 3.4. BC asked RB how local organisations can find out how to apply for any future grant schemes that HCT may have. RB said that the website is regularly updated and that members can get in touch via email¹.

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- 3.5. *Graham Young – “We have tried to contact the Heathrow Rangers in Richings Park but without success. Has the service provider changed?”*

EB explained that we are using the same organisation to deliver the Heathrow Community Ranger service, and is aware that they were out-and-about in Richings Park last Friday. She said that she remains the main contact for the Heathrow Community Rangers, so please do get in touch if there's anyway the team could be supporting in your local community.

- 3.6. *Peter Hood – “What land was Hal able to acquire before Expansion was shelved?”*

BC explained that no land, apart from a few homes, was purchased before the Court of Appeal decision in February 2020.

- 3.7. *Armelle Thomas – “If testing is given the go ahead, what will be done with the passengers who test positive?”*

BC said that throughout this health crisis, Heathrow has worked closely with the government and Public Health England, and that in this instance we would do the same, by following the guidance of Public Health England.

- 3.8. *Ian Millin - “I would like to thank Beccy and her team for the support that they have given to our community in Stanwell.”*

RB said that they were very welcome, and noted what a great job they were doing in Stanwell.

¹ Website: <https://www.heathrowcommunitytrust.org/>, LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/heathrow-community-trust/>, Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/heathrowcommunitytrust/>

Email: HCT@groundwork.org.uk or Rebecca.Bowden@heathrowcommunitytrust.org

- 3.9. *Christine Taylor – “Grants only seem to go to groups you've worked with before. I looked on the website and could only find the map for 2019, which showed very few grants in south of Hillingdon (3).”*

RB explained that the map on the website is up to date, with the exception of this week's grants (Covid resilience funding). She said that historically HCT received fewer applications from this area because of the work that the Hillingdon Community Trust did, and anticipates that HCT will therefore receive more applications from this area in future. The 'usual funding' awarded in Q1 was open to all areas to apply for, but the rounds of Covid related funding is only open for organisations who have previously received funding, as this allows HCT to distribute this funding as quickly as possible, because the due-diligence checks have already taken place.

- 3.10. *Peter Hood – “I'm concerned that areas of green belt in Harmondsworth and Colnbrook are being abused with unauthorised fishing, BBQ's, camping and motorbikes. Gates and stiles are disappearing and many fallen trees are not being dealt with when they block footpaths and bridleways. Do Heathrow now own these areas of land?”*

DP explained that Heathrow's Ops team has heard from people around the airport who are concerned about anti-social behaviour, some specifically are owned by Heathrow. On Heathrow's biodiversity site, we are replacing fences and other security measures as quickly as we can. DP asked members, that if they do witness any concerning behaviour on Heathrow land, to please ring the Airport Operations Centre (APOC) and soon as possible².

4 Heathrow Covid-19 Community Response

- 4.1. BC highlighted that this using Microsoft Teams was a very different experience to a usual LFF meeting, and that whilst Covid poses huge challenges, the team is looking to find ways to make engagement with the community as helpful as possible. She added that she looks forward to when we'll be able to meet in person again. She welcomes any feedback members would like to share on today's meeting.
- 4.2. DP introduced herself, explaining that she has been working at Heathrow for over two years, and prior to this role was working in the Community and Stakeholder team at Heathrow.
- 4.3. DP said that despite Covid, Heathrow is committed to community engagement and investment and that our Better Neighbour Programme remains important to us. She said that because of the impact of Covid, Heathrow is reviewing all of its activity, and that the community team is prioritising the activities which are of most benefit to the local community. DP said that as the business recovers, she hopes Heathrow will be able to increase its community investment activities.
- 4.4. EB gave an overview of the community activities that took place in response to Covid-19. She explained that even throughout this difficult time for Heathrow, the airport has shared resources to help make a difference to the local community. EB said that this has included, donating facemasks and liquids bags to NHS Hospitals, delivering learning packs to children on behalf of primary schools, donating 71 laptops to local

² APOC - 0208 745 7216

community groups to allow home learning, delivering donations to 6 foodbanks around the airport (including Stanwell Foodbank and Colnbrook Cares), and deliveries on behalf of Slough CVS. She added that many of Heathrow's activities have been possible by sharing the resources of the Heathrow Community Rangers, by repurposing the team to Covid related activities, and that the Ranger team have now predominantly returned to their usual activities. EB said that Heathrow released its new community bulletin, the next of which will be mid-October. She said that LFF members should have received this, but if anyone hasn't, or if you know of someone else that would like to receive it, please do get in touch.

- 4.5. EB explained the activities that are currently being undertaken as part of the Better Neighbour Programme, which reflects the need to prioritise activities which are of most benefit to the community. She said that the Rangers have been out-and-about in Colnbrook, Poyle, Richings Park, Stanwell and Stanwell Moor, undertaking litter picking and gardening activities, as well as supporting the local primary schools maintain their outdoor space. She encouraged members to say hello, if they see them in their communities, and encouraged members to get in touch if there's anyway the team could be supporting in your community.
- 4.6. EB explained Heathrow is continuing with its primary school support, and are currently transitioning our educational programmes with the school to virtual. She added that the five schools Heathrow support are: William Byrd (Hillingdon), Harmondsworth Primary (Hillingdon), Heathrow Primary (Hillingdon), Pippins Primary (Slough) and Colnbrook Primary (Slough).
- 4.7. EB said that Heathrow has reviewed its work with Keep Britain Tidy. She explained any projects in the initial planning stage have been put on hold for the foreseeable future, and if there's any specific activity you'd like to discuss, please do get in touch. EB said that the projects in Cranford were further along in their planning, and will still be going ahead. She said that along with Keep Britain Tidy, they have recently engaged with Cranford Action Group and Heston Action Group on this work.
- 4.8. EB said that we would like to hear from members about other ways we could be supporting them with their community activities, and encouraged anyone with ideas to get in touch. She reiterated that whilst it's been an incredibly challenging time for Heathrow, the business may have existing resources that it is able to share, or may be able to reach out to wider Team Heathrow companies for their support too.

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- 4.9. *Peter Hood – "I can report that Colnbrook Museum building works are now virtually (not that sort of virtual) complete. Fitting out is now starting and I'd like to thank Heathrow and the Rangers for financial and practical help."*

EB thanked Peter for his feedback. She noted how impressive it was that the museum had been built during a global pandemic and congratulated Peter for his achievement. She said that Heathrow was pleased to have been able to support, and look forward to being able to visit, when this is once again possible.

5 Heathrow Report – tabled

- 5.1. BC explained that this was circulated to members via email earlier today.

6 AOB

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- 6.1. *Christine Taylor – “At Christmas I asked if it would be possible for LFF members to visit the AVA. Apparently this wasn't possible. Has the position changed?”*

EB explained that the decision was taken last Christmas that a visit to the AVA wasn't possible because it is an operational area of the airport, and that currently given Covid, this also wouldn't be an appropriate thing to do. EB asked for clarity for exactly what members would like to see at the AVA, and BC suggested that we could possibly bring the AVA to members virtually, by recording a video etc, if there was something specific, they wished to see.

- 6.2. BC explained how it was important to Heathrow that we hear from a wide range of voices so that the decisions we take are properly informed by all our communities and those who live close to the airport. She added that we will communicate with members of the Local Focus Forum, and others, as we go through this process to review and refine Heathrow's forums.
- 6.3. BC reiterated that engagement remains important to Heathrow. She confirmed that the next meeting of the LFF will take place on Tuesday 1st December 2020, and will include the CEO's annual update. She added that this meeting is very likely to be virtual, and we will provide further details in due-course. BC encouraged members to submit any agenda items they may have. She also encouraged members to share any feedback members have on today's meeting. She reminded members that slides and meeting notes will be circulated within two weeks of the next meeting.

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- 6.4. *Wendy Matthews – “The bus service in Richings Park and Iver has been really well received but we have a bus stop in the middle of nowhere could this be looked at please.”*

ACTION - BC said that this can be looked into, and EB will follow-up with the Surface Access team.

- 6.5. *Peter Hood – “Thanks for the effort you have gone to in arranging this meeting. It is appreciated.”*

BC thanked Peter for his comment.

- 6.6. *Armelle Thomas – “A letter was sent to the residents of Heathrow Villages 15 wks into Lockdown saying that you still intend to take their homes and that the third runway project was just paused. I would like an apology to those who were already suffering and then feared being under threat for another decade.”*

BC thanked Armelle for sharing her feedback. She clarified that the letter that is being referred to, mentions that Heathrow's property policies have been paused, and that this is correct, given that the appeals process is still underway. BC said that she understood

that living with uncertainty is difficult, and that Heathrow is working to provide updates and clarity whenever possible.

6.7. *Ian Millin – “It would be nice to see how is attending the meeting in future.”*

BC thanked Ian for his feedback, and agreed that this would have been helpful, and we’ll look to see how we can make this possible for the next meeting. EB added that members names will be included in the meeting notes.

6.8. BC thanked members for taking the time to join the meeting and sharing their comments.

6.9. BC wished all members well during this difficult period, and closed the meeting.

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 1st December 2020, details to be confirmed.