

## **Adur County Local Committee**

8<sup>th</sup> September 2011 – At a meeting of the Committee held at the Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Upper Boundstone Lane, Lancing.

Present: Mr R.B. Dunn, Mrs Mills (Chairman), Mrs Mockridge and Mr Simmons.

Absent: Mr Coomber and Mr Graysmark

### **Chairman's Welcome**

42. The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting.

### **Declaration of Interests**

43. In accordance with the Code of Conduct Mrs Mills declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Proposed Merger, as a member of the Fire and Rescue Service Proposed Merger Task Force.

44. In accordance with the Code of Conduct Mr Simmons declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Proposed Merger, as a member of the Fire and Rescue Service Proposed Merger Task Force.

45. In accordance with the Code of Conduct Mrs Mockridge declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Proposed Merger, as an advisor to the Cabinet Member for Public Protection.

46. In accordance with the Code of Conduct Mr Dunn declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Proposed Merger, as a member of the Fire and Rescue Service Proposed Merger Task Force.

### **Minutes**

47. Resolved – That the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2011 and the minutes of the special Adults' Services Grants meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2011 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

### **Chairman's Update**

48. The Chairman updated the Committee on issues raised since the last meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2011. The following key points were made:

- Public consultation had taken place during June for the initial design of the Shoreham Connect II Bridge. 240 questionnaires had been returned during the consultation period that included many useful comments and suggestions. A revised design had been included in the planning application to West Sussex County Council (WSCC). Key changes included a higher glass balustrade and removal of proposed seating on the bridge itself.
- The Committee were in the process of developing an Infrastructure Plan (IP) for the Adur CLC area which aimed to; highlight those highway infrastructure priorities that support community interests, help guide how resources are allocated e.g. projects worked on by officers and how to focus funds i.e. Section 106, Capital and other sources. These priorities would provide the

basis for recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport on local proposals the CLC would like to see progressed.

- The CLC had identified a number of priorities (listed below) and were keen to hear from members of the public about anything else they would like to see added to the list:
  - East Street (North Section) – Pedestrianisation
  - St. Mary's Road – Reconstruction in conservation materials
  - School Safety projects – to be determined further by members (will include issues surrounding Irene Avenue)
  - Western Road/Bowness Avenue – Pedestrian Crossing Facility (either pedestrian refuge island or signalised crossing facility)
- There were two studies the Committee would like to see progressed: options for an improvement scheme to address safety concerns at Manor Road/Mill Road Junction and Shoreham Town Centre (between Old Shoreham Road to Eastern Avenue) to review junctions and traffic flow to highlight potential alterations to improve traffic circulation and pedestrian accessibility.

### **West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service – Proposed Merger**

49. Bill Minton, Business Planning Manager, gave a presentation (copy appended to signed minutes) on the proposed West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (WSFRS) merger with East Sussex Fire Authority. The following key points/issues raised are noted below:

- The merger would allow increased operational performance and give the service more flexibility.
- There would be more specialist equipment available that would be able to get to incidents quicker e.g. in the event of a terrorist attack or flooding.
- Would avoid the duplication of teams e.g. one control room needing fewer staff but a better facility. The location had yet to be determined.
- West Sussex would be proportionally represented on the new Authority Board based on population.
- The consultation started on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2011 and closes on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011 and many events were taking place during that period.
- West Sussex County Council would make the final decision on 16th December 2011 and East Sussex Fire Authority would take a decision on the same day.
- The new Fire Authority would commence on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 but a shadow authority would be in place following a Combination order (due in September 2012).
- If the merger did not take place £2.5m of savings would have to be found from WSFRS alone. Last years Fire Re-design had saved £1.5m and the changes implemented were working well. It was likely that frontline services would be affected if the merger did not take place.
- There would likely be redundancies involved if the merger took place but were likely to be from 'back office' rather than 'front line' staff.

50. The Chairman thanked Bill Minton for his presentation.

### **Appointment of Authority School Governors**

51. The Committee considered a report by the Director Operations – Learning, which set out proposed nominations to school governing bodies and the criteria for their appointment (copy appended to the signed minutes).

52. Resolved – That the following local authority school governor appointments and re-appointments be approved:

Appointments:

- i. Mrs B Ferrers-Guy to Holmbush First School for a 4 year term
- ii. Mrs A Bridges to the Globe Primary School for a 4 year term
- iii. Miss S Payton to Shoreham Beach Primary School for a 4 year term
- iv. Mrs R Fillion to Shoreham Beach Primary School for a 4 year term
- v. Mr P Hudson to Shoreham Beach Primary School for a 4 year term

Re-Appointments:

- i. Mrs S Judges to Seaside Primary School for a **3** year term

### **Talk With Us Open Forum**

53. A resident asked if there had been any update on whether Stagecoach had agreed to fund the routes where WSCC had cut its subsidy. The Committee replied that there had been no response from Stagecoach to their representations and they would update residents as soon as there was any information. Other options were being explored.

54. An Adur District Councillor questioned why, when the surface of Chester Avenue was disgusting with pieces coming up, had residents been told that it would be two years before it was assessed. Mr Candy, Coastal Team Manager Community Development & Big Society, replied that he would look into this and report back but commented that surfacing works were prioritised if there was a safety issue and the road would be made safe but there was a lead time of two years on the re-surfacing programme.

55. A resident questioned why the replacement street lighting had not been finished in Buckingham Road when the work was started in March 2011 and questioned why the County Council was spending money on this. Mr Candy explained that this was a Private Finance Initiative to bring the street lighting up to a modern standard. The County Council had an agreed price for the work and the contractor was obliged to ask the public how they were doing. If the comments were not satisfactory there were penalty clauses in the contract that could be used.

56. The same resident had received a letter from a consultant about parking restrictions in the road and questioned the necessity of using a consultant when proposals to tackle the double-parking in Nicholson Drive and Buckingham Road had been prioritised by the Committee in November 2010. Mr Candy explained that the letter received had been part of the consultation for a possible Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in Shoreham. The proposals for Nicholson Drive and Buckingham Road, which was a separate issue, would have to come back before the Committee because there had been objections to the proposals.

57. An Adur District Councillor/Chairman of Lancing Parish Council raised concerns about people with disabilities accessing Occupational Therapists and Equipment as there was lots of equipment that was no longer available e.g. beds with raising backs and rails on the sides, and all requests now had to go through the Occupational Therapy Connect Service. She was also concerned about the lack of facilities for disabled people that did not fit into the young or old category. The

Committee shared her concerns and were going to raise these at the next meeting of the Adults' Services Select Committee.

58. The Shoreham Slipways Group thanked the Committee for their Community Initiative Funding award for the feasibility study. The study indicated that a new slipway was feasible and funding would now need to be raised in the region of £250k.

**Date of Next Meeting**

59. The Committee noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2011, 7.00pm at Fishersgate Community Centre, West Road, Fishersgate.

60. The meeting closed at 8.03 pm

Chairman