

Chanctonbury County Local Committee

26 November 2014 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7pm at Storrington First School, Spierbridge Road, Storrington.

Present: Mrs Arculus, Mr Barling (Chairman), Mr Barnard and Mr Circus.

In attendance: Cali Sparks (Principal Community Officer) and Helena Cox (Democratic Services Officer).

Welcome and Introductions

57. The Chairman welcomed the members of the public to the meeting and introduced the Committee Members and officers.

58. The Chairman highlighted the creation of a Chanctonbury County Local Committee Facebook page which could be accessed via <https://www.facebook.com/chanctonburytalkwithus>. The Chairman stated that he was keen that the page was 'liked' by as many people as possible. The page would be updated with current information which affected the area and feedback on content would be welcomed. The Chairman asked if all parishes could publicise the page.

Declaration of Interests

59. Mr Barling declared a personal interest regarding Item No. 9 Chanctonbury Community Initiative Funding in respect of application 452/C as his firm represented Storrington Parish Council, West Chanctonbury Recreation Association Fitness & Fun's landlord.

Minutes

60. Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the Chanctonbury County Local Committee (CLC) held on 17 September 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

61. There were no urgent matters.

Progress Statement

62. The Committee considered a report which provided updates on matters arising from previous meetings of the CLC (copy appended to signed minutes). In addition to the detail of the report the following points were noted;

- Flooding on Merrywood Lane and Greenhurst Lane in Thakeham Parish – West Chiltington Parish Council were not supportive of pursuing a Operation Watershed bid but had a bid in for another project. There were currently 10 bids being considered under Operation Watershed in the Chanctonbury CLC area.
- Pedestrian Crossing, High Street, Partridge Green – Members were informed that the current review/restructure within Highways had delayed the

progression of this scheme and the Parish Council's frustrations were appreciated. Mr Barnard had met with the Director of Highways and Transportation, Geoff Mee and understood that he was submitting a plan for Cabinet to consider.

63. Resolved – that the progress report be noted.

Community Issues List and Section 106 Funding

64. The Committee considered the latest Community Issues List, Infrastructure Priority Schemes and an update on the position regarding Section 106 funding (copies appended to signed minutes). The Principal Community Officer (PCO) informed the meeting that the schemes included had support from the relevant local member and would be progressed when funding became available, items for Henfield needed to be added and the PCO was due to meet Mrs Arculus to review the schemes in her division.

65. On the list of Infrastructure Priority Schemes, regarding the new footpath on Storrington Road in Thakeham, Mrs Arculus commented that there could be an increase in parking and asked for a site meeting. The PCO undertook to contact the project manager and let Mrs Arculus know. In addition, regarding a new railway line footbridge in Pulborough Mrs Arculus requested that she, as the local member, and the Parish Council needed to have sight of the feasibility study before the scheme could be progressed. The PCO undertook to take this forward.

66. A Pulborough Parish Councillor commented that that he had received a number of complements regarding the completed pedestrian crossing in Pulborough. The Chairman also commented how pleased he was with the scheme that had been completed in Bramber.

67. Regarding the list of Section 106 funding available in each parish, a Woodmancote Parish Councillor enquired whether the funding listed within Woodmancote Parish could be used to clean footpaths along the A281. The Parish Council had been quoted £2,500 for the work. *The PCO stated that Section 106 money could not be used for maintenance unless it would provide a benefit in terms of accessibility. The PCO requested that the Parish Council send her the details and it could be checked whether it was eligible.* The Chairman stated that Section 106 money was subject to regulation as the money was available by agreement that it would be spent on certain things over a certain timeframe, however the County Council was keen to spend the money available. Further to this, it was suggested that there were footpaths in Woodmancote which could be improved in terms of accessibility so the Parish Council could make use of the money. The CLC emphasised the importance of Parish Councils gaining local member support for any potential schemes and that they be suggested in writing to the members via the PCO. *The PCO reiterated that Woodmancote Parish Council should send her the detail of the scheme and mentioned that as it was a rural pavement the volunteer scheme run by the County Council could be used to help with clearance work.* It was asked what the money available in Shermanbury Parish had been all allocated to. It was presumed that this had been the bridge in the Causeway and the PCO undertook to update the list to show what schemes the spent section 106 monies had funded.

68. A Wiston Parish Councillor enquired whether the Parish Council could commission its own street furniture to advertise a 30mph speed limit through the village. *The PCO informed the meeting that this should not be a problem as long as the design was passively safe and placed so it did not restrict visibility. The PCO stated that the Parish Council could work with the County Council on the design to ensure that it met certain requirements and complied with highway standards.* The Parish Councillor enquired whether the structure would then be maintained by the County Council or the Parish Council. *The PCO stated that she believed that the latter would apply and that the County Council would be unlikely to replace the structure if it were damaged.*

Penns Court, Steyning – Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders

69. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Highways and Transportation (copy appended to signed minutes), which sought approval to extend the double yellow lines throughout most of the southern side of Penns Court, Steyning.

70. The Chairman informed the meeting that since the deferral decision at the last meeting of the CLC, members of the CLC had met the two groups of local residents who both supported and opposed the original proposal, along with highway officers to find a resolution. All had agreed to reduce the double yellow lines on the southern kerb at the eastern end which would accommodate an extra parked vehicle. Mrs Arculus thank all involved and for the productive meeting which found a compromise. Mr Circus highlighted how this decision showed why coming to the CLC was worthwhile.

71. Resolved: -

That the Chanctonbury County Local Committee, having considered that the resulting benefits to the community outweigh the objections raised, authorise the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy to make the Order as advertised with the inclusion of reducing the double yellow lines on the southern kerb line at the eastern end.

Talk with Us

72. A resident from Thakeham, Mr Steve Thomas, addressed the CLC regarding his concerns for the safety of pedestrians, especially school children, on Rock Road, Thakeham. Mr Thomas asked for the pavement at Bracken Lane to be extended to Hampers Lane to prevent a possible accident, due to the speed cars travel along the road and school children walking along the side of the road and grass verge. Mr Circus commented that signage had been removed at the junction to improve visibility, he was happy for the request to be considered but some residents in rural areas may see the extension of footpath as giving the area an urban feel. A logical stopping point would be required if the path was to be extended and the width of the road would need to be considered. Mrs Arculus enquired whether Mr Thomas had the support of the parish council, which he did, so she was happy for the scheme to go on the Community Issues List, although she was aware that Thakeham Parish Council had another issue which they wanted to look at. Mrs Arculus believed that Hampers Lane would be a good stopping point however; she also believed that objections would be received for a potential scheme as the area would be seen as becoming urbanised with the introduction of pavements and

streetlighting. Mr Barnard commented that there could be an issue of landownership regarding the land required for a pavement. A Thakeham Parish Councillor stated that a potential scheme had the Parish Council and Rydon Community College backing and that with a further 75 houses to be built in the parish, Rock Road would be more heavily used. It was mentioned that section 106 money could be used for the pavement. It was agreed that the request would go on the Community Issues List and the members of the CLC would visit the area as part of their area tour before they prioritised schemes for future implementation.

73. A Thakeham Parish Councillor asked if a realistic speed limit could be placed on the B2133 by the old brickworks, especially at the sharp bend at Peacocks Lane, as there had been four bad accidents along the stretch of road this year. There was also the issue of very large vehicles accessing and leaving the old brickworks. The Chairman commented that it was probably an issue of enforcement. The PCO stated that it was unlikely to comply with the County Council's speed limit policy but better signage, improvements to the junction and clearance of hedgerows around the entrance to the brickworks could help. The PCO undertook to contact the Parish Council to look at the issue.

74. The Chairman of Steyning Parish Council commented that as part of Steyning Bypass safety improvements, the possibility of road calming measures were unable to be progressed, as County Council owned land at Canons Way had been declared surplus and purchased by a private buyer. *The PCO stated work had been prioritised on a junction further north; however the Canons Way junction could be look at. Regarding the land, there had been long process with consultation throughout the County Council and it was found to be surplus to requirements, a legal process was carried out to 'stop up' the land, at this time Steyning Parish Council was consulted and raised no concerns. The land had not officially been sold but it was unlikely the County Council would go back on this as it had taken nearly two years to get to this point.* The Chairman of Steyning Parish Council stated that he believed the Parish Council had not been consulted on the future of this land and that a possible mini roundabout at Canons Way could not happen now. The PCO undertook to send the Parish Council an email from the Parish Clerk confirming that the land was of no use to the Parish Council and that previous minutes of the Parish Council should be checked. The PCO also mentioned that the area was of ecological protection and the site of a proposed roundabout would need to have streetlights, however as a registered dark spot this would not be possible. This section of the by-pass also forms part of the Strategic Road Network and it is therefore unlikely that the County Council would support the introduction of a roundabout in this location. It was agreed that the issue would be resolved outside of the meeting and it was asked to be noted the respect that Steyning Parish Council had for the PCO's work.

75. The Chairman of Steyning Parish Council raised one further issue regarding the road surface on the B2135 north of the pub in Ashurst, it was in poor condition as flooding had made it worse. It was agreed that the local member, Mr Barling would visit the site with Parish Councillors and reported to Roger Harding, Assistant Highway Manager.

76. A Woodmancote Parish Councillor raised the issue of a woodchip and compositing site within the parish. Mr Barnard informed the meeting that he had discussed this with the Head of Waste at the County Council. The Parish Council were keen to ensure that the size of the site was controlled. The Chairman

commented that any increase in size would be a major planning application and considered in detail. Mr Barnard assured the Parish Councillor that he would keep an eye on the situation.

Chanctonbury Community Initiative Funding (CIF)

77. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy (copy appended to signed minutes), which sought decisions on the applications received under the CIF scheme. The Chairman indicated that two further applications had been received after the CLC report was published, from Partridge Green Area Response Team for £5,000 to purchase medical kit bags and defibrillators; and Vintage Years for £110 to purchase software to enable club to produce programs, flyers and membership cards. A representative from the Dial Post Village Hall Committee highlighted that they had omitted the VAT when making their application and asked if this could be added, members agreed to do so.

78. Resolved that

a) The following awards be made:

- **441/C** Sandham Memorial Village Hall, £2,000 towards the costs of a car park extension to the rear of the village hall, subject to necessary planning permission from the South Downs National Park Authority.
- **449/C** Bramber Flying Butresses, £374.99 to purchase a flymo to maintain the St Nicolas Churchyard.
- **466/C** Dial Post Village Hall Association, £1,440 to purchase an AED for the village; the Committee agreed to increase the amount awarded as the applicant, who attended the meeting, had omitted the cost of VAT when making their application.
- **468/C** Friends of Steyning Primary School, £2,500 to purchase replacement storage sheds.
- **483/C** Vintage Years, £110 to purchase software to enable the club to produce programs, flyers and membership cards

b) The following applications be deferred to the next meeting:

- **452/C** West Chanctonbury Recreation Association Fitness & Fun, £2,000 to purchase soft play equipment so that the local member could discuss the application with Storrington Parish Council, ascertain if the applicant had any links with the Storrington Children and Family Centre, whether they had approached a vulnerable user group to provide services and ask for a copy of their accounts.
- **479/C** Partridge Green Area Response Team, £5,000 to purchase medical kit bags and defibrillator so that the local member could discuss the details of the application further with the applicant.

Appointment of Local Authority Governors

79. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities (copy appended to the signed minutes) that set out proposed nominations to school governing bodies and the criteria for their appointment or reappointment. Mr Barnard highlighted to the meeting that he had discussed the vacancy at Jolesfield CEP School with the Chair of Governors at the school and it was decided that it was not appropriate to fill the vacancy at this time.

80. Resolved - That the Committee approves the appointment of Mrs VJ Russell to St Mary's CEP School (Pulborough) for a three year term under the 2007 Regulations

Date of Next Meeting

81. The Committee noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 4 March 2015 at Ashurst Village Hall, Ashurst, Nr Steyning, BN44 3AP.

The meeting ended at 8.22 p.m.

Chairman