

Chanctonbury County Local Committee

8th June 2011 – At a meeting of the Committee at 7.00pm in the Coombe Court Room, Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning.

Present: Mr Wilkinson (Chairman), Mrs Arculus and Mr Deedman.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Barnard.

Election of Chairman

1. Following the decision that County Local Committee's (CLCs) would elect their own Chairman annually the Committee agreed to appoint Mr Wilkinson as the Chairman for the forthcoming year.

Chairman's Welcome

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

Declaration of Interests

3. There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

4. Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2010 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

5. The Committee considered a report which provided updates on matters arising from previous meetings of the CLC (copy appended to signed minutes).

6. The Committee asked that the scoring for Horn Lane be circulated to them as soon as possible.

Storrington Road, Thakeham – Speed Limit Assessment

7. The Committee had before it an information report by the Director of Communities and Infrastructure (copy appended to signed minutes). The report outlined the results of a speed limit assessment carried out in Storrington Road, Thakeham. A number of issues were discussed:

- There was little roadside development on this rural road and the Highways team were of the opinion that there was no cause for concern.
- Thakeham Parish Council disagreed with the report and stated that there had been accidents over the last three years but they may not have been reported.
- A member of the public felt that it was a very short stretch of road, approximately 400 metres long, to not have a restricted speed limit as it sat between a 30mph and a 40mph limit. (Post Meeting Note – The length of the derestricted road is 740metres approx, well in excess of the suggested minimum of 600metres)

- The average speeds recorded on the road did meet the criteria for a 50mph speed limit but as they were currently under 50mph it could become a target speed for drivers and make things worse.
 - Mrs Arculus asked that the current 30mph limit be extended to the start of the straight carriageway and that signing be looked at.
 - Students from Thakeham that attended Rydon Community College had to get a coach because the road was too dangerous for them to walk along.
8. Resolved – that the Committee noted the report and requested that Storrington Road be added to the Traffic Regulation Order Priority list.

Priorities for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs)

9. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Communities and Infrastructure (copy appended to signed minutes). The report sought the Committee's input and approval for the list of local TRO priorities.
10. Resolved – that the priority order for implementing Traffic Regulation Orders within the Chanctonbury CLC area as set out below for the 2011-2012 year be approved:
- 1) TROBH114 – Tanyard Lane, Steyning – Request for Waiting Restrictions
 - 2) TROBH084 – Newham Close/Godstall Lane, Steyning – Request for Waiting Restrictions
 - 3) TROBH110 – Greyfriars Lane, Storrington – Request for Waiting Restrictions

Community Safety in Chanctonbury

11. Sergeant Bob Trevis of the Neighbourhood Policing Team updated the Committee on work that was ongoing in the area. Updates included:
- They were very close to getting the IT Links into Henfield and Storrington Fire Stations. Sgt Trevis was attending a meeting with Nick Herbert MP on 17th June 2011 to discuss the issue.
 - The new opening hours for Steyning Police were in operation. Four people had visited the Police Station that day.
 - The Police were contactable in many different ways: email, website, individual PCSOs mobile numbers.
 - Operation Fisher had begun to tackle beauty spot car crime and had been very successful so far and was educating drivers about how to secure their cars.
 - 130 businesses had signed up to the Business Watch scheme that provided updates on suspicious activity.
 - The summer drink driving campaign was underway.
 - Sussex Police were working with Horsham District Council on the 'Safer Summer' campaign to tackle anti social behaviour and alcohol related crimes.
 - Progress had been made on tackling anti social motorbike riding on the A283 but this was a countywide problem and resources had to be allocated accordingly.
12. The Chairman brought agenda items 11 (CIF) and 12 (Appointment of Authority Governors) before 'talk with us' to allow more time for discussion.

Chanctonbury Community Initiative Funding

13. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to signed minutes) which sought decisions on the applications received under the CIF scheme.

14. Resolved –

(i) that Community Initiative Funding be allocated as follows:

(i) The following application and amount is approved:

1595/C, Bramber Society, £100.00, to cover the costs of lamppost inspections prior to the placement of hanging baskets. £200.00 had been requested.

(ii) The following application is deferred:

1622/C, Pulborough Community Partnership, £1,000.00 for the purchase of a 6mx12m marquee. The Committee felt they needed more information relating to the hire agreement between the Community Partnership and the marquee company and also felt that the applicant should contact Thakeham Parish Council who had a similar marquee that they could hire out.

(ii) The following application is declined:

1615/C, Steyning Arts, £400, towards the costs of the Open Houses artists trail. The group had already raised sufficient funding for this part of the project so the Committee felt that this should be declined as the monies need to be spent within 6 months. The Committee would welcome another application for another specific project from the group itself.

(ii) That the Parish Initiative Funding be merged with the Community Initiative Funding.

Appointment of Authority School Governors

15. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Learning (copy appended to signed minutes) that set out proposed nominations to school governing bodies and the criteria for their appointment.

Resolved - That the following reappointment be approved:

- Mr Barber to Rydon Community College for a four year term.

Talk With Us Open Forum

16. A member of Parham Parish Council raised the issue of the speed limit on the B2139 Amberley to Storrington road. This was a single carriageway road that runs for four and half miles on the edge of the South Downs. There was a lot of concern about the dangers of the road as there had been two fatal accidents and two accidents where only one car was involved and had left the road. They suggested that the speed limit should be restricted to 40mph and that the Rackham junction be looked at because it is a very dangerous 't junction' just beyond a blind summit. The road acted as a rat run for Heavy Good Vehicles to avoid the A27.

17. The Committee felt that there needed to be more signing to warn of the Rackham junction and that the road needed either a speed limit or some traffic management. Mrs Arculus suggested a similar approach to signing to that on the A285 at Duncton should be taken. Neil Smith, Highway Manager, was aware that the Chairman had contacted Jon Forster of Accident Investigation and Prevention Team to ask that they review the speed limit with a view to lowering it and said that he would follow that up and raise the issue of the improved signing.

18. Residents of Steyning were very concerned about the possible cuts to bus subsidies that could potentially lead to the 106 week day service to Worthing and the 2A Sunday service to Shoreham being withdrawn. They felt that the withdrawal of the 2A particularly would leave Upper Beeding, Steyning and Bramber completely isolated as there was no railway service. It was also noted that boarding students from Steyning Grammar School used the 2A service to return to school after holidays and weekends at home on a Sunday evening.

19. The 106 week day service to Worthing would mean that a lot of elderly and disabled residents would now be reliant on Steyning Good Neighbours to take them to hospital appointments and to visit relatives or they would face a large taxi fare. Steyning Good Neighbours did not feel that they would have the volunteer capacity to deal with such an increase in requests and were very concerned about the impact that these cuts could have.

20. The Committee agreed to write to Lionel Barnard, Deputy Leader with portfolio for Highways and Transport, to support the Steyning residents concerns about the removal of the 2A and 106 services.

21. A Storrington resident informed the Committee that his wife had been hit by a car from behind on Pulborough Road in Storrington where the pavement is very narrow. The car had mounted the pavement to avoid an oncoming vehicle. The resident asked that the Committee supported him in getting the County Council to review road safety for pedestrians on this road. Neil Smith, Highway Manager, informed the Committee that the Highways team were going to install 'school warning signs' on the road and look at all other signing in the area. There would also be a speed check on the road. Frank Wilkinson, the local member, agreed to keep a close eye on progress.

22. The Storrington Traffic Action Team informed the Committee that they had not received an answer to their question surrounding resources allocated to the Storrington Air Quality Management Action Plan noted at minute 94 from the last meeting. The Committee agreed to investigate.

23. A resident questioned when Infrastructure Plans would be coming to the CLC for discussion. It was anticipated that this would come to the next meeting of the Committee but there was currently a re-structure underway and it was not clear which team would handle this going forward.

Date of Next Meeting

24. The Committee noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place on Wednesday 28th September 2011, 7pm, at Storrington First School, Spierbridge Road, Storrington.

The meeting ended at 9.19pm

Chairman