

Chanctonbury County Local Committee

5 March 2014 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7pm at The Steyning Centre, Fletcher's Croft, Steyning.

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

Welcome and Introductions

91. Mr Barling welcomed the members of the public to the meeting and introduced the Committee Members.

Declaration of Interests

92. There were no declarations of interest at this point. Please see minute 109.

Minutes

93. Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the Chanctonbury County Local Committee (CLC) held on 4 December 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

94. The Committee considered a report which provided updates on matters arising from previous meetings of the CLC (copy appended to signed minutes). The Principal Community Officer (PCO) introduced the report.

- Washington (30mph speed limit) – the proposed speed limit reduction to 30mph within the village had now been included on the programme of TRO priorities which appeared technically deliverable.
- Washington (Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS)) – as a VAS sign had not been considered suitable, alternatives had been discussed at a meeting of the Parish Council, PCO and traffic engineer. As an outcome, details of improved signage for the crossing of the A283 by the Washington roundabout were to be provided to the Parish Council
- Pedestrian Crossing, High Street, Partridge Green – two schemes were being considered. Initial investigations indicated that installation of a signal controlled crossing would result in a loss of parking spaces. Further work was needed to establish a solution which could be provided using Section 106 monies; discussions would continue between the PCO, Parish Council and local member.
- Street lighting, Pulborough – the local member explained that issues delaying installation of the traditional style street lighting appeared to have been resolved. The Parish Council confirmed that they had been advised the works would start on 19th March 2014.
- Pedestrian Crossing, B2139, Thakeham. The PCO advised that engineering advice was still awaited; a further update would be provided in the papers for the next meeting.
- B2116, Backlands – Henfield Parish Council queried why new speed limit signs had not been accompanied by a gateway feature. The PCO explained that a gateway feature would not necessarily be installed as a result of a new speed limit. However the community could request an investigation into designing an appropriate gateway feature for this area. PCO to follow this up with the Parish Council. A follow up visit would be carried out to assess if

more improvements could be made as there was still £10,000 of funding remaining for this scheme. The PCO would discuss this with the local member and, if not required, the funding could be re-allocated

95. Resolved – That the progress report be noted.

Talk With Us

96. The Chairman invited questions from members of the public. Questions were asked to which responses were given, including those set out below: -

- A local resident raised concern about the proposed planning application relating to the Sand Pit development at Hampers Lane and the volume of Heavy Goods Vehicle movements it would create on such a narrow road. He asked for a response to the correspondence he'd emailed to the local member about this matter, Mr Circus. The Committee advised that it was likely this application would be considered by the Planning Committee and that, as local member, Mr Circus would have the opportunity to speak at the Committee meeting. Mr Circus indicated that he had not been able to deal with recent correspondence due to ill health but would respond to the resident.
- The headmistress of The Towers Convent School, Upper Beeding, raised concern about the safety of children coming in and out of the driveway to the school and the need to reduce speed in this area. The Chairman indicated that a proposed speed reduction scheme for this location was identified as an area for further investigation in the report, which was the following item on the agenda.
- A representative of Pulborough Parish Council thanked the PCO for the information provided on Section 106 monies available to the Parish and requested clarification about its allocation. The PCO explained that approximately 90% of the funding was spent on Infrastructure Priorities and some was spent on smaller schemes, with local member support. For Pulborough, a large proportion of the funding was allocated, for example for improvements to the pedestrian footbridge for the A29, improvements to Lower Street, works to the Swan Corner roundabout and an options appraisal for the railway bridge underpass improvement. The PCO would provide a breakdown of information to the Parish Council.
- A representative of Henfield Parish Council indicated that they were still awaiting the final Service Level Agreement document which was required in time for the Parish Council meeting of 11th March. The PCO agreed to speak with the Highways Officer and ask her to endeavour to forward this to the Parish Council in time for the meeting.
- Mr Barnard explained that the application made by Henfield Parish Council to the Operation Watershed fund for works to the A281 in Henfield had been successful and would be confirmed once the decision had cleared the call-in process. He indicated that the Operation Watershed fund had been oversubscribed; however it had been agreed with the Cabinet Member for Finance that any remaining Community Initiative Fund (CIF) money could be transferred to Operation Watershed at the end of the current financial year to assist with funding those applications currently on the reserve list.

- A local resident expressed concern at the hazardous condition of Mouse Lane, Steyning, which had suffered with flooding during the recent wet weather, was covered in debris and contained many potholes. The Assistant Highway Manager (AHM) explained that the road was on the site of a historic water course, and along with run-off from third party land, contributed to the flooding. The Strategic Water Team at the County Council were in the process of investigating the problems. The AHM agreed to chase up progress with the Strategic Water Team. Horsham District Council were responsible for debris on this road and had been made aware of the situation here.
- A representative of Upper Beeding Parish Council highlighted that, following renovation of the pedestrian controlled crossing at Small Dole, ponding now occurred in the road following heavy rain, leaving the crossing unusable as pedestrians were at risk of being splashed while waiting to cross. The PCO requested that the Parish Council forward photographs to her, showing the problem, to assess whether works were required to resolve this.
- A local resident queried whether, following the recent adverse weather conditions and flooding events, the £30 million pounds to be spent on unclassified roads over the next two financial periods was at risk of being re-directed. Mr Barnard confirmed this would not be the case.
- The Chairman highlighted the option for the public to report potholes/road defects via the omc@westsussex.gov.uk email address and explained the comprehensive reports the assistant highway managers could obtain as a result of combining the information gathered from their own pothole patrols and alerts from the public which gave an overview of all potholes in the local area.

Infrastructure Plan Update: Identification of Traffic Regulation Order Priorities

97. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning and Community and Economic Development Manager (copy appended to the signed minutes). The PCO introduced the report confirming that the proposals set out in the report did not affect the Infrastructure Priorities agreed by the Committee at the last meeting.

98. A resident of Penns Court, Steyning indicated that double yellow lines proposed for Penns Court would assist in ensuring the safety of the residents of the retirement complex and also prevent parking, thereby guaranteeing access and sufficient turning area for emergency and delivery vehicles.

99. A representative of Washington Parish Council welcomed the proposed speed limit reduction to 30mph within the Village which would improve the safety for the many walkers who accessed the South Downs Way in Washington. Mr Circus indicated that creating a 30mph limit within the village would also emulate the changes that had already occurred in other villages within West Sussex. The PCO advised that it was not possible to provide a timeline for proposed implementation of this scheme.

100. The PCO clarified it was unlikely that it would be possible to create School Keep Clear TRO's for every school due to the differing road conditions around each individual school. The list in the Appendix did not contain any private schools but Members could suggest private schools to be considered for inclusion.

101. The Chair of Governors of Steyning Primary School explained that there was support from both parents and the school for lowering the speed limit to 20mph on the access road to the school. The PCO explained that speed analysis survey works would be required to assess whether this would be a feasible option and the proposal should be added to Appendix B as an issue requiring further investigation.

102. Mr Circus indicated that he would like investigation carried out to assess whether, in conjunction with a reduction in speed limit to 30mph, a gateway feature or street furniture should be installed at the entrance to Wiston to indicate to motorists they were entering the village

103. Mr Barnard and Mrs Arculus welcomed the issues identified for further investigation in their respective divisions. Thakeham Parish Council queried whether it would be possible to consider reducing the speed limit to 30mph on the other side of Jackets Hill where a new housing development had received planning permission. The PCO explained that she would pass this suggestion to the planning department for further investigation as it would need commitment from the developer to deliver.

104. The Chairman expressed his support for the schemes identified for further investigation in his area. The Chairman of Upper Beeding Parish Council advised that a public consultation exercise they had undertaken within the village had demonstrated substantial support for speed reductions.

105. Concern was raised about the omission from Appendix B of the extension of the 40mph speed limit in Amberley, following indications from the Police that they felt the scheme would be unenforceable. The PCO agreed to discuss this matter with the local member.

106. The Chairman suggested that a progress update be provided at the June meeting on the schemes identified in Appendix B as requiring further investigation.

107. Resolved – That the Committee:

1. Agrees the inclusion of a package of TRO priorities within the Infrastructure Plan (IP), which appear technically deliverable and have evidence of community support, to be programmed for delivery alongside other IP priorities as set out in Appendix A.
2. Agrees that the TRO package of priorities will be reviewed annually, recognising that additional TRO proposals can only be added if funds are identified.
3. Notes the issues requiring further investigation prior to considering a TRO solution and any subsequent prioritisation in the IP as set out in Appendix B.
4. Agrees that the speed management works scheme around Steyning Primary School is added to Appendix B.

Chanctonbury Community Initiative Funding (CIF)

108. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Law and Governance (copy appended to signed minutes), which sought decisions on the applications received under the CIF scheme.

109. Mr Barnard declared a personal interest as the Cabinet Member with joint responsibility for Operation Watershed.

110. Resolved –

1. That the Committee approves the following applications and amounts:

- (i) **195/C** Steyning Downland Scheme, £1,050, towards the purchase of three information boards.
- (ii) **207/C** Steyning in Bloom, £1,000, towards replacement of planting tubs, and pole planters
- (iii) **209/C** Cowfold Football Club, £600, towards purchase and installation of ball stop netting
- (iv) **226/C** Steyning and District Community Partnership, £1,000, towards the purchase and installation of the banners and support mechanism
- (v) **237/C** Pulborough & District Community Care Association, £2,500, towards a replacement wheelchair accessible vehicle.
- (vi) **241/C** Partridge Green Players, £2,000, Towards the cost of replacing village hall theatre lights.
- (vii) **248/C** Mary How Trust, £500, towards the production of new and updating of existing leaflets.
- (viii) **260/C** Milestones Youth Club, £500 towards funding of Youth camps.
- (ix) **268/C** Woodcraft Folk, £700 towards the purchase of a marquee and support for events.

2. That the Committee defers the following application to its next meeting - **254/C** Pulborough United Reformed Church, £9,905.92, towards a flat screen display system and new sound system.

Appointment of Local Authority Governors

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

112. Resolved - That the Committee:

(i) approves the following appointments: -

- Mrs Lynne Smith to St James CEP School for a four year term.
- Mrs Ruth Duncanson and Mr Neil Pringle to Upper Beeding Primary School, both for a four year term

(ii) approves the following reappointments: -

- Mrs M Mulholland to Storrington First School for a four year term
- Mr BE Wallace to Ashington CE First School for a four year term
- Mrs P Davenport to St Mary's CE School for a four year term.

Date of Next Meeting

113. The Committee noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 11 June 2014, venue to be confirmed

The meeting ended at 8.45pm

Chairman