

Chanctonbury County Local Committee

11 June 2014 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7pm at Washington Memorial Hall, School Lane, Washington.

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

Welcome and Introductions

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

Election of a Chairman

2. Mrs Arculus nominated Mr Barling for Chairman of the Committee for 2014-15, this was seconded by Mr Barnard.

3. Resolved – That Mr Barling be appointed Chairman of the Chanctonbury County Local Committee for 2014-15.

Declaration of Interests

4. There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

5. Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the Chanctonbury County Local Committee (CLC) held on 5 March 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Jolesfield Primary School Ofsted Report Update

6. The Committee considered the Ofsted report which provided an update on the improvements being made at Jolesfield Primary School, Partridge Green (copy appended to signed minutes). Mr Barling welcomed David Green, Chairman of Governors at the school and Catherine Davies, Senior Advisor, Support and Intervention at the County Council.

7. Mr Green explained to the Committee that there was a clear understanding of what the school needed to do in respect of continuing with the positive progress being made, and that a further Ofsted inspection was due imminently. The school had also welcomed the valuable contribution and assistance provided by the County Council's Support and Intervention team.

8. Ms Davies indicated that she was pleased by the commitment of the leadership team and the governing body to make improvements at the school and that the support provided by the local community had also been an important factor in the progress seen so far.

9. The headteacher, Mrs Uff, who was in the audience, was invited to address the Committee. She confirmed the commitment and dedication of the staff to move the school out of special measures. Members asked what actions were being taken in relation to low-level behavioural issues mentioned in the Ofsted update report. *Mrs Uff explained that the behavioural policy was being re-written. In addition, positive behaviour was encouraged by setting out clear expectations of the pupils*

and then asking them to self-monitor this, for example, by considering how they and their peers were behaving and the effect this could have on other children. Mr Barnard indicated that he welcomed the progress being made by the school and, as local Member, was keeping a 'friendly eye' on what the school were doing to move forward.

10. Resolved – that the update on progress at Jolesfield Primary School be noted.

West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service – Public Consultation

11. The Committee received a presentation from the Assistant Chief Officer on Phase 2 of the redesign of the West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (copy appended to the signed minutes).

12. The following questions were raised in discussion:

- Members queried whether the location of existing Fire Stations was suitable for the current needs of the service. *Gavin Watts, Assistant Chief Officer, explained that they weren't always ideally situated and that this would be reviewed over time. Options were being explored with partners such as the Police and Ambulance services to assess whether there was the potential for co-location into alternative premises, to both make the best use of resources and improve the location of the services.*
- A representative of Steyning Parish Council asked whether there were any proposed changes for the Steyning station. *Mr Watts indicated there weren't, but that improvements were being made to the recruitment processes for retained staff. In addition the potential to be more flexible with usage of the station premises by opening it up for community use was being considered.*
- A representative of Amberley Parish Council raised concern about the high risk of house fires in the village due to the large number of thatched properties and whether promptly extinguishing these could be affected by the proposed reduction in the number of fire engines at the Storrington station. *Mr Watts explained that it was sometimes more beneficial to have more firefighters at an incident rather than additional fire engines and the 4x4 vehicle could deliver personnel effectively to a site. In addition there had been changes in technology in relation to extinguishing thatch fires and it was always important to consider the most effective way of dealing with each individual incident.*

13. Resolved that: the proposals be noted.

Prevention and Wellbeing Grants 2014/15

14. The Committee considered a report by Director of Public Health, Commissioning for Health and Social Care (copy appended to the signed minutes) outlining the prevention and wellbeing applications for the Chanctonbury area.

15. Resolved that:

- (a) the following applications be approved: -
- Age UK Horsham District (ref JP011) - £1,250.00

- Ashurst Village Hall (ref JP008)- £1,500.00
- Cruse West Sussex (ref JP005) - £130.00
- Horsham District Community Transport (ref JP039) - £1,500.00
- Know Dementia – Sports sessions (ref JP026)- £1,750.00
- Pulborough Volunteer Visiting (ref JP003) - £975.00
- Sullington Monday Club (ref JP004) - £250.00
- The Life Centre (ref JP025) - £200.00
- The Phoenix Stroke Club (ref JP007) - £1,100.00
- Time Aside (ref JP030) - £2331.50

(b) the following applications be declined:

- Cognitive Help and Therapy (CHAT) (ref JP044) - as there was not enough evidence of a benefit to the people of the Chanctonbury area
- In Safe and Caring Hands (ref TB30) - as this was similar to services already commissioned by the County Council
- Sage (ref TL028) - as there was not enough evidence of a benefit to the people of the Chanctonbury area
- SASBAH (ref TB01) - as it was felt this was for ongoing staff costs rather than particularly funding initiatives that would be of benefit to the people of the Chanctonbury area.
- St Barnabas House (ref DR004) - as it was felt that the organisation had a significant level of financial reserves
- Yoga 360 (ref JP 045) - as it was felt that a large part of the funding requested would not result in a direct benefit to the people of the Chanctonbury area

Progress Statement

16. 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.

- Pedestrian Crossing, High Street, Partridge Green – the option was being explored of delivering this scheme via a Section 278 agreement, meaning release of the Section 106 funding to the Parish Council to enable them to progress the scheme themselves on behalf of the community. A meeting between the Parish Council and Highways section was due to be held to discuss this matter further.
- Pedestrian Crossing, B2139, Thakeham – Mrs Arculus explained that a meeting had been held that day with the highway engineer to ascertain the feasibility of the proposed crossing. He had confirmed that street lighting was a requirement to accompany a pedestrian crossing and that, instead, there may be a possibility of extending the paving as an alternative to the crossing. Liaison was also required with the developer building new housing nearby to explore the possibility of creating a paved link to the new site. Further work needed to be done by the highway engineer to progress a proposed scheme but this would need to be in conjunction with the developer.
- Proposed gateway, B2116, Blacklands, Henfield – it was not clear that there was the required community support for the installation of a gateway feature. The Parish Council had the opportunity to consider an alternative scheme using the Section 106 funding.
- Flooding of Mouse Lane, Steyning – as the area was registered as a historic watercourse this altered the scope for what flood alleviation measures could be used here. The option of developing a flood action group was being

explored; the PCO would be liaising with the Parish Council to move this forward.

17. Resolved – that the progress report be noted.

Update on Local Infrastructure Plan

18. The Committee considered an update on progress with delivering schemes in the Infrastructure Plan (copy appended to the signed minutes).

19. The following points were raised in discussion: -

- The PCO advised that options for a Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VAS) had been provided to Henfield Parish Council for consideration and that the anti-skid surfacing would be applied when the road was next re-surfaced. It was confirmed that, to deliver the scheme in this financial year a detailed design needed to be agreed, if this was not feasible, it would be rolled forward to the next financial year.
- Works were on-going to try and develop a scheme for Amberley, involving extension of the 40mph limit and double white lines, although the Police had raised concerns that this would not comply with regulations. The PCO cautioned that inclusion of the scheme on the Infrastructure Plan was subject to a successful design being agreed and did not guarantee delivery. In addition she highlighted that, should a scheme be designed which was a departure from chapter 5 of the Traffic Sign Regulations and General Directions (TSRGD), it would require agreement by the Cabinet Member before proceeding.
- The work to remove speed bumps at Bramber was scheduled to start on 1st October 2014.
- The PCO would liaise with Steyning Parish Council to confirm the location of the junction improvement works on the A283 Steyning bypass.
- A member of the public raised concern regarding the limited footway on the A283 Station Road at the Pulborough railway bridge underpass, making it difficult for pedestrians to safely walk here. He highlighted that a recent collision had occurred between a vehicle and pedestrian and felt the 2016-2018 timeframe for delivering improvements here was too long. *The PCO advised that a consultant would be looking at devising different proposals for this area and encouraged the public to report any accidents at this location to the Police as it would highlight the dangerous conditions here. She explained that improvement works were prioritised using accident statistics and that the number of accidents recorded here was low, meaning it was not perceived as high priority. The Chairman suggested that the PCO keep the member of the public updated on progress with the proposals for this area and, should there be significant developments with the scheme, that an update be provided to the Committee at the September meeting of the CLC.*
- A member of the public requested an update regarding the proposed reduction in speed limit at Washington and the application of double yellow lines at Penns Court in Steyning. *The PCO advised that the works at Penns Court had been advertised and were in the consultation period. At Washington, Highway engineers were undertaking a speed survey to assess where the extent of the 30pmh area should be.*

20. Resolved – That the update on progress with delivering schemes in the Infrastructure Plan be noted.

Community Issues List and Section 106 Funding

21. The Committee considered the latest Community Issues List and an update on the position regarding the Section 106 funding (copy appended to the signed minutes).
22. Washington Parish Council raised concern at the wide variation between quotations provided for the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) by the County Council and the difficulty in choosing between the two. *The PCO suggested that, as it was not possible for the County Council to provide a full breakdown of costs the Parish Council could appoint a consultant to provide more detailed costings.*
23. A representative of Wiston Parish Council requested an update on the proposed speed limit reduction for the village. *The PCO advised that measures other than just signs depicting the new speed limit would be required as, these alone, would be unlikely to result in a significant reduction in speed by many drivers. Therefore the option for installing some sort of gateway feature to heighten awareness of the change in speed would be explored. Any scheme that would be delivered by the County Council would need to be picked out by the CLC as a priority.*
24. Resolved – that the latest Community Issues List and update on the position regarding Section 106 funding for the Chanctonbury area be noted.

Talk with Us

25. A member of Thakeham Parish Council highlighted the case of a local resident who had created a vehicle access to their property but without applying for permission to drop the kerb, meaning they were mounting the kerb to drive onto the property. It was suggested that the Parish Council report this via the omc@westsussex.gov.uk email address so that further investigation could take place.

Chanctonbury Community Initiative Funding (CIF)

26. 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.
27. Resolved that:
1. The following awards are made:
 - (i) **344/C** Pulborough Local Action Team, £171.36, towards the purchase of replacement CCTV cameras
 - (ii) **366/C** West Chiltington Village World War 1 Commemoration Group, £375, towards the costs of hiring costumes for a commemoration event
 - (iii) **378/C** Smyth Educational Foundation, £2000, towards the costs of funding a feasibility and concept design study.

2. The following application be declined:

349/C Pulborough United Reformed Church, £9,905.92, towards a flat screen display system and a new sound system. The application was declined as the Church had recently received a significant grant from Horsham District Council.

Appointment of Local Authority Governors

28. 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.

29. Resolved - That the Committee approves the following reappointments: -

- Mrs MA Watteau to Ashurst CE Primary School for a four year term
- Mr A Corbett to St Peter's CEP School for a four year term
- Mr DA Maceachern to Rydon Community College for a four year term

Date of Next Meeting

30. The Committee noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 17 September 2014 at St Mary's CE Primary School, Pulborough.

The meeting ended at 9.05pm

Chairman