

Central Mid Sussex County Local Committee

23 June 2015 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 pm at Lindfield Primary School.

Present: Mr Acraman (Worth Forest), Mr Bradbury (Cuckfield and Lucastes) (Chairman), Mrs Field (Lindfield and High Weald), Mr Griffiths (Hurstpierpoint and Bolney), Mr Hillier (Haywards Heath East) and Mr Wickremaratchi (Haywards Heath Town).

Election of Chairman

1. Mr Bradbury was elected as Chairman of the Central Mid Sussex County Local Committee for the 2015-16 municipal year.

Declarations of Interest

2. In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct Mr Hillier declared a personal interest in Community Initiative Fund application 725/SMS (Agenda Item No. 9) as he works with the Haywards Heath Town Team, but confirmed that he had not been involved with the application.

Minutes

3. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10 March 2015 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman, subject to amending the last bullet point under minute 81 to read 'The Chairman of Cuckfield Parish Council Roads and Traffic Committee'.

Urgent Matters

4. The Chairman advised that the A272 west of Ansty was resurfaced in 2010 with anti-slip surfacing following a number of fatalities, but had recently been resurfaced with the standard chip and tar. He advised that he had referred his concerns to the Highways Area Manager for investigation.

Progress Statement

5. The Committee considered the Progress Statement following the March 2015 meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes). The Chairman welcomed Richard Speller, Highways Area Manager, to the meeting and welcomed that there was now a single point of contact for all Highways services in Mid Sussex. He introduced the Progress Statement and advised that he had visited the Valebridge Road, Haywards Heath site. He confirmed that he would recommend a change to the positioning of the 30mph speed signs, but that this would require a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). He suggested that there may be an opportunity to consolidate this with a review of the north section of the Haywards Heath Relief Road.

6. Members asked about the current situation with Traffic Regulation Orders. Mr Speller advised that the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport had

requested a review of the process to take place over the next few months with the exception of those schemes already committed for this year.

7. With regard to the Haywards Heath Town Centre Study, Mr Hillier, Chairman of the Working Group, advised that the consultants were currently undertaking further design work and testing the performance of emerging schemes. A third meeting of the Working Group was held in June to review the schemes and the final study was due to be presented to the CLC in September and then to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport for consideration. He emphasised that there was no budget attached to the project, however that it was envisaged that approved schemes would be progressed once future funding e.g. from local developments, became available.

'Talk with Us' Open Forum

8. The Chairman invited questions and comments from members of the public, which included: -

- A resident of Fairfield Road, Haywards Heath, raised concerns about parking by commuters and workers from nearby Business Parks. She made a request that the situation be formally investigated as visibility was considerably reduced, especially at Balcombe Way, and was putting drivers and pedestrians in danger and asked that consideration be given to introducing double yellow lines. She advised that she had canvassed residents in the area and presented a package of evidence to the Committee. Mr Wickremaratchi, County Councillor for Haywards Heath Town, said he was aware of the situation and had been in contact with the Highways Area Manager. The Highways Area Manager agreed to arrange a site visit and to meet with residents.
- A representative of the Cuckfield community raised concerns about heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) using routes through the village and causing considerable damage to buildings, roads and pavements. She said that many of the roads were inadequate to carry the current volumes and weight of traffic and the problems are exacerbated with housing and other developments. She requested that consideration be given to introducing a weight restriction from the High Street down to London Lane. The Chairman of the Cuckfield Parish Council Roads and Transport Committee added that the Parish Council had communicated with residents and confirmed that there was currently a weight limit in place from the Cuckfield by-pass up to the High Street. Members suggested that the problem was one of enforcement and that Sussex Police did not have the resources. They also suggested that it was countywide problem and that there was a need to look at a more holistic solution. The Committee agreed that the Chairman write to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to ask him to look at possible solutions to the problem and to engage with the Local Government Association for this purpose.
- A Slaugham Parish Councillor presented proposals for traffic calming measures through the villages of Slaugham, Pease Pottage, Handcross and Warninglid. Mr Griffiths, County Councillor for Hurstpierpoint and Bolney, gave his support for the initiative and said it was a good example of a community working together to achieve a solution. Mr Acraman, County

Councillor for Worth Forest, suggested the Parish Council should contact Sussex Police to ask for their support in tackling the problem.

- Concerns were raised by a local resident about the road surfacing on Larch Way and Northlands Avenue, Haywards Heath. She advised that there was a problem with sinkage which was deep and unavoidable and had been raised with West Sussex Highways for the last two years. The Highways Area Manager agreed to follow this up and contact the resident with a date for the work to be undertaken.
- A Staplefield resident questioned why a Traffic Regulation Order for a 30mph speed limit through the village had not yet been implemented. The Chairman asked the Highways Area Manager to investigate and to provide a response to the Committee.
- A Haywards Heath Town Councillor raised the issue of parking on pavements and requested assistance to prevent it. He also asked how he could access the results of a traffic study in The Broadway undertaken last September. Committee members suggested that he should develop a proposal to present to a future meeting of the Committee.
- A local resident referred to a list of questions/issues that he had submitted in advance of the meeting. These were mainly highways related, but also included a question about school places. The Chairman advised that the submission had been referred to officers who would respond in writing to all of the points raised.
- A local resident questioned why the proposed signal controlled pedestrian crossing on Wivelsfield Road, Haywards Heath had not yet been delivered. Mr Speller advised that it was not on the Integrated Works Programme for the current year, but agreed to look in to it further and report back to Mr Wickremaratchi as the local County Councillor.

9. In response to the questions raised regarding TROs the Chairman requested that the Democratic Services Officer compile a list of all TROs approved by the CLC over the last few years and liaise with the Highway Area Manager on the progress of each scheme.

Community Initiative Funding

10. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy (copy appended to the signed minutes) which detailed applications for Community Initiative Funding.

11. The Committee debated the respective merits of each application.

12. Resolved: -

(a) That the following applications are approved: -

- **711/CMS** Bluebird Community Partnership, £885.00 to upgrade IT equipment and purchase SAGE software.
- **720/CMS** 1st Balcombe Scouts, £2,500.00, towards demolishing existing scout hut and putting a concrete base.

(b) The following applications were declined:

- **688/CMS** Fox Hill Association, £2,500.00, towards the cost of a Vehicle Activated Speed Sign as the applicant was unable to demonstrate the ability to raise the rest of the required funding.
- **722/CMS** Lindfield Arts Festival, £1,500, towards the cost of costumes and props for the Community Promenade Play as the applicant had already received £2,000 grant funding from Mid Sussex District Council for the Promenade Play and from the costings provided by the applicant this was sufficient to cover the costs of the play.
- **725/CMS** Haywards Heath Town Team, £2,500.00, towards a celebration of 175 years of the railway in Haywards Heath as the funding requested was for deposits for a future event not scheduled to take place within the CIF timeframe of six months and therefore was outside of the criteria.

Prevention and Wellbeing Grants 2015-16

13. The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director Care, Wellbeing & Education and Director of Public Health and Social Care Commissioning (copy appended to the signed minutes).

14. The report set out the prevention & wellbeing commissioning objectives for 2015 along with the prevention and wellbeing grant applications received for 2015-16. It also identified how the grants were spent in 2014/15. It confirmed that grants were awarded annually on merit in relation to the application and awarding criteria and the criteria reflected countywide and service area objectives, as well as specific local needs.

15. The Committee considered the grant applications for 2015-16 as set out in Appendix B and approved those that it considered most appropriate to the local needs of the community.

16. Resolved -

(a) The following applications were approved:

- TB05 – Bluebird Community Transport, £1,000, part-funded due to limited resources.
- DR001 – Cruse West Sussex Area, £300.00.
- TB24 – Cuckfield Fun and Song Stroke Communication Group, £1,608.80.
- TB12 – Handcross Rosemary Club, £500.00.
- TB21 – Henry Price Trust, £1,500.00, part-funded due to limited resources.
- TB19 – IMPACT, £1,150.00.
- NL004 – Lifecentre, £100.00.
- TB29 – Reaching Families 'Umbrella Group', £2,080.00.
- TB01 – SASBAH, £250.00.
- TB04 – St Peter and St James Hospice, £2,000.00, part-funded due to limited resources.
- JP032 – St Peter's House Project, £300.00.
- JB001 – St Catherine's Hospice, £500.00.

(b) The following applications were declined:

- TB14 – Cancervive, £799.95 as Macmillan already provided this service in the area and the Committee had limited funds.
- TB28 – Cuckfield Lawn Tennis Club, £2,000.00. The Committee considered that it was not an appropriate application for the Prevention and Wellbeing Grant Fund as it was a private club.
- TB30 – Ditchling Museum of Art and Craft, £250.00 as the Committee considered it was not an appropriate application for the Prevention and Wellbeing Grant Fund and was not benefitting people in the CLC area.
- TB10 – Meridian Archery Club, £1,200.00 as the Committee considered that it was not an appropriate application for the Prevention and Wellbeing Grant Fund as it was a private club.
- TL006 – PBC Foundation, £8.12 as the Committee considered that the application was not appropriate for the Prevention and Wellbeing Grant Fund.

Appointments and Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies

17. The Committee had before it a list of the current vacancies for Local Authority Governors in the Central Mid Sussex CLC area (copy appended to the signed minutes). The Chairman briefly explained the role of Local Authority Governors and encouraged people to express their interest by completing the online form or contacting Governor Services for further information. Mrs Field advised that there would be a vacancy for a Local Authority Governor at Lindfield Primary School from July 2015. The Chairman encouraged Lindfield Parish Council to seek expressions of interest from members of the community.

18. Resolved –That the Committee notes the Local Authority Governor vacancy list for the Central Mid Sussex CLC area.

Date of Next Meeting

19. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday 15 September 2015 at Haywards Heath Library.

The meeting closed at 9.07pm