

## **Central Mid Sussex County Local Committee**

11 March 2014 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 pm at Haywards Heath Library.

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).

### **Chairman's Welcome**

39. The Chairman welcomed Mr Hillier to the Committee as the new member for Haywards Heath East following the recent by-election.

### **Declarations of Interests**

40. In accordance with the Members' code of conduct the following personal interests were declared:

- Mr Bradbury as a Mid Sussex District Councillor in relation to the Wellbeing Hub
- Mr Hillier as a Haywards Heath Town Councillor in relation to the Progress Statement, the Wellbeing Hub and Community Initiative Funding
- Mr Wickremaratchi as a Haywards Heath Town Councillor in relation to the Progress Statement and the Wellbeing Hub.

### **Minutes**

41. Members considered and agreed an amendment to the first bullet point of minute 44, to read 'discussions on pedestrian access for residents to Northlands Wood'

42. Resolved – that subject to amendment outlined in minute 41, the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 3 December 2013 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

### **Urgent Matters**

42. The Chairman informed members that Community Initiative Funding application 324/CMS had not been included in the agenda papers owing to an administrative error. As a result of the urgency of the funding request he agreed that this be considered with the other applications at agenda item no. 10.

### **'Talk with Us' Open Forum**

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

- A local resident raised concerns regarding poor visibility drivers making right-hand turns at the Oat Hall Road/Oat Hall Avenue junction and queried whether a set of local pedestrian lights could be relocated to the junction. – The member for Haywards Heath East responded that various schemes had been considered but a solution was complex owing to technical issues and

cost, which would be around £150k. The junction would be impacted by local development and Section 106 funding might therefore become available. The Assistant Highways Manager emphasised that any accidents at the junction, however minor, would need to be reported to the police to ensure they were included in collision data.

- A Lindfield Parish Councillor requested consideration be given to the installation of roadside 'gates' at the entrance to the village to reduce vehicle speed on entry. - The Assistant Highways Manager confirmed that gates would not require a Traffic Regulation Order and that they might have a short-term impact on driver behaviour. However this effect was likely to reduce over time. He agreed to progress this matter with the Principal Community Officer.

### **Progress Statement**

44. Members noted the statement on matters arising from the previous meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes.)

### **Mid Sussex District Council Wellbeing Hub**

46. The Mid Sussex Wellbeing Manager outlined the development of the Hub and its work as a key element of the Local Authorities' public health function.

47. The hub provided a holistic source of advice and information to local residents and workers and covered a wide range of services. It provided an outreach service, based at Warden Park School and within the District Council offices. It also offered 1:1 support to target groups, mainly around heart disease prevention.

48. The Hub held funds to commission local services and projects where there was evidence of gaps in provision, such as adult weight management. It also provided services in community settings rather than leisure centres to encourage participation. Services were charged for as evidence showed this encouraged attendance, support was available for those on low incomes.

49. Members thanked the Wellbeing Manager for attending and commended the work of the hub. Members of the audience made a number of comments, including:

- A community transport provider stated that inquiries were regularly received regarding transport for events hosted by the hub but it was not possible to facilitate without advance notice. – The Wellbeing Manager undertook to follow this up outside of the meeting.
- A local resident suggested that the Hub could be used to raise awareness of the annual Haywards Heath Bike Ride and encourage local uptake. – The Wellbeing Manager responded that the Hub had successfully engaged with the Mid Sussex Marathon and agreed to pursue this after the meeting.

### **County Council Highway Management**

49. The Assistant Highways Manager outlined the changes to the management of the Highways service following a recent restructure and stated that six additional highways officers would be located at Broadbridge Heath. As a result the service would have a wider public reach.

50. During January and February 1,000 emergency calls regarding rain and trees had been received each month and the overriding focus had been on keeping the network open. Deterioration in the road surface, leading to pot holes, was a major ongoing issue following prolonged winter weather and the Assistant Manager encouraged reporting of incidents via the contact centre or the email provided. He confirmed that additional staff had been recruited to report back on and address highways defects.

51. The Chairman thanked the Assistant Manager and stated that the County Council had invested £30m in upgrading unclassified roads across the County based on a business case that the investment would be self-financing owing to reduced maintenance costs.

52. Members asked a number of questions, including those that follow. They:

- Emphasised the importance of local communities being provided with up-to-date gully maps and requested that a proactive approach was adopted in ensuring these were circulated. – The Assistant Manager undertook to provide copies to all parish councils in the CLC area.
- Highlighted that gulleys in Haywards Heath were currently overflowing and the Town Council had not been provided adequate information regarding the maintenance schedule. – The Assistant Manager undertook to provide an up-to-date list to the Town Council.
- Queried when the work on upgrading unclassified work would be completed. – The Assistant Manager stated that the list for 2014/15 had not yet been finalised and would require the agreement of the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport. He agreed to meet with Members to show them the draft list, if required.

### **Infrastructure Plan Update: Identification of Traffic Regulation Order Priorities**

53. The Chairman introduced the report by the Director of Communities Commissioning and Community and Economic Development Manager (copy appended to signed minutes) and outlined the process for works under the Infrastructure Plan.

54. Resolved – That the Central Mid Sussex CLC:

- (1) Agreed the inclusion of a package of TRO priorities within the 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) Agreed that the TRO package of priorities will be reviewed annually recognising that additional TRO proposals can only be added if funds are identified.
- (3) Noted that Horsted Keynes – Birchgrove Road and Lindfield Road, Ardingly require further investigation prior to considering a TRO solution and any subsequent prioritisation in the IP, as set out in Appendix B.

### **Oaklands Road Parking Charges**

55. The Chairman introduced the report by the Director of Service Operations and Head of Highways (copy appended to signed minutes).

56. Resolved – that the Central Mid Sussex CLC give formal consent to Mid Sussex District Council for the introduction of charges for parking in Oaklands Road and Boltro Road Car Parks as detailed in the appendices of the report.

### **Community Initiative Funding**

57. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Law and Governance (copy appended to the signed minutes), which detailed applications for Community Initiative Funding. The Chairman stated that application 285/CMS had been withdrawn as the project had been reconfigured and that application 324/CMS would also be considered. The Committee debated the respective merits of the projects for which funding was sought.

58. Resolved – that the following awards were made:

**217/CMS** Mid Sussex South Council for Voluntary Service, £470, towards facilitating Volunteer Forum Sessions.

**233/CMS** St Peter & St James Hospice, £1,272, towards the purchase of a lawn mower with snow plough.

**282/CMS** remember, £1,000, for the purchase of a desktop computer and projector.

**287/CMS**, Kangaroos, £1516.80, towards the cost of purchasing toys and equipment.

**288/CMS**, Ashenground Community Centre, £600, towards the cost of a portable disabled ramp and chairs.

**291/CMS** Scaynes Hill Village Centre, £1000, towards the costs of building insulations.

**299/CMS** Bolnore Village Community Partnership, £3,000, towards the purchase of sporting equipment, furniture, IT and security equipment.

**308/CMS** Haywards Heath Youth CIC, £570 towards the costs of sending invitations to and advertising a Volunteers Fair.

**312/CMS** Handcross Rosemary Club, £350, towards the cost of a coach trip to Haskin's Garden Centre.

**324/CMS** Haywards Heath Town CIC, £2500, towards station quarter greening.

b) The following application was declined:

**211/CMS** Lindfield Arts Festival, £5,000, towards costs of musical workshops in local schools for the festival.

### **Appointments and Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies**

59. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning (copy appended to signed minutes).

60. Resolved – that the following appointment, reappointments and nomination be made:

Appointments and reappointments under the 2007 Regulations

**Appointments**

Mrs C York to St Pauls Catholic College for a four year term

**Reappointments**

Mrs C Homer to Northlands Wood CP School for a four year term

Mr M G Nichols to Blackthorns CP School for a four year term

Nominations under the 2012 Regulations

Cllr J Knight to Harlands Primary School for four year term

**Date of Next Meeting**

61. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on 17 June 2014 at Ansty Village Hall, Ansty.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm