

Central Mid Sussex County Local Committee

5 March 2013– At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 pm at Haywards Heath Library.

Present: Mr Acraman, Mrs Field, Mr Bradbury (Chairman), Mr B Hall, Mrs A Hall and Mr Griffiths.

Chairman's Welcome

54. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, introduced members and officers and invited those attending to introduce themselves. Attending officers were Annalee Clayton, Democratic Services Officer and Rob Rhodes-Kubiak, Principal Community Officer. The Chairman thanked the Committee members for their work over the last four years and circulated a list of the Community Initiative Funding awards made over this period and the Traffic Regulation Orders prioritised for implementation by the Committee.

Declarations of Interest

55. No interests were declared at this stage. See minute 64(i) - Mr Bradbury declared a personal interest in Community Initiative Fund application 2048/CMS, Singing Allsorts as his wife is a member of the choir.

Minutes

56. Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2012 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

57. The Committee had before it a progress statement on matters arising from the previous meeting and statements of progress on other issues pertinent to Central Mid Sussex (copy appended to the signed minutes). Rob Rhodes-Kubiak, Principal Community Officer, provided updates on the following issues: -

- Petition for a crossing on Wivelsfield Road - This scheme was on the CLC's Community Issues List awaiting prioritisation. Mid Sussex District Council officers were looking into the possibility of securing the use of section 106 monies for three other crossings on the same road.
- Real Time Bus Passenger Information – A temporary contract had been agreed with The Sussex Bus Company to cover most of the services previously provided by Countryliner. The real time passenger information signs would hopefully be delivered later in 2013.
- Foxhill temporary advisory signs – The signs were now in place. However, concerns were raised by members of the audience that vehicles were still exceeding the speed limit. The Chairman asked officers to look at all options for further and possibly more permanent measures e.g. repeater signs as the temporary signs were due to be removed in April 2013.

Traffic Regulation Order Priorities 2013/14

58. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning (copy appended to the signed minutes). The Principal Community Officer introduced the report which outlined arrangements for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and asked the Committee to identify the three highest priority schemes for Central Mid Sussex in 2013/14.

59. The Committee discussed the report. The Chairman reminded Committee members that they had previously grouped TROs in Haywards Heath and suggested that they look at whether there were opportunities to do so for 2013-14.

60. Resolved – That the Committee approves the priority order for implementing Traffic Regulation Orders within the Central Mid Sussex CLC area for 2013/14 as follows:

(i) The following TROs to be batched as one TRO:

- CMS1024 - Staplefield, B2114 Handcross Road and Cuckfield Road – 30mph Speed Limit.
- CMS1028 – Cuckfield, B2114 Whitemans Green – Speed Limit Reduction.
- CMS1023 – Cuckfield, Brook Street – 30mph Speed Limit.

(ii) The following TROs to be batched as one TRO:

- CMS1037 – Haywards Heath, Beech Hill - Parking Restrictions.
- CMS1033 – Haywards Heath, Dellney Avenue – Waiting Restrictions.
- CMS1040 – Haywards Heath, Lucastes Road and Lucas Way – Waiting Restrictions.
- CMS1038 – Haywards Heath, Washington Road, Barn Cottage Lane, Penn Crescent, Little Bentswood, Bentswood and Oathall Avenue – Parking Restrictions.

(iii) CMS1048 – Haywards Heath, The Broadway – Relocation of Taxi Rank Bay and various parking restrictions.

Infrastructure Plan Priorities Update

61. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities and Infrastructure (copy appended to the signed minutes). The Chairman advised that the list of schemes in the report were those that the Committee would like to see come forward for implementation and that the purpose of the report was to provide an update on existing schemes. He confirmed that new priorities would be agreed at the next meeting in June. The Principal Community Officer introduced the report which detailed the local highways and transport priorities identified within the Local Infrastructure Plan for the Central Mid Sussex County Local Committee. He provided a verbal update on each of the schemes: -

- Real Time Information Signage – delays since Countryliner went into administration. Hoping to get something in place later in 2013.

- Junction Improvement – Oathall Avenue/Oathall Road, Haywards Heath – Project Team appointed looking at favoured and least expensive proposal to remove roundabout which was put in place with the new development but had created a more dangerous situation in relation to visibility lines. The design would be drawn up for consultation. The possibility of a pedestrian crossing on Oathall Road was also being considered.
- Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Crossing, Northlands Avenue, Haywards Heath – Project Team appointed. Initial designs for a signalled pedestrian crossing near the One Stop shop and possibility of a refuge point. Safety audits required and local consultation. The Road Safety Team was set to visit all schools in the local area.
- Traffic Management, Balcombe Road, Haywards Heath - Project Manager working on designs and had met with local County and Town councillors. Initial ideas to be looked at in conjunction with concerns of local residents. Suggestions included softening of kerb lines and refuge points. Project Manager to also work closely with residents. Designs to hopefully be finalised in 2013-14 with final delivery in 2014-15. A local town councillor and resident thanked officers for the very proactive work undertaken at an early stage in the process.
- Safety Improvement, High Street B2110 Handcross Road and London Road, Balcombe – Discussions as to whether additional measures to Accident Support programme required. Concerns around whole length of B2110 and need for extension of speed limit which was not part of scheme already in the Infrastructure Plan. CLC members agreed to look at the scheme again at the June meeting with a view to whether further work was required.
- Traffic Management Schemes, Cuckfield – Consultants looking at a number of recommendations put forward by Cuckfield Parish Council. Significantly more expensive than the cost estimate and so will look to progress through Section 106 funding and County Council capital funding. No final decisions as yet. Possibility that some schemes may be delivered in different programme years. The Chairman congratulated Cuckfield Parish Council on its excellent work. He confirmed that a new pedestrian crossing was now in place in London Lane, Cuckfield and had been very well received. He suggested that there was a need for cycle paths to be installed as currently the number of children cycling to school was very low.

62. Resolved - That the Committee notes the progress in respect of the existing priorities and associated areas of on-going work.

Community Initiative Funding

63. The Committee considered the new applications for Community Initiative Funding (CIF) outlined in the report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes). The Committee awarded funding based on the merits of each bid.

64. Resolved that the Committee:

(i) Approves the following CIF applications:

- **1990/CMS, Haywards Heath Harriers, £1,000**, towards organizing park runs in Haywards Heath.

- **2033/CMS, IMPACT Foundation, £1,000**, towards cooking courses for vulnerable groups and school tasting sessions.
 - **2034/CMS, Handcross & District Community Bus Ltd, £1,000**, towards a ticket machine replacement.
 - **2035/CMS, Mill Hill Close Residents Association, £2,500**, towards a community building. The Committee also urged the Association to apply to the Big Society Fund.
 - **2048/CMS, Singing Allsorts, £900**, towards setting up a Senior Singing Club. Mr Bradbury declared a personal interest as his wife is a member of the Singing Allsorts.
- (ii) Approves the following Parish Initiative Funding (PIF) application:
- **2047/CMS, Lindfield Parish Council, £1,200**, towards an information hub.
- (iii) Declines the following application:
- **2046/CMS, Haywards Heath Town Council, £1,440**, towards Environmental Enhancements and Street Scene Project as Committee members were concerned about removing the barriers on safety grounds and suggested that the proposal needed further consideration and consultation with the County Council.
- (iv) Following consideration of a suggestion from the Leader of the Council to allocate any remaining funds to a local food bank the Committee awards the remaining funds of **£329.31 to the Haywards Heath Food Bank**.

Appointment of Local Authority School Governors

65. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Learning which explained the criteria for appointment to school governing bodies and listed proposed nominations (copy appended to the signed minutes).

66. Resolved that the Committee approved the following appointments and re-appointments of Authority School Governors:

Appointments:

- Mr Jeffrey L. Gunning to Balcombe C.E. School for a 4 year term.

Re-appointments:

- Mr L.C. Wilson to St Peter's C.E.P. School for a 4 year term.
- Mr R. Friend to North Heath C. Primary School for a 4 year term.

Talk with Us Open Forum

67. The Chairman invited comments and questions from residents. In the discussion that followed, a number of points were raised, which included those set out below: -

- A resident raised concerns about the state of the kerbs in Ash Grove, Haywards Heath and urged the County Council to look at replacing or repairing them. The Principal Community Officer agreed to follow this up.
- A local resident urged the County Council to install bollards on the grounds next to Sainsburys in St Johns Road, Haywards Heath. The Principal Community Officer advised that a job had been raised but he agreed to chase it up and to confirm timescales.
- A Lindfield resident congratulated the County Council on gritting this year in the village but was disappointed at the non-delivery of hippo bags. Members advised that this was a question of scheduling.
- Asked whether the national initiative 'Tell Us Once' would be implemented in West Sussex. Mrs Field, in her capacity as Cabinet Member for Public Protection, advised that the software was extremely complex, not efficient and very expensive. She confirmed that the County Council was still in negotiations with the Department for Work and Pensions to resolve the issues. The County Council was also working closely with East Sussex County Council to put in place a local scheme and talks were going well.
- A representative of Slaugham Parish Council advised that the Parish Council was currently consulting on its Neighbourhood Plan and asked how it should best engage with the CLC. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council should engage through its local County Councillor.
- The same representative also asked about two separate schemes: Traffic calming in the villages of Slaugham, Handcross, Pease Pottage and Warninglid and about improvements to the footpath to the north of Handcross Primary School. The local County Councillor advised that he was liaising with the Principal Community Officer and the School Travel Plan Advisor to address several problems, including the removal of vegetation to improve visibility and use of the footpath. He advised that a meeting had been arranged with the Head teacher and that he was happy to meet with a representative of Slaugham Parish Council also.
- A Staplefield resident raised a number of concerns, including the narrowing of pavements in the village due to overgrown vegetation; problems with crushed kerbstones near the War Memorial and The Victory Inn junction on the B2118; eroded road surfaces due to water running down the road on the B2114 Handcross Road (on The Jolly Tanners side of the road) which turned to black ice when freezing making it treacherous; and the road surface in Brantridge Lane which had also suffered from erosion. The Principal Community Officer agreed to follow up the above points and to provide a progress update.
- A resident asked whether reliable data on vehicle movements in Haywards Heath was available from the County Council. The Chairman confirmed that if the data existed it could be requested through the Principal Community Officer.
- Asked for an update on the problems with water on London Road, Balcombe. The Principal Community Officer advised that the problem was reported in November 2012 and that he had arranged for channels to be dug and had contacted South East Water to report the problem.

Date of Next Meeting

68. The Chairman advised that the next scheduled meeting would take place on Tuesday 18 June 2013, 7.00pm at Balcombe Victory Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Chairman