

## **East Crawley County Local Committee**

18 November 2014 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm, in the Longley Exhibition Room, Crawley Library, Crawley.

Present: Mr Burrett (Member for Pound Hill and Worth) - Chairman, Mr Crow (Member for Tilgate and Furnace Green), Mr Lamb (Member for Northgate and Three Bridges) and Mr Lanzer (Member for Maidenbower).

### **Welcome and Introductions**

41. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and each County Councillor introduced themselves. The Chairman welcomed Monique Smart as the new Democratic Services Officer who will be covering the two Crawley CLCs and in doing so also asked for the Committee's thanks to be passed to Rosemary Pugh for the excellent support she had provided over the last few years.

### **Declaration of Interests**

42. No declarations were given.

### **Minutes**

43. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

### **Urgent Matters**

44. The Chairman stated that he had received a request from several members of the public present to consider agenda item 8, Bashford Way Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), earlier on the agenda. The Chairman was minded to agree to this request and the Committee agreed.

### **Bashford Way, Pound Hill, Crawley – Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)**

45. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Highways and Transport (copy appended to the signed minutes).

46. Highways Manager, Brian Lambarth, introduced the report. He explained that a scheme to introduce a prohibition of waiting at each of the junctions in Bashford Way, Pound Hill, Crawley was first prioritised by Members in March 2014. Following public advertisement there were 14 separate letters of objection, which were supported by a petition signed by 45 residents of Bashford Way and The Grooms, and only two letters in support of the scheme. Therefore the recommendation was for the Committee to withdraw the TRO as the community concerns outweigh the benefits.

47. One resident did ask if Members would consider restrictions at just one junction but Members felt that this would cause displacement at other junctions and therefore would not recommend that approach.

48. The Committee resolved that, having considered that the concerns raised by the objectors outweigh the possible benefits to the community, the proposed Traffic Regulation Order should be withdrawn.

### **Five Communities Plan**

49. Sue Braysher, Barry Young and Laura Hill, from Crawley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), provided Members with a presentation on the 'Five Communities Plan'. The Plan sets out the CCG's vision for the future of local NHS care and Health and Wellbeing services in the Crawley community (slides appended to the signed minutes).

50. Following the presentation a number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Maternity provision was discussed and Sue Braysher confirmed that a serious piece of work had been undertaken and the view is that the volume of need is not enough to secure a safe service and also that the services provided at Redhill and Haywards Heath are excellent. The evidence and view of the experts is available on the Five Communities website.
- It was confirmed that the CCG will work with partners to make better use of the space available at Crawley Hospital.
- A number of residents raised concern about the possible closure of Cross Keys walk-in centre. The CCG recognised that the centre was not as well utilised as it could be and there is a need to offer more people a better service. Nothing has been decided and this will form part of the ongoing discussions as part of the consultation being undertaken by NHS England.
- Concern was raised that so much reorganisation in the NHS could result in previous work, on such things as estates, being lost. Sue Braysher confirmed that the continuity of the staff involved would ensure that this was not the case.
- It was hoped the plan could be finalised in late 2015 for delivery in 2017.

### **Progress Statement**

51. The Committee received and noted a progress report on matters relating to East Crawley (copy appended to the signed minutes).

52. Kath Brooks (Community Officer) updated the Committee on schemes on the Progress Statement and the Community Issues List which were currently being progressed. Issues to note included:

- Encouragement for all to take part in the Three Bridges Station re-design consultation currently underway.
- Worth Park Avenue cycle scheme. A site meeting with the new designers took place on 6 November. Following this they will now review the previous design, identify improvements and move forward to produce a revised feasibility design by the end of November. WSCC will then review the design in early December before a detailed design is agreed. The detailed design is planned to complete in late February.

53. The following issues were raised by the Committee and members of the public: -

- A resident welcomed improvements to Three Bridges Station but asked if anything could be done to alleviate the problem of commuter parking. The Chairman confirmed that he supported the need for a multi-storey car park but this would be a decision for Network Rail not the Councils. He did add that he hoped the improvements would improve alternative means to get to the station.

#### **Grattons Drive (Southern end), Pound Hill, Crawley – Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)**

54. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Highways and Transport (copy appended to the signed minutes).

55. Highways Manager, Brian Lambarth, introduced the report that detailed proposals for a scheme to ease congestion in Grattons Drive. He explained that the original recommendation proposed a measured extension of the existing Double Yellow Lines (DYL) to counteract the negative driving trends and improve on driver visibility and help address the pedestrian safety concerns. The Local Member had asked for the scheme to be increased further with Single Yellow Line (SYL) (10-11am & 2-3pm Mon-Fri) restrictions on the west side to deter all day commuter parking, following discussions with adjacent residents. This scheme will also take the opportunity of consolidating a minor section of DYL just north of the Milton Road junction. Following a formal consultation 9 objections were received.

56. The Chairman acknowledged that he had received more emails and communications on this than any other issue over the past year. He added that the Committee can agree less than was advertised as part of the formal consultation but cannot add anything without carrying out a further consultation. However the Committee did acknowledge some residents' concern about displacement on the eastern side of the road should this proposal progress. The Chairman had been advised that if this was approved then any displacement would be monitored and there may be an opportunity to do something about that when the review of the nearby Controlled Parking Zone is considered early next year.

57. Resolved: that the Committee agreed that, having considered that the likely benefits to the community outweigh concerns raised by the objectors, permission be given for the Traffic Regulation Order to be made as advertised.

## **'Talk with Us' – Open Forum**

58. The following answers were given in response to questions about matters affecting Crawley residents.

- Parking on grass verges was raised and Peter Lamb responded stating that anti-social parking on grass verges is an increasing problem across West Sussex and there are a variety of measures that can be taken to stop it. By far the most successful are physical measures like the low triangular section wooden fencing you often see in National Parks. There is the possibility of using byelaws to prevent verge parking and this can be done by the Borough Council, however they are expensive to introduce and difficult to enforce. It is possible to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order on a highway verge but again this is very expensive and the Regulations are far from clear when it comes to enforcement. Since there are a large number of technical, financial, and ethical challenges the Borough and County Councils have decided to explore a trial, using a mix of measures, which will most likely be undertaken in Tilgate. This will be progressed over the next eighteen months. Members did also encourage residents to report incidents of illegal parking to the Borough Council who can look to target problem areas. Brenda Burgess expressed frustration that this had been an issue for far too long and she hoped that progress could be made.
- It was noted that there were not any Community Initiative Fund applications to consider. Members stated that money was still available and they would welcome applications for consideration at the next meeting.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

59. The Chairman informed all that the next meeting would be held on 4 March 2015 at Crawley Library.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Chairman