

**East Crawley County Local Committee**

14 March 2013 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm in Crawley Library, Crawley.

Present: Mr Burgess, Mr Burrett (Chairman), Mr Crow and Mr Lanzer.

**Declarations of Interest**

92. The Chairman declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in that part of Item 8, Community Initiative Fund, which related to the consideration of Application 1979/EC, as he is a Trustee of Crawley Open House. The Chairman left the room during the consideration of that application. Mr Burgess also declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in that part of Item 8 which related to the consideration of Application 2055/EC, as a member of the Crawley Festival Committee and left the room during the consideration of that application.

**Minutes**

93. Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2012 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

94. Minutes 68 – 71 refer. The Chairman reported that there had been no objections received to the proposal for a 20mph speed limit zone and road humps in Church Road/Street Hill, Worth and therefore no further decision by the Committee was needed.

**Highways**

**Grattons Drive – 20 mph zone and traffic calming proposals**

95. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning and Service Manager Engineering Solutions regarding a 20 mph zone and traffic calming proposals in Grattons Drive, Pound Hill (copy appended to the signed minutes).

96. Roger Harper (on behalf of the Director of Communities Commissioning) introduced the report. The Committee had approved the traffic calming scheme for formal advertisement at its meeting last November. The scheme is based around the introduction of a 20mph zone covering a section of Grattons Drive and adjoining minor roads to create a safer environment for pedestrians crossing the road. A specific benefit of the scheme is that it encourages children, particularly from Milton Mount Primary School, to walk and cycle to school in preference to being driven to school. Research indicates 20mph zones are effective in reducing collision risk.

97. Roger Harper described the features of the scheme and gave details of the responses to the formal advertisement. The public had been widely consulted on the scheme on a number of occasions and it was felt that the measures promoted offer the widest consensus of support amongst residents. Any potential disadvantages in the traffic calming measures were outweighed by the reduction in risk of collisions with pedestrians on this section of road.

98. The following issues were raised in the discussion that followed: -

- The problem of some residences in Farmleigh Close being used as HMOs (Houses in Multiple Occupancy) which resulted in further pressure on the limited parking spaces. *The Chairman agreed to investigate whether the correct process for licencing had been followed.*
- The possibility that the waiting restrictions in Farmleigh Close could be limited to term time only. *The Chairman suggested that such a relaxation of the TRO could be made and that a report on the matter could be considered at the next meeting in June before the proposals were implemented.*
- The proposals would not be successful unless there was enforcement of the waiting restrictions and the perception that Parking Enforcement Officers only patrolled the centre of town. *The Chairman stated that the new scheme would need enforcement from the start and he would ask for adequate enforcement in the area. It was noted that the nearby restrictions in Park Way and St Mary's Drive were regularly enforced.*
- Timescale for a review of the proposals. *The Chairman stated that six months was usual for schemes like CPZs. Roger Harper advised that a perception survey would be carried out to determine whether people felt safer after the proposals were implemented. With the help of the County Council's Road Safety Education Team, schools create School Travel Plans which aim to encourage less use of cars for travelling to school and hence less parking near schools.*
- Would the needs of cyclists be taken into account in the final design? *Roger Harper agreed to look into the option for cycle slips.*
- Asked whether the 20mph signs would have flashing lights or be solid signs. *Roger Harper advised that they would be solid and asked residents to inform Marie Ovenden (Principal Community Officer) if they knew of advisory 20 mph flashing signs in Crawley which needed to have their internal clocks re-set if they seem to start too early.*
- Asked whether the road humps would lead to further congestion as a result of their location within the scheme. *Roger Harper advised that the road hump close to the school would have a shallow profile and would create a safe crossing point. The road features in the scheme have to be spaced out as much as possible and this was the reason for their precise locations.*

- Timing of the road works to implement the scheme; residents requested that this was done in the school holidays. *Marie Ovenden agreed to inform Balfour Beatty, the County Council's Highways Contractor, of this request.*
- Double yellow lines (DYLs) in Farmleigh Close; one resident asked why the DYLs were only going to extend for three-quarters of the way around the build-out in front of number 1 as this would result in increased parking outside her property. *The Chairman stated that the reason for this was probably historical and extensions to the DYLs could be considered in the future as part of another TRO. "Keep Clear" markings could be placed in front of the property as an interim measure.*

99. The Committee agreed unanimously to approve the recommendation with two additional elements.

100. Resolved – That:

- (1) The Head of Law & Governance and Divisional Manager (Engineering Solutions) be authorised to implement the proposed 20mph Speed Limit Zone and Parking Restrictions (under the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984) as advertised and the road humps (under the Highways Act 1980 and Highway [Road Hump] Regulations 1999) as shown on drawing no. 14150-004 (RevB).
- (2) A further report be considered at the Committee's next meeting in June to consider whether the single yellow line prohibition of waiting in Farmleigh Close could be relaxed to apply in school term times only. Consideration at the Committee's June meeting would enable a decision to be made on this before the whole scheme is implemented.
- (3) A review of the 20 mph zone and traffic calming proposals takes place six months after implementation of the scheme.

### **Priorities for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs)**

101. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning and the Head of Highways and Transport on priorities for TROs in the East Crawley CLC area (copy appended to the signed minutes).

102. Marie Ovenden introduced the report and outlined the schemes in Appendix A. The Chairman explained the policy of creating composite TROs where possible to increase the number of schemes for the area.

103. The Chairman reported on the current TROs being progressed.

- Milton Mount Avenue (waiting restrictions) – no objections received, the scheme would be implemented within the next month.
- Balcombe Road (waiting restrictions) – one objection had been received, a report would be taken to the next meeting of the CLC.

- Balcombe Road (speed limit) – this was awaiting consultation, which would take place after the County Council elections.
- Copthorne Road (speed limit) - this was a complex scheme, crossing two County Council Divisions and extending into the North Mid-Sussex CLC area, and was awaiting consultation which would take place after the County Council elections.

104. Mr Burgess reported that no objections had been received regarding the Hazelwick Avenue pedestrian crossing scheme and it would be implemented soon.

105. Councillor Thomas (Crawley Borough Council) observed that there were no references in the proposed schemes to the Northgate, Furnace Green and Tilgate neighbourhoods. *Mr Crow stated that the CLC schemes were not the only TROs proposed for Crawley and that some TROs were created as a result of development or on behalf of Crawley Borough Council, of which a recent TRO for waiting restrictions in Tilgate Park was an example.*

106. Resolved – That the following priority order for implementing TROs within the East Crawley CLC area is approved: -

- (1) Gatwick Road Service Road, Three Bridges – waiting restrictions, and Tinsley Lane North, Manor Royal – junction protection.
- (2) Crossways/Scallows Close, Three Bridges – two junctions and turning head parking protection/capacity, and extending double yellow lines at Blackwater Lane, Pound Hill.
- (3) Stephenson Way, Three Bridges – amending existing TRO, and investigation of further restrictions in Spindle Way.

### **West Sussex Flood Investigation Report**

107. Marie Ovenden introduced the report (available on the County Council website) which sets out the findings of the County Council investigation following the June 2012 flood event. Marie Ovenden advised that members of the County Council representing Divisions in Crawley had been asked to comment on the funding available for schemes in Crawley and a further update on the next steps to be taken would be reported back to the Committee. Questions were asked regarding the Environment Agency plans for raising the dam at Tilgate Lake and a scheme for the River Mole at Grattons Park. Marie Ovenden would provide an update on these schemes at the next meeting.

108. The Committee noted the West Sussex Flood Investigation Report.

### **Community Initiative Fund**

109. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Law and Governance on the Community Initiative Fund (copy appended to the signed minutes).

### **Application 1979/EC – Crawley Open House**

110. The Chairman left the room during the consideration of this application and Mr Lanzer took over as acting Chairman.

111. Crawley Open House had requested £2222 towards replacement of a day centre kitchen. The Committee agreed to allocate £2222.

### **Application 2055/EC – Crawley Festival**

112. Mr Burgess left the room during consideration of this application.

113. Crawley Festival had requested £2640 towards equipment hire and workshop materials. The Committee agreed to allocate £2000.

### **Application 1988/EC – Crawley Amateur Boxing Club**

114. Crawley Amateur Boxing Club had requested £2222 towards the update of changing facilities. The Committee agreed to allocate £1200.

### **Application 1996/EC – Homes @ Pembroke Park**

115. Homes @ Pembroke Park had requested £1111 towards the cost of a street party. The Committee agreed to allocate £600.

### **Application 1999/EC – The Oaks Primary School**

116. The Oaks Primary School had requested £2228 to allow disadvantaged children to join classmates on a school trip. The Committee agreed to allocate £1714.84.

### **Application 2051/EC – Crawley Millennium Band**

117. The Crawley Millennium Band had requested £444 towards the purchase of timpani. The Committee agreed to allocate £444.

### **Application 2052/EC – Montefiore Institute Management Council**

118. The Montefiore Institute Management Council had requested £2000 towards hall refurbishment. The Committee agreed to allocate £1600.

### **Application 2053/EC – Crawley Cricket Club**

119. Crawley Cricket Club had requested £888 towards a mobile cricket net. The Committee declined the application as the Cricket Club was planning a permanent cricket net facility for the 2014 season.

### **Application 2054/EC – Crawley Community Transport**

120. Crawley Community Transport had requested £538.56 towards website creation. The Committee agreed to allocate £538.56.

## **Application 2067/EC – Crawley District Scouts**

121. Crawley District Scouts had requested £890 towards Mayorathon Event equipment. The Committee deferred the application to obtain further clarification about how the event was going to be funded.

122. Resolved - That the East Crawley County Local Committee allocates the following funding: -

£2222 to Crawley Open House

£2000 to Crawley Festival

£1200 to Crawley Amateur Boxing Club

£600 to Homes @ Pembroke Park

£1714.84 to The Oaks Primary School

£444 to the Crawley Millennium Band

£1600 to the Montefiore Institute Management Council

£538.56 to Crawley Community Transport

Application 2053/EC – Crawley Cricket Club, is declined as the Cricket Club is planning a permanent cricket net facility for the 2014 season.

Application 2067/EC – Crawley District Scouts, is deferred to obtain further clarification about how the event is going to be funded.

## **Appointment of Authority Governors**

123. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Learning on the re-appointment of Authority Governors (copy appended to the signed minutes).

124. Resolved – That Mr S H Maclean is re-appointed as Authority Governor to The Brook Infant School for a four-year term.

## **Report of Urgent Action**

125. The Committee noted that the appointment of Mrs R Bright as Authority Governor to Milton Mount Primary School for a four-year term had been taken under Urgent Action in November 2012 in order that the appointment could be made in time for the start of the Spring Term 2013.

## **‘talk with us’ – Open Forum**

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

- **Hardening of verges at the junction of Monksfield and Brookside.** *Marie Ovenden advised that funding had been allocated for this work but a date had not been set. The work would be carried out by Crawley Borough Council.*
- **Dangerous uneven pavements in Queen’s Square.** *Marie Ovenden advised that although remedial work had taken place further work was needed and she would recommend to members of the West Crawley CLC*

*that the matter is included on their Community Issues List to be considered for inclusion in the Infrastructure Works Programme.*

- **Problems caused by apparent lack of gritters during recent wintery weather.** *The Chairman reported that the County's gritting fleet had worked continuously throughout the day and night of the time referred to. High winds had caused drifting which had reduced the impact of salting. Some roads were closed; abandoned cars and fallen trees had caused further problems. The particular problems on the M23 and A23 were the responsibility of the Highways Agency and this had had a knock-on effect which had impacted on neighbouring areas. Mr Lanzer advised that as a result of the bad weather there had been a reduced refuse collection service for safety reasons and that the all residents would have their refuse collected by the following Saturday.*
- **Significant potholes in Manor Royal and problem with reliability of Love West Sussex application.** *Marie Ovenden advised that there had been 'teething problems' with the new technology and officers were trying to resolve them. Emily King would be asked to contact Councillor Peter Smith of Crawley Borough Council to discuss the particular issues he had with the potholes he had reported on Love West Sussex. Marie Ovenden advised that there were many potholes that did not meet the 40mm intervention level criterion. Marie Ovenden agreed to provide one resident with more information on 'intervention levels'.*
- **Speed reduction scheme at Woodfield Road, Northgate.** *The Chairman explained how some schemes can be funded by Section 106 money or through the Capital Programme. Marie Ovenden advised that she had received a request for this scheme to be put on the Community Issues List.*
- **Amazon lockers at Crawley Library and revenue received by the County Council.** *The Chairman explained that Councillor Thomas had received a full response on the matter from the Deputy Leader and that it was not possible to discuss exact figures about revenue. Mr Crow stated that it was important for the County Council to take opportunities to support the Library Service in the County.*

### **Date of Next Meeting**

127. 27 June 2013 at 7pm in Crawley Library.

### **Chairman**

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.