

North Chichester County Local Committee

16 March 2017 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm in the Willow Room, Grange Community & Leisure Centre, Bepton Road, Midhurst, GU29 9HD.

Present: Michael Brown (Chairman and Member for Fernhurst), Janet Duncton* (Member for Petworth), Sandra James (Member for Bourne) and Gordon McAra (Member for Midhurst).

*Mrs Duncton left at 7.35 p.m.

In attendance: Adam Chisnall (Democratic Services Officer), Peter Lawrence (Principal Community Officer), Alex Sharkey (Highways Improvements Manager) and Jim Perkins (Interim Head of Waste Services)

Welcome and Introductions

52. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the members of the Committee and the supporting officers.

53. Mrs Duncton informed the public that Mr Brown was not standing for re-election and so this was his last meeting. Mrs Duncton gave a short résumé of Mr Brown's political career. The Committee thanked Mr Brown for his Chairmanship of the Committee.

Declaration of Interests

54. No interests were declared.

Minutes

55. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

56. The Committee considered the progress report on matters arising from previous meetings (copy appended to the signed minutes).

57. Mr Chisnall introduced the report which gave updates on issues raised at the 8 December meeting.

58. The member of the public who had expressed difficulties with raising footway faults at the December meeting reported to the Committee that he had since received good support from the County Council and expressed his gratitude. The Chichester Community Operations Team were also thanked for arranging emergency salt boxes to help vulnerable residents keep paths and driveways clear of ice.

59. The Committee requested additional details on the Midhurst works; specifically when the works were planned to take place. - *Mr Chisnall resolved to investigate this query.*

60. Mr Sharkey gave a presentation to the Committee on the planned improvements to Rogate (copy appended to the signed minutes).

61. The presentation outlined the details of the scheme and explained the next steps in the process.

62. The Rogate Parish Chairman was in the audience who welcomed the scheme and outlined the journey that the project had taken from the idea stage to the presented highway design. It was reported that there were plans to seek funding from the South Downs National Park, for non-highway related elements in order to add additional elements to the scheme, such as planting.

63. A member of the public raised concerns on the impact the proposals would have on HGVs. It was also commented that HGVs used the A272 as an alternative to the A27. – *Mr Sharkey explained that the proposals looked to influence driver behaviour and that any proposed changes had been carefully modelled to accommodate HGVs.*

64. Mr Brown explained that the project was a pilot scheme and would be monitored for impact.

65. The Committee welcomed the presentation and the proposed improvements in traffic flow and safety for Rogate.

66. Resolved – That the Committee notes the progress statement.

Waste Presentation

67. The Committee received a presentation from Mr Perkins on the waste responsibilities of local authorities that had been requested at the December meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes).

68. A resident queried the impact of waste site charging on fly tipping. – *Mr Perkins explained that Chichester had seen a rise in fly tipping but for green waste which was still free to dispose. It was speculated that this rise could be linked to the closure of waste sites.*

69. The public were encouraged to visit the waste site at Ford to see the mechanical process for sorting materials.

70. The Committee welcomed the presentation.

North Chichester Community Initiative Funding

71. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law and Assurance (copy appended to the signed minutes).

72. Resolved – That the North Chichester County Local Committee considers the Community Initiative Funding application as set out in Appendix A and that the following awards are made:

- 1114/NC - Cocking Village Hall Committee, £1,425.00, towards a timber extension to the Village Hall.

- 1199/NC - Loxwood Sports Association, £625.00, for a mobile cricket cage.

Nominations for Local Authority Governors to Maintained Schools and Academy Governing Bodies

73. The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director Children, Adults, Families, Health & Education (copy appended to the signed minutes).

74. Resolved – that the Committee approves the following nominations for reappointment under the 2012 Regulations:

- Mr Jeff Ace to Harting C.E. Primary School for a four year term
- Mrs Sara Bennie to Petworth C.E. Primary School for a four year term

Talk With Us (Open Forum)

75. The Chairman introduced the item and advised that the open forum was an opportunity for comments and questions to be raised on items not already on the agenda, and over which the County Council has jurisdiction. The following issues were raised and responses made.

- A resident of Holmbush raised concerns with a broken fence around a playing field that required repair. - *Mr McAra was aware of the issue and had already been in contact with Hyde Martlet to address the problem that was their responsibility.*
- The Chairman of Kirdford Parish Council queried the process for drain and ditch work grants from the County Council. – *Mr Brown outlined the process for Operation Watershed applications.*
- A resident complained about the state of pot hole repairs that had taken place in West Lavington. – *Mr Brown commented that he had visited the site at the time of the repairs and reported they were satisfactory. The resident was advised to report the pot holes if necessary.*
- A Lurgashall resident raised concerns with a reduction in bus services for the village. – *The resident was advised to contact Mrs Duncton as the local member and investigate collaborative options with Lodsworth Parish Council and the Yellow Bus company.*

Date of Next Meeting

76. The Committee noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place on Tuesday 20 June 2017 at a venue to be confirmed.

77. The meeting closed at 8.18pm

Chairman