

North Horsham County Local Committee

15 December 2014 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. at County Hall North, Horsham.

Present: Mr Catchpole (Holbrook), Mrs Jupp (Billingshurst), Mrs Kitchen (Warnham and Rusper), Mrs Millson (Horsham Riverside), Mr Rae (Roffey), Mr Sheldon (Tanbridge and Broadbridge Heath) and Mr Watson OBE (Chairman and Southwater and Nuthurst).

Apologies: Dr Dennis (Horsham Hurst)

Welcome and Introductions

41. The Chairman welcomed all those in attendance to the meeting and highlighted that North Horsham CLC now had a Facebook page and encouraged as many 'likes' as possible.

Declarations of Interest

42. None.

Minutes

43. Resolved – that the minutes of the North Horsham County Local Committee meeting held on 15 September 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

44. The Chairman informed the meeting that since the publication of the agenda papers a further governor appointment had been received (agenda item no. 10). The application was time critical for the school as they were planning to reconstitute in January and the proposed governor was the current Chair of Governors.

Progress Statement

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

Talk With Us

46. The Chairman invited questions from members of the public, highlighting that he was aware that a number of residents were attending the meeting regarding the potential for a second runway at Gatwick Airport. The Chairman stated that there would be a series of County Council meetings to allow County Council members the opportunity to discuss the issue and inform the County Council's response to the current Airport Commission consultation. There would be a meeting of the Environment and Community Services Select Committee on 14th January 2015 and a meeting of Full Council on 19th January 2015. Three residents; Sally Pavey, representing CAGNE; Martin Spurrige, representing the

Conneyhurst Concern Group and Christopher Allen read out pre prepared statements regarding Gatwick Airport to the meeting (copies appended to signed minutes). *The Chairman thanked those residents and duly noted their comments.*

47. Further questions were asked to which responses were given, including those set out below:

- Mr Simon Lacey, a resident of Slinfold made a request for a reduction of speed limit on the A29 through Slinfold. The request had been raised with the Parish Council and a petition had been produced to show community support. Slinfold was the only village along the A29 which did not have a 40mph limit. There was a major intersection where cars could overtake which was thoroughly dangerous. *The Chairman stated that the request had been noted.*
- Mr Ray Turner representing North Horsham Parish Council raised safety concerns with the junction of Earls Meadow with Crawley Road in Horsham and requested that safety review be conducted. The Parish Council had cleared sightlines on its own land at the location however; there was still concern of the speed limit approaching a complex junction. In addition, Mr Turner indicated that the Parish Council would be holding a public meeting on the Airport Consultation on 13th January 2015.
- Mr Roger Purcell representing Warnham Parish Council requested the assistance of the CLC to resolve an issue which is causing localised flooding in Warnham. The flooding occurred each time there was significant rainfall and isolated a hamlet of six properties (copy of full question appended to the signed minutes). *The Chairman stated that the issue was duly noted and the local member Mrs Kitchen confirmed she would follow it through.*
- Further to earlier comments regarding the potential for a 2nd runway at Gatwick, Mr Stuart Spencer, a resident of Slinfold requested that West Sussex County Council reverse its support, as if all local councils were against it, the Airport Commission would take this into account. Mr Spencer asked if when the County Council voted to support a 2nd runway at Gatwick, did they have a balanced/informed view of the environment impact that it would have in and around the Horsham district area and whether in light of new information relating to the noise impact of a 2nd runway WSCC support should be reviewed. There was a body of evidence to show that noise was detrimental to local communities. In addition, a Horsham District Councillor stated that there was a clear gap in infrastructure funding and that the County Council should not support a 2nd runway until this infrastructure funding was confirmed. *The Chairman reiterated that all points concerning the potential for a 2nd runway at Gatwick had been noted.*
- Mrs Dena Smith a resident of Itchingfield highlighted a petition which she had submitted to the County Council requesting a reduction in speed limit to 30mph on the A264 to Barns Green through Itchingfield. There were a number of sharp 50mph bends and a high volume of vulnerable road users. *The local member, Mrs Jupp, commented that there had been several*

requests for speed limit reductions in her division and that there were other methods to combat anti-social driving other than reducing speed limits. Mrs Jupp, with the Chairman's agreement, invited Jim Stobart from Operation Crackdown, Sussex Police to address the meeting. Mr Stobart informed the meeting that Operation Crackdown had been expanded in 2007 to deal with the problem with anti-social driving to try and change driver behaviour. Reports of anti-social driving resulted in letters being sent to offenders, with over 2,500 sent each month. Following three letters the local policing team would visit an offender and the traffic policing unit would monitor serial offenders.

Community Policing Update

48. Prior to the arrival of Sgt Mark Miller, Mr Catchpole raised the issue of continuity when PCSOs were moved to different patches and wished to understand the reasons why. He was also concerned about the size of the area the PCSOs were responsible for and how they would be able to manage this. Mr Catchpole stated that it would have been useful to have had a conversation about it locally (with County Councillor/Parish Councils) before changes were made. The Chairman commented as Chairman of the Police and Crime Panel concerns had been raised regarding this issue. There were two issues; insufficient recruitment of PCSO's and access to transport. In the future all PCSOs could have access to a police car. It was agreed that the Democratic Services Officer would contact Sgt Miller regarding Mr Catchpole's question.

49. The Chairman welcomed Sgt Miller to the meeting who introduced a report from the Horsham District Neighbourhood Policing Team on local policing issues (copy appended to the signed minutes). Sgt Miller explained the nature of the Community Speedwatch programme and the process of approving suitable sites, which could not be in a national speed limit. Those speeding would be reported to Operation Crackdown. Members of the public raised the question of why a road in a national speed limit could not be part of the Community Speedwatch programme. *Sgt Miller responded that he would not like members of the public on the side of the road and that the speeding on national speed limit road was a road policing issue not a local policing issue.*

Five Communities Plan

50. The Committee received a presentation from Dr Simon Deans, Clinical Director and Niki Cartwright, Programme Director from the Horsham Clinical Commissioning Group on the Five Communities Plan (copy of slides of appended to the signed minutes). Member comments/queries included:

- Mrs Jupp raised concern that Billingshurst was part of the Coastal West Sussex CCG and that it was much easier for Billingshurst residents to go to Horsham Hospital. In addition, there were a number of elderly people in the area suffering from depression. *Dr Deans highlighted that the plans included addressing social isolation by co-locating GP services with other services.* Mrs Jupp added that the CCG should work in partnership with pharmacists. *Dr Deans completely agreed with this point and this would be included in future planning.*

- Mr Catchpole stated that he was pleased that the CCG were taking the lead with GP arrangements and that the County Council would support the CCG and it would be better to be more joined up. Mr Catchpole stated that there was a lot of concern with access times to GP services and that residents would be supportive of weekends and the part use of Horsham hospital for that type of service. Regarding the hospital, Mr Catchpole stated that it would be useful for the hospital to have a hospital manager to pull it all together. *Members were informed that Ms Cartwright was specifically looking at this and that GP services were moving in the direction of being available seven days a week, which was what was happening nationally.*
- Mrs Millson stated that following the presentation she had a much clearer vision of how the CCG was intending to involve local representatives going forward and if there were to be further local meetings to let the County Council know so it could be advertised on social media. *Ms Cartwright welcomed this suggestion and highlighted that the CCG had a health network team which they were keen for more residents to sign up to. This would enable the CCG to have an honest conversation regarding the amount of money available and how to spend it wisely.*
- Mr Rae stated from his own experience that renal dialysis should not be moved to Horsham hospital as the service was transport hungry and converting an older building to offer this service may be beyond future budgets. *Dr Deans stated that they would be guided by the service.*
- Mr Sheldon stated that he was encouraged to see a great use of Horsham hospital and reiterated the offer of local member support to enable future plans.

51. A local GP who was present at the meeting made a plea to the CCG to maintain small practices in the town and not create a 'GP factory' out of town in Broadbridge Heath. Research had shown that patients wanted an average size practice of 6-8 partners to have the ability to have a personal relationship with their GP with good access, convenient appointments available at short notice and late appointments into the weekends. Mr Turner, representing North Horsham Parish Council, asked how maternity services would fit into the plan. *The meeting was informed that there was position statement on the future of maternity services on the CCG website and that the Horsham antenatal clinic was flourishing.*

Community Initiative Funding

52. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy (copy appended to the signed minutes), which detailed applications for Community Initiative Funding. The committee invited the Chairman of the Friends of Chesworth Farm, Diane Sumpter to provide some more information on the application for a "dog splash". Mr Sheldon asked how long it would last and was informed that this was a long term solution in excess of 10 years. Mrs Jupp asked if there were any other local examples and was informed that there was one in Buchan Park which worked on the same principle.

53. Resolved - that the following awards are made:

450/NH Friends of Chesworth Farm, £1,280 towards the cost of building a "dog splash"

476/NH Hop Skip and Jump Foundation, £5,500 to outfit a shopping unit in Swan Walk with a Wet Room, changing facility and soft play area for use by children and young adults with special needs.

Appointment of Authority Governors

54. The Committee considered a report by Strategic Commissioner for Learning (copy appended to the signed minutes). One further appointment to the Shipley CE Primary School governing body, received after the CLC report was published, was also considered.

55. Resolved - that the North Horsham County Local Committee make the following appointments and reappointments:

- Mr S Burkey for a four year term to Kingslea Primary School; and
- Mrs F Gallagher for a four year term to Shipley CE Primary School

Date of Next Meeting

56. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Monday 9 March 2015 in the Main Conference Room, County Hall North, Horsham.

The meeting closed at 8.57pm

Chairman