

Unconfirmed minutes – to be confirmed at the next meeting of the North Horsham County Local Committee

North Horsham County Local Committee

21 September 2015 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. at County Hall North, Horsham.

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

Apologies: Mr Rae (Roffey).

Welcome and Introductions

33. The Chairman welcomed all those in attendance to the meeting and asked members to introduce themselves.

Declarations of Interest

34. In accordance with the register of member interests, the following personal interests were declared:

- Mr Catchpole as a friend of a Trustee of Age UK Horsham in relation to application 772/NH
- Mrs Millson as a friend of a Trustee of Age UK Horsham and a Trustee of Springboard in relation to applications 772/NH and 785/NH respectively.
- Mr Sheldon as a friend of a Trustee of Age UK Horsham in relation to application 772/NH
- Mr Watson as his home backed on to Bennet's Field, in relation to application 778/NH

Minutes

35. Resolved – that the minutes of the North Horsham County Local Committee meeting held on 6 July 2015 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed off by the Chairman, subject to the following amendment of Minute 13, to read:

He felt that the road network was inadequate already and concerned that the suggested route to the various existing industrial and commercial sites such as the brickworks and the Biffa site was shown as potentially passing through one of the residential areas.

Urgent Matters

36. There were no urgent matters.

Progress Statement

Unconfirmed minutes – to be confirmed at the next meeting of the North Horsham County Local Committee

37. Members noted the statement on matters arising from the previous meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes) and commented on several entries in the report, including:

A264 Junctions/North of Horsham Development – the Chairman clarified that he had met with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport and that Mr Catchpole and Mrs Kitchen had met with the Leader to discuss education issues.

Horsham Parking Review – The Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) Lead Professional confirmed that measures were currently being finalised by the consultant. Once completed, the order would be placed and this would be within the next three months.

Community Policing Update

38. The Chairman invited Sergeant Mundy, from the Horsham District Neighbourhood Policing Team, to present a Community Policing update (copy appended to the signed minutes).

39. Sgt. Mundy informed members that neighbourhood policing was currently being reviewed, to increase operational efficiency and also in response to reductions in funding. Measures included:

- Providing a triage nurse on scene when dealing with mental health patients to ensure appropriate referrals.
- Boundary-free policing, as the geographically nearest officer may not serve the district an incident is reported in.
- Re-evaluation of the PCSO role with a move away from community reassurance, such as tackling low-level anti-social behaviour towards an approach base on threat/harm/risk. Tackling serious crime would remain the overriding priority.
- As yet, no decisions regarding potential reductions in officer numbers had been taken and the situation remained under review.

40. Members made a number of comments, including those that follow. They:

- Queried the possibility of a greater use of technology to achieve efficiencies and suggested that in future services such as Skype and Facetime could be considered – *Sgt. Mundy responded that tablet computers had been issued to officers, facilitating remote working and the processing of incidents in the field.*
- Queried whether the local Police Facebook page was monitored, as a local report of anti-social behaviour did not appear to have been responded to – *Sgt. Mundy responded that in the first instance reports should be made to the police and directed to local PCSOs as this would ensure the fastest response.*
- Stated that local communities had become used to the current model of neighbourhood policing and would require a conversation about how this was changing, in order to understand the changes and manage

Unconfirmed minutes – to be confirmed at the next meeting of the North Horsham County Local Committee

expectations. - *Sgt. Mundy stated that all Parish Clerks had been emailed detailing what the police would no longer be prioritising. The police would also engage with the local media to raise public awareness of changes. She undertook to provide members with the information circulated to the Clerks.*

41. Members of the public also asked a number of questions, including those that follow:

- A resident of Billingshurst stated that neighbourhood policing was already stretched locally and queried how the police would engage with the community if they no longer attended local meetings. She noted that young people engaged in anti-social behaviour, including those involved in the supply of drugs, already operated around gaps in police availability. – *Sgt. Mundy responded that whilst community reassurance would be given a lower priority, the police would always respond to any specific intelligence of activity involving drugs.*
- A representative of the Horsham and Mid Sussex Volunteer Association requested further information regarding the triage service, as this would be of interest to local groups. – *Sgt. Mundy undertook to provide the information outside of the meeting.*

Talk With Us

42. The Chairman invited questions from members of the public. Questions were asked to which responses were given, including those set out below:

- A representative of the Horsham Cycling Forum expressed disappointment that the commitment to an LSTF 'lessons learned' meeting had been reduced to an offer to respond to concerns via email (Progress Statement, Agenda Item No. 3) – *Members reiterated their commitment that a meeting should take place, and that it should include relevant officers, the Cycling Forum and local county and district members.*
- A Warnham Parish Councillor requested support for a traffic calming scheme for Friday Street, Warnham, which had been previously circulated to members. – *The local member (Warnham and Rusper) expressed her support for the scheme. The member for Tanbridge and Broadbridge Heath agreed that Friday Street required attention, but cautioned that it would need to be viewed in the wider context of all outstanding work in the area, as works elsewhere would have a positive impact on traffic speeds in the Friday Street area. He requested that all local proposals were considered in greater depth at the Committee's December meeting.*
- A representative of the Horsham Society presented the Chairman with a letter regarding resident parking in central Horsham. – *The Chairman undertook to provide a response outside of the meeting.*

Billingshurst – Natts Lane and Silver Lane Traffic Regulation Order

Unconfirmed minutes – to be confirmed at the next meeting of the North Horsham County Local Committee

43. The CPZ Lead Professional introduced a report by the Director of Highways and Transport and the Service Manager for Transport and Countryside Services (copy appended to the signed minutes) which outlined proposals for further changes to parking Billingshurst, in response to inconsiderate and dangerous parking in the village.

44. The Lead professional highlighted two key themes from the consultation:

- Pay and display parking in Dodds Road, whilst cheaper than the station, remained underutilised. Non-resident permits were also available for street parking. He acknowledged that further promotion of these alternatives was required.
- Further displacement was also highlighted as a risk; however this could be managed through the annual review process, which would enable minor changes to restrictions.

45. The local member (Billingshurst) acknowledged that tackling displaced parking was an ongoing process but supported proposals as these would address dangerous parking, particularly in Natts Lane. She requested that a map of local parking was made available, to encourage uptake of alternative locations. - *The Lead Professional stated that the County Council could work with mobile 'app' providers to include alternative locations for available parking.*

46. Resolved – that the North Horsham County Local Committee authorised the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy to make the traffic regulation order as advertised.

Community Initiative Funding

47. 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.

48. Resolved – that:

a) The following awards are made:

749/HN Billingshurst Community Partnership Ltd, £2,000 towards marquee hire and miscellaneous expenses for Billifest 2015

751/NH Headway West Sussex, £881.69, towards equipment and stationary for the support group.

778/NH, 5th and 10th Horsham Scouts, £2,500, towards the costs of new flooring and groundwork around the scout hut. The award is conditional on the applicant ensuring that the optimal soakaway location is used for the drainage works.

Unconfirmed minutes – to be confirmed at the next meeting of the North Horsham County Local Committee

785/NH, Springboard Project, £5,000 to replace seating and wheelchair lift

b) The following application was deferred

772/NH, Age UK Horsham, £2,500, towards the cost of purchasing two tablets and various staff training costs. Members requested additional information regarding ongoing access to computer equipment and longer-term outcomes for project participants.

Appointment of Authority Governors

49. The Committee considered a report by the Strategic Commissioner for Learning (copy appended to the signed minutes) which set out the criteria for the appointment of authority governors.

50. Resolved – that under the 2012 Regulations, the North Horsham County Local Committee nominate for appointment:

- Mrs H J Chambers to Itchingfield Primary School for a four year term
- Mrs H Oakley to Greenfields Federation for a four year term.

Date of Next Meeting

51. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Monday 14 December 2015 in the Main Conference Room, County Hall North, Horsham.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Chairman