

Unconfirmed minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the North Horsham County Local Committee

## **North Horsham County Local Committee**

23 September 2013– 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 Milson (Horsham Riverside), Mr Rae (Roffey), Mr Sheldon (Tanbridge and Broadbridge Heath), Mr Watson OBE (Chairman and Southwater and Nuthurst).

### **Chairman's Welcome**

41. The Chairman welcomed members of the public to the meeting and paid tribute to the late Mr Hodgson, who had recently died (former County Councillor for Warnham and Rusper). The Chairman informed the meeting that a by-election would be held on 24 October 2013.

42. The Chairman informed members that the Horsham Debt Advice Service had invited all members to its AGM. This was scheduled for 9 October 2013.

### **Declarations of Interest**

43. In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, the following personal interests were declared:

- Mrs Millson as an Associate Governor of QEII School, in relation to the Future of Short Breaks Services
- Mr Sheldon as Chief Executive of Horsham Matters in relation to East Street and Carfax.

### **Minutes**

44. The Committee considered and agreed an amendment to the final bullet point of minute 27 to read 'there was more chance that people would want to use option 2'

45. Resolved –that subject to the amendment in minute 27, the minutes of the North Horsham County Local Committee held on 24 June 2013 are confirmed as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

### **Urgent Matters**

46. None

### **Progress Statement**

47. The Committee had before it a progress statement on matters arising from the previous meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes). Members noted the statement.

48. Dr Dennis expressed his disappointment that Merryfield Drive Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) had not been included on the meeting agenda. - *The*

*Engineering Solutions Manager stated that a number of objections to the scheme had been received and that these required consideration. He assured Dr Dennis that the report would be completed in time for the Meeting on 16 December 2013.*

### **Talk with us – public question time**

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

- A Lower Beeding Parish Councillor presented the Chairman with a petition regarding traffic speed within the Village.
- A member of the public asked a question about the number of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) allowed per CLC per year and the current status of the 20mph TRO for Slinfold. - *The Engineering Solutions Manager explained that each CLC had previously been granted three TROs per year as this number was considered realistic for successful completion and was financially manageable. However, this was currently under review as operational efficiencies would now enable a greater number of TROs to be completed within existing resource. The Chairman added that the Slinfold TRO was included on the Communities Issues list and would be considered, along with all other current schemes, for Infrastructure Planning prioritisation at meeting on 16 December 2013.*
- A member of the public expressed concern regarding the condition of directional signage on the highway, which was frequently obscured by overgrown foliage. – *The Engineering Solutions Manager agreed to feed comments back to the service manager for highways.*
- A representative of the Horsham Cycling Forum requested a progress update on a number of elements of the Horsham Long-term Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) cycle route proposals. – *The Principle Community Officer undertook to provide a written response to the Forum following the meeting.*
- The Chairman of Nuthurst Parish Council stated that, aside from white markings being painted around the potholes, there had been no progress in Church Road, Mannings Heath since the issue had been raised at the 24 June meeting, as at minute 32. – *The Chairman responded that the white markings were evidence that the potholes were on the list for repair and would be dealt with.*

### **Community Policing**

49. The Chairman informed members that Sergeant Iain Macnab was unable to attend owing to operational commitments and had provided the Committee with a written update (Copy appended to signed minutes)

The Committee noted the update.

## **The future of short breaks services for children with complex health needs and disabilities in West Sussex**

50. The Lead Nurse for Children's Continuing Healthcare provided a presentation on the ongoing consultation on future options for Holly Lodge, Horsham and The Cherries, Chichester facilities for short breaks.

51. The consultation sought views as to whether the facilities should be closed or whether an alternative provider could be found to maintain the sites. The consultation was running between 1 July – 4 October. A Consultation Update hand-out, was available at the meeting (copy appended to signed minutes).

The Committee made comments including those that follow. It:

- Queried why all equipment had been removed from Holly Lodge if it had only temporarily been closed. – *The lead nurse responded that the equipment had been removed for safety reasons and would be returned if required.*
- Noted that Holly Lodge occupied the same site as the Queen Elizabeth II (QEII) School and emphasised that the school would be kept for the County Council to enable the School to either manage the facility or to have access to the building if the facility was closed. – *The Lead Nurse responded that the consultation had coincided with a period of considerable structural change within the NHS and ownership of the buildings had changed from the now disbanded Primary Care Trust and had recently transferred to NHS Property Services. At this stage it was uncertain what would happen with the buildings if Holly Lodge did not re-open.*
- Expressed concern that local service users and their families would be disadvantaged by the closure of Holly Lodge as the nearest remaining facility was located in Burgess Hill.
- Sought clarification regarding potential additional providers. – *The Lead Nurse informed members that an additional provider would be required as the NHS was only able to provide services based upon funding availability, and that this had been reduced owing to changes in eligibility. Without the presence of an additional provider it was unclear how Holly Lodge could be retained. Early stage discussions with a potential provider had, unfortunately, not progressed.*
- Queried whether personal budgets were a driver of reducing demand for Holly Lodge. - *The Lead Nurse responded that this was one of a number of reasons. The main reasons for falling occupancy were changes to eligibility criteria, an increase in breaks at home and a shortage of trained nurses.*
- Stated that the Health and Adults Social Care Select Committee (HASC) had previously considered the potential closures and had established a Task and Finish Group to consider ways that the facilities could be retained.

52. The Committee agreed that the Chairman would write a letter to the HASC TFG Chairman to support the work of the TFG and emphasise the following points:

- The importance of retaining a focus on children with complex health needs and maintaining services local to Horsham, if at all possible.

- That the closure of Holly Lodge would mean service users would have to travel further to access facilities, creating additional difficulties for them and their families/carers.
- The importance of practical solutions and effective engagement with potential alternative providers in order to retain Holly Lodge for service users.

### **East Street, Horsham – Experimental Traffic Regulation Order**

53. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Service Operations (copy appended to the signed minutes). The Engineering Solutions Manager introduced the report and outlined the recommendations, Planning Inspector's recommendations following the Public Inquiry.

54. The Committee commented as follows:

- If access was permitted, through approval of the advertised proposals to change the one way section, within the scheme area then eligible drivers would be able to park on double yellow lines in addition to dedicated disabled parking bays and that this may cause safety issues, particularly in Market Square.
- Members queried whether changes to the proposed location of disabled parking bays would be consistent with the Inspectors recommendations – *The Engineering Solutions Manager responded that the Inspector's comments were based on the existing location of the parking bays, rather than approval of those locations per se and that there could therefore be flexibility in the location of the spaces, though moving them further away from their current position could be seen to be making things harder for those with reduced mobility.*
- A number of potential alternative locations for the disabled bays, including behind the Old Town Hall, Talbot Square and Copnall Way were suggested. Members recognised that there would be a number of issues regarding accessibility for all options and requested these were fully explored by officers.
- Members agreed that the Cycling Forum's response to the consultation be considered alongside further work to determine the location of disabled bays.

55. Resolved - that the North Horsham County Local Committee:

- (i) Give permission for the Head of Law and Governance to make the provisions of the experimental TRO permanent; and
- (ii) Rejects the amendment to the permanent one-way TRO in Carfax (eastern leg) and agreed that alternative locations for disabled bays accessible to East Street be explored.
- (iii) Gives permission for the County Council and Horsham District Council to review and look to improve the road surfacing in the immediate vicinity of the disabled bays

## **Holbrook (Horsham) – Proposed Waiting Restrictions**

56. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning and the Service Manager Transport Commissioning and Countryside Management (copy appended to signed minutes). The Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) Lead Professional introduced the report and provided the Committee with further detail regarding consultation responses.

57. The local member (Mr Catchpole, Holbrook), welcomed the report and the incorporation of additional issues raised by local residents in the modified proposals in Option 1.

58. Resolved – that the Head of Law and Governance be authorised to formally advertise the modified proposals, as described by Option 1 and subject to there being no objections after a formal advertisement, bring the Traffic Regulation Order into operation.

## **Billingshurst Parking Review**

59. The CPZ Lead Professional provided an update on the Billingshurst Parking Review. The Committee were informed that the decision would be delayed until the 16 December 2013 meeting, to allow consideration of additional responses to the consultation.

60. The local member (Mrs Jupp, Billingshurst) expressed disappointment with the delay. However, she acknowledged that permission had recently been granted for 475 houses in the local area and that the delay provided an opportunity for the impact of this to be considered in the final proposals.

## **Broadbridge Heath Village Proposed TRO**

61. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Service Operations (copy appended to signed minutes). The Gatwick Diamond Team Manager introduced the report and provided members with further information regarding the consultation responses.

62. The local member (Mr Sheldon, Tanbridge and Broadbridge Heath) supported the recommendations, with the proviso that remaining issues, including those raised by Broadbridge Heath Parish Council during the consultation period, be considered as an element of the West of Horsham development.

63. Resolved – that the Head of Law and Governance be authorised to make the order as advertised.

## **Rusper Road, Horsham – Proposed TRO**

64. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Service Operations (copy appended to signed minutes). The Gatwick Diamond Team Manager introduced the report and invited the Committee to comment on the proposals.

65. The local member (Mr Rae, Roffey) expressed his support for the proposals, as they would ameliorate the impact of displaced parking as a result of the Holbrook waiting restrictions.

66. Resolved – that the Head of Law and Governance be authorised to implement the TRO as advertised.

### **Community Initiative Funding**

67. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Law and Governance (copy appended to the signed minutes), which detailed applications for Community Initiative Funding. The Committee debated the respective merits of the projects for which funding was sought.

68. Resolved - that the following awards are made:

- 96/NH Billingshurst Parish Council, £824, towards new tables and chairs.
- 116/NH Golden Lions Children's Trust, £300, towards charter of the Bluebell Santa Special.
- 123/NH Southwater Neighbour Network, £1931, towards the expansion of the network.

### **Appointment of Authority Governors**

69. The Committee considered a report by Director of Communities Commissioning (copy appended to the signed minutes)

70. Resolved - that the North Horsham County Local Committee make the following appointment and re-appointments:

a) Appointment:

Mr K Banister to Heron Way Primary for a 4 year term

b) Re-appointments:

Mr R. Hatton to Arunside Primary School for a 4 year term

Mrs E McCarthy to Tanbridge House School for a 4 year term

Mr K.P. Eglinton to Holy Trinity C.E. Primary for a 4 year term

### **Date of Next Meeting**

71. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on 16 December 2013 in the Main Conference Room, County Hall North, Horsham.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm