

North Mid Sussex County Local Committee

5 September 2012 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm at Ashurst Wood School.

Present: Christine Field, Member for Lindfield and High Weald (Chairman), Bill Acraman, Member for Worth Forest; Heidi Brunsdon, Member for Imberdown and John O'Brien, Member for East Grinstead South and Ashurst Wood.

Chairman's Welcome

31. Christine Field welcomed all to the meeting and noted apologies from Liz Bennett.

Declaration of Interests

32. Mrs Field declared a personal interest in 1910/NMS as her husband is Chairman of the West Sussex Scouts. Mr O'Brien declared a personal interest in 1914/NMS as he had assisted the group in its fund raising activities in the past. Mrs Brunsdon declared a personal interest in 1911/NMS as members of her family are members of the tennis club.

Minutes

33. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 06 June 2012 were approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

34. There were no urgent matters.

West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Consultation

35. The Committee received a presentation by the Deputy County Fire Officer, Sean Ruth regarding the consultation on saving proposals and risk reduction activities for 2013-14 for the West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (WSFRS) (copy appended to the signed minutes).

36. The Chairman invited comments and questions, responses were as follows:

- Would income generation be sought from any services you currently provide? Mr Ruth explained that the focus would be on the specialist areas of work the Service does. All statutory services would remain free
- Would the proposed changes at Horley put people at risk should a major incident occur at Gatwick Airport? Mr Ruth explained that the current arrangements with Gatwick, to assist when needed, would not change. It was noted that the Airport has its own fire service and that support from WSFRS was part of its emergency plan which would remain. Mr Ruth also explained that Gatwick was a consultee to the consultation
- Would the current subsidy that the County Council makes to Horley, amounting to 1.2m, be withdrawn? Mr Ruth explained that the nationally agreed amount that Surrey pays West Sussex to provide cover in Horley

Town would no longer continue should proposals to withdraw resource from Horley be agreed.

The Chairman invited residents to take consultation documents away to complete or to input into the consultation via the website.

37. The Chairman changed the order of the agenda items while a power point presentation was prepared.

Appointment of Authority Governors

38. The Chairman referred members to the appointment of an Authority Governor as set out in the report by Operations – Learning (copy appended to the signed minutes) and urged people to consider applying for governorships at North Mid Sussex schools.

39. Resolved that Ms E Woodward be appointed as Authority Governor to Halsford Park School for a four year term.

Early Years Education

40. The Committee received a presentation from Claire Judge, Ashurst Wood Pre-School development fund chairman. Ms Judge explained the history and aspirations of the Pre-School. The Chairman invited comments and questions which were as follows:

- The importance of the pre-school to the village and surrounding area was emphasized and concern raised that if the funding target was not reached the children would have to move out of the school to temporary accommodation. Ms Judge explained that the contingency plan was a classroom in the village but it was hoped this would not be necessary.
- It was noted that unfortunately the project did not fit the criteria for Section 106 developer contributions
- Fears were highlighted that the school itself would suffer should the pre school close at 90% of its youngsters went on to join the primary school.

41. The Chairman wished the development fund group well on behalf of the Committee and noted that there was an application from the Group for Community Initiative Funding to be considered later in the meeting.

'talk with us' – Open Forum

42. The Chairman invited questions and comments on items not on the agenda. The following responses were made:

- A date was requested for the monitoring exercise on the recently implemented Traffic Regulation Order at Turners Hill. Mrs Thompson undertook to take the question back and respond outside the meeting. Post meeting note: This has been programmed for Spring 2013 (March to May)
- A date was requested for the implementation of the new parking arrangements arising from the decision on a Controlled Parking Zone for East Grinstead. Mrs Thompson undertook to take the question back and respond

outside the meeting. Post meeting note: The consultants are finishing off the site visits to log what signs/lines will be required and where they need to go. Once this is complete, a check of all the statutory apparatus will be undertaken. Following this, a works order will be submitted to the term contractor. It is appreciated that this is a long process but officers are hopeful of works being underway by the end of 2012. Obviously any lining work will be dependent on the weather as lines can not be put down on a wet surface

Community Initiative Funding

43. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes) which set out four bids for Community Initiative Funding. The Committee considered the merits of the projects for which funding was sought and giving regard to its available funds, agreed to support all the applications. Awards were made as follows:

- 1903/NMS NTC TS Resolution, requested £2,500, towards the purchase of sailing boats. Awarded £2,000.
- 1910/NMS 1st Balcombe Scout Group, requested £7,500 for various itemised costs towards the scout hut renovation project. Awarded £2,000.
- 1911/NMS Balcombe Tennis Club, requested £1,226.40, towards tennis club floor installation. Awarded £1,226.40
- 1914/NMS Ashurst Wood Community Pre-School, requested £2,500, for the purchase of six Velux roof windows. Awarded £2,000.

Urgent Action: Prevention & Wellbeing Grants Application 2012-2013

44. The Committee noted that on 01 August 2012 the Head of Legal Services in consultation with the Chairman of the North Mid Sussex County Local Committee (CLC) used his delegated powers under Standing Order 61 to approve an award of £2,500 to Parkinsons UK. The application for funding was erroneously omitted from the report submitted to the Committee on 14 June.

Date of Next Meeting

45. The Chairman informed all that the next meeting would be held on 05 December 2012 at Glenvue day centre in East Grinstead.

46. The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Chairman