

**North Mid Sussex County Local Committee**

19 March 2014 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm at Copthorne Pavilion, Copthorne Bank

Present: Mrs Brunsdon (Imberdown) Mrs Field (Lindfield and High Weald) (Chairman) and Mr O'Brien, (East Grinstead South and Ashurst Wood).

Apologies: Mr Acraman, (Worth Forest); Mrs Bennett, (East Grinstead Meridian)

**Welcome**

71. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

**Declaration of Interests**

72. None declared at this stage (but see also minute 80).

**Minutes**

73. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

**Progress Statement**

74. The Chairman noted that the Imberhorne Lane Traffic Calming issue remained unresolved and requested that the Principal Community Officer and the Assistant Highways Manager organise a site visit to resolve the issue.

75. Members noted the progress statement.

**Urgent Matters**

76. None

**'talk with us' – Open Forum**

77. The Chairman invited questions and comments on items not on the agenda. The following issues were raised and responses made:-

- A District Councillor expressed concern that Gatwick Airport Limited's schedule of local roadshow presentations regarding its proposals for a second runway did not currently include Copthorne and that concerned local residents would be required to attend a roadshow in Crawley Down, four miles from Copthorne. – The Chairman acknowledged the local significance of a potential second runway and expressed disappointment that Copthorne had been omitted. The member for East Grinstead South stated that Gatwick Airport Limited have held meeting with Parish Councils, if requested. He undertook to raise Copthorne's concerns at a forthcoming meeting at the Airport he would be attending.
- A representative of the East Grinstead Society expressed concern regarding the potential impact of a proposed housing development on traffic sight lines in Dunnings Mill Road and requested that Highways investigate whether the sight lines correspond to the planning application. – The responded that if the specifications had been set in the planning application no further amendments

could be made. The Community Officer undertook to contact Highways to confirm the situation.

- A resident of Blackwell Farm Road stated that the level of traffic and parking had become major local issues as a result of the extension of the school site and requested a local stakeholder meeting, to include the school. – The Chairman requested the Principal Community Officer liaise with the local member (East Grinstead Meridian) in order to organize a local stakeholder meeting to address the issue.
- A West Hoathly Parish Councillor informed the Committee of incorrect parking signage at the edge of the village, which currently directed drivers to a blocked gateway – The Chairman responded that the signage was located in East Sussex and suggested the Parish Council pursue the issue with the relevant officers from that authority.
- A resident of Crossways Avenue, East Grinstead stated that issues relating to displaced parking from the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) continued to worsen and were exacerbated by airport taxis occasionally waiting in local roads for airport pick-ups. He also stated that grasses verges had deteriorated considerably owing to inconsiderate parking. – The Chairman informed the meeting that currently it was hoped that feasibility work for the CPZ Review would begin April 2014, with a letter-drop for all affected residents undertaken in May or June. She emphasized that the widest possible area would be consulted as part of the review process. The local member (Imberdown) requested information regarding which roads would be included, prior to the start of the Review. She also stated that a programme of restitution for affected verges was currently planned, but initiation of works was dependent on the weather. She requested that residents refrain from placing bollards on the verges as these may have to be removed owing to health and safety concerns.

78. The Chairman thanked members of the public for their comments and questions and advised that there was also an opportunity to submit written questions to the Committee in advance of the CLC meetings should anyone wish to do so in future.

### **Community Initiative Funding**

79. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes). The report concerned the Community Initiative Fund (CIF), a County Local Committee administered fund that provided assistance to local community projects.

80. In accordance with the Members register of interests Mr O'Brien declared prejudicial interests as a member of the East Grinstead Business Association's Mural Steering Group and as a Trustee of Chequer Mead Community Arts Centre and left the room for discussion and voting on applications 186/NMS and 300/NMS. Mrs Brunsdon declared a personal interest as she had previously engaged the services of Nathan Dell Landscapes (application 297/NMS).

81. Resolved –

a) that the Committee approves the following applications and amounts:

**292/NMS**, Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall, £2,000, towards costs for the village hall refurbishment/upgrade.

**297/NMS**, The Friends of St Peter's, £2,000, towards the costs of updating a children's play area.

**298/NMS**, Tadpoles Swimming Club for the Disabled, £1,000, towards removal, storage, maintenance and re-installation of specialist equipment during a forthcoming leisure centre refurbishment.

**300/NMS**, Chequer Mead Community Arts Centre, £3,368.90, towards the reupholstering of auditorium seating.

b) The following applications were declined

**186/NMS** East Grinstead Business Association, £2,500, towards the cost of a mural – as the mural would be placed on privately owned property.

**323/NMS**, Wealden Bus Alliance CIC, £500, free bus travel East Grinstead Station to Ashdown Forest x 4, plus printing – as a bus service followed the same route and would provide free travel for those holding bus passes. The Committee invited the applicant to reapply with a reconfigured scheme.

### **Appointment of Authority Governors**

82. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Learning (copy appended to signed minutes) that set out proposed nominations to school governing bodies and the criteria for their appointment. The Chairman urged local people to consider applying for governorships at North Mid Sussex schools, particularly secondary schools.

83. Resolved – that Canon JK Peaty be reappointed to Estcots Primary School under the 2007 regulations for a four year term.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

84. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 9 July at the Glen Vue Centre, East Grinstead.

The meeting closed at 8.10.

Chairman