

Unconfirmed minutes – subject to change until confirmed at the next meeting.

North Mid Sussex County Local Committee

9 July 2014 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm at Glen Vue Centre, East Grinstead.

Present: Mr Acraman, Member for Worth Forest; Mrs Bennett, Member for East Grinstead Meridian; Mrs Field, Member for Lindfield and High Weald (Chairman) and Mr O'Brien, Member for East Grinstead South and Ashurst Wood.

Welcome

01. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Mrs Brunsdon, Member for Imberdown.

Election of Chairman

02. Mrs Field was elected Chairman of the Committee for the Municipal Year 2014/5.

Declaration of Interests

03. No interests were declared.

Minutes

04. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

05. The Committee had before it a progress statement on matters arising from the previous meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes). Comment/queries were as follows:

- Mrs Bennett stated that she had attended a very constructive meeting in relation to Blackwell Farm Road and that further meetings were planned.
- In relation to East Grinstead Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) the Chairman agreed to deal with this at agenda item 7 'talk with us' as she was aware that a number of residents in attendance had questions on this subject.
- Mr O'Brien added an update about West Street and issues with traffic mounting the pavement near the library. He stated that options were being looked into and it was felt that this should be dealt with alongside any proposed development at Queens Walk.

'talk with us' – Open Forum

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

- A Parish Councillor from Turners Hill raised the issue of replacement of bollards outside the Fire Station in the village. Mr Acraman apologised for the delay and confusion around this issue and confirmed that he had received confirmation from the Area Highways Manager that this will now go ahead as planned.

- A representative of the East Grinstead Society requested confirmation in relation to his question at the last meeting regarding the potential impact of a proposed housing development on traffic sight lines in Dunnings Mill Road. Mrs Field confirmed that highways have confirmed that the site lines comply with legislation but it would be for the planning authority, Mid Sussex District Council, to ensure that they are as per the planning application. The Chairman asked those District Council Members present to take this forward.
- A representative from East Grinstead Museum asked why a Community Initiative Fund application they had submitted had been deferred until the next meeting. The Chairman explained that the general guideline is for applications to be received a month prior to the CLC meeting for Members to review at the pre agenda meeting. However on this occasion both the date of the meeting and the pre meeting were rearranged and unfortunately the application was not received in time for Members to review. The Chairman understood the frustrations of the applicant but stated that they have to have a process but that she would raise this issue with her fellow CLC Chairmen.
- A number of residents raised parking problems in many areas of East Grinstead. The Principal Community Officer provided an update on the East Grinstead Controlled Parking Zone review and stated that the review was going ahead but with a slight delay. A consultant had been appointed and it was expected that a letter drop would start in mid-August and an informal consultation period would then run for 4 or 5 weeks. Following on from that a formal consultation would take place and the whole process to decision point can take up to a year.
- Some residents raised concern that the process should take so long but Members and the Principal Community Officer stated that the process needed to be thorough.
- Some residents raised concerns about inconsiderate parking in the Garden Wood Road area. Members advised that such situations should be reported to the police as they are empowered to deal with obstructions and if aware of a problem can target areas for enforcement. It was also suggested that local residents discuss issues with the local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) as in other areas this has resulted in some positive change. The PCSO was present at the meeting and residents were urged to initiate contact after the meeting.
- An update on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order for Charlwoods Road Industrial Estate was requested. Mrs Bennett confirmed that it had been a long process but it was now being progressed and traffic engineers were working on a solution.
- A resident asked if the drain on the B2110 Turners Hill Road as it approached Imberhorne Lane, could be cleared as it has been leaking for some time. Mr O'Brien confirmed that this had been reported to highways.
- A resident expressed concern that after being resurfaced very recently, Park Road was now due to have works undertaken by a water company. Members were not aware of this and asked the Principal Community Officer to look into whether this was the case and if it would involve digging up the road. The Officer agreed to raise this with WSCC Highways.
- A resident highlighted the issue of the misuse of mini roundabouts and that some mini roundabouts are worn away. The Principal Community Officer stated that enforcement was an issue for the Police and if the resident was aware of problems with specific roundabouts they should raise this with the Police. With regard to worn surfaces the County Council policy is to replace or renew if 50% or more is faded and if they are aware of any specific

roundabouts they should inform the County Council via their Highways department.

Fire and Rescue Consultation

07. The Committee considered a report by the Deputy Chief Fire Officer which outlined the consultation on the future of the Fire and Rescue Service and provided detailed information regarding the potential impacts on the North Mid Sussex area (copy appended to the signed minutes).

08. The Area Manager introduced the report and emphasised the importance of people responding to the consultation, which was available online at www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire . Paper copies were also available, if required.

09. Members asked a number of questions and comments, including those set out below:

- It was confirmed that Gatwick Airport have their own Fire and Rescue Service for initial response but this is supported by West Sussex Fire and rescue Services as well as neighboring authorities.
- Retained crews will be maintained at current levels.
- Crew levels for 4x4 vehicles is a minimum of 2 compared to a Fire Engine that is 4 so if a 4x4 is the second appliance it can generally get to incidents quicker as it requires less retained crew to be available.

Prevention and Wellbeing Grants

10. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Public Health, Commissioning for Health and Social Care (copy appended to the signed minutes) which outlined the funding available for the CLC and the current applications for consideration.

11. Resolved – that the Committee considered the grants for 2014/15 and allocate funding as follows:

a). The following applications were approved:

TL031 4Sight £607
TB11 Bluebird Community Transport £1,500
TB26 Crawley Down Monday Club £700
JP005 Cruse West Sussex £360
TB17 Disability Access East Grinstead £1,500
TB01 SASBAH £250
DC008 St Catherine's Hospice £750
JP025 The Life Centre £100

b). The following applications were declined:

CO003 Action for Deafness. Members supported the organisation but the application does not fit the criteria for these grants.
TB31 Haywards Heath Prostate Cancer Support Group. Members stated that this service is already provided by Macmillan in the local area.

TB30 In Safe and Caring Hands. This service duplicates a County Council contracted service.

DC003 Parkinsons Crawley and East Grinstead Branch. Members felt this service should have the support of the local Clinical Commissioning Group.

TB07 The Circle Club (Turners Hill Day Centre). Members felt this was a very expensive service that did not support many people.

DC002 West Sussex Parent Carer Forum £1,000. Members felt this paying for a volunteer coordinator did not fit the criteria for these grants.

Appointment of Authority Governors

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

13. Resolved – that the North Mid Sussex County Local Committee make the following reappointments:

- DR SJ Squires to Sackville School for a four year term
- Mrs S Fennings to Blackwell Primary School for a four year term

14. The Chairman highlighted the list of vacancies for Authority School Governors and urged anyone interested to contact their local County Councillor.

15. Mrs Bennett also highlighted the need for more school crossing patrols.

Date of Next Meeting

16. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 8 October 2014, 7.00pm at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 8.45.

Chairman