

North Mid Sussex County Local Committee

3 July 2013 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm at Imberhorne School, East Grinstead.

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

Welcome

1. The Democratic Services Officer welcomed all to the meeting and introduced members of the Committee and officers present.

Election of Chairman

2. Resolved – That the Committee elects Mrs Field as Chairman of the North Mid Sussex County Local Committee for the 2013/14 municipal year.

Declaration of Interests

3. No interests were declared.

Minutes

4. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2013 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Committee Terms of Reference

5. Resolved – That the Committee notes its terms of reference (copy attached to the signed minutes).

'talk with us' – Open Forum

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

- Lyn Brough, Chairman of the West Hoathly Parish Council Highways and Transport Committee addressed the Committee regarding potential highway safety improvements on the C319 through the parish. She said that the Parish Council was encouraged that the CLC had included an agenda item to discuss the highways issues in the parish, however was disappointed that the report concerning its request for a ban/restriction of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) along the C319 was recommending that the proposal should not be supported. She made comments and raised questions on a number of sections of the report including:-
 - Whether it was appropriate to apply the County Council's 'Living with the Lorry' policy to the C319.
 - Suggested that the erosion/damage to footways, roads and verges could only be created by the tyres used on HGV trailers.

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- Questioned why the Parish Council's report was not included as a background paper to the report.
- That the key issue was to address the volume and speed of traffic through the village.

The Chairman agreed that the specific questions raised would be responded to by members and officers as appropriate under the specific agenda item.

- Another Parish Council representative thanked the County Council for producing the report. He commented that it appeared to be difficult to achieve the minimum score required under the 'Living with the Lorry' policy for the progression of an HGV restriction, but hoped that the Committee would support the Parish Council's request nevertheless.
- A Sharphorne resident commented that there were a large number of agricultural vehicle movements through the village of West Hoathly and that tractor trailer tyres were almost as large as those of HGV trailers and were therefore quite likely to have caused some of the damage to the grass verges.
- A resident of Hurst Farm Road in East Grinstead asked for an update on the implementation of the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ). Mr O'Brien advised that he had been in contact with the CPZ Team and it was anticipated that residents would be receiving letters informing them of the forthcoming implementation very shortly.

7. 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.

Prevention & Wellbeing Grants 2013/14

8. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Public Health (copy attached to the signed minutes). The report set out the prevention & wellbeing commissioning objectives for 2013 along with the Prevention and Wellbeing Grant applications received for 2013/14. It also identified how the grants were spent in 2012/13. Grants are awarded annually on merit in relation to the application and awarding criteria. The criteria reflect countywide and service area objectives, as well as specific local needs.

9. Each County Local Committee (CLC) was allocated budget in proportion to the adult population in each area based upon information gained from the 2011 Census.

10. The Committee discussed the applications and raised a number of points that Terina Bryant, Voluntary Sector Liaison Officer for the County Council agreed to feed back to the organisations concerned.

11. The Chairman advised that any remaining funds would be returned to the central Prevention and Wellbeing Commissioning fund and would be used to fund other projects following the same criteria. The remaining funds from the previous year were put towards winter isolation payments.

12. Resolved - That the North Mid Sussex County Local Committee considered the Prevention and Wellbeing Grant applications as set out in Appendix C and:-
(i) Allocated funding as follows:-

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- 4 Sight (Ref: TL047) - £500
- Crawley Down Monday Club (Ref: TB30) - £700
- Cruse West Sussex Area (Ref: DR030) - £380
- Headway (Ref: TL008) - £384.61
- Lifecentre (Ref: DN16) - £100
- PBC Foundation (Ref: TL048) - £48.24
- SASBAH (Ref: TB05) - £250
- Worth Abbey Day Centre (Ref: TB01) - £2,500

(ii) Declined the following application:-

- In Safe and Caring Hands Limited (Ref: BB0017) - £300 as the Committee was unsure about the research elements of the application and considered that the charge for phone calls was high. The County Council has also recently awarded a contract to the WRVS for a similar service in this area.

Progress Statement

13. The Committee considered a report containing brief updates on matters arising from the last meeting and statements of progress made on other issues pertinent to North Mid Sussex (copy attached to the signed minutes).

14. Robert Rhodes-Kubiak, Principal Community Officer (PCO), provided a brief update on the Committee's Infrastructure Plan priorities:-

- **West Street, East Grinstead** – Working with Engineering Solutions Team. Next stage will involve further discussion on options which should include the member for Imberdown as the proposals may have a spillover effect into her area.
- **Bus Station Improvements, East Grinstead** – Consultants have produced designs, and we are expecting further information shortly. We have also been working to incorporate the steps to and from the footbridge at the station if at all possible, with feasibility studies being carried out and discussions are ongoing.
- **Hophurst Lane, Crawley Down, Pedestrian Crossing** – Scheme programmed for near future.
- **West Hoathly, Junction Improvements at Vinols Cross** – Meeting held with Parish Council and Project Manager. Still in design as this was put into the programme as a replacement scheme at a later stage. We hope to see some progress in the next month or so.

15. It was reported that the vegetation on Imberhorne Lane and Vowels Lane had been cut back and that the pot hole on the B2110 had been repaired but had since reappeared. The Principal Community Officer agreed to follow this up.

16. It was noted that the resurfacing of Imberhorne Lane and Garden Wood Road and the access for pedestrian/cyclists on Railway Approach had recently been completed and that the replacement cats eyes and double white centre line along Turners Hill Road were now in place.

17. Resolved – That the Committee notes the report.

Highways Issues in West Hoathly

Potential Highways Safety Improvements in the parish of West Hoathly.

18. The Principal Community Officer introduced this item. He advised that a long meeting had been held with West Hoathly Parish Council which had looked at the C319 through the parish section by section to look at opportunities for potential improvements if funding were to become available. The types of measures considered included village gateways and flower planters. Other options could include removing signs/lines to influence driving habits. The discussions at the meeting were subsequently put in writing to the Parish Council.

19. The Chairman advised that a number of initiatives had been flagged by the Traffic Consultants engaged by the Parish Council and she concurred that the level of traffic had increased steadily since the introduction of traffic lights on the A22 as the route had now become a useful route for people travelling to and from work. She confirmed that any proposals would need to be considered alongside other proposed schemes across the CLC area as part of the Committee's Infrastructure Planning process.

20. Members considered the issues raised. They supported the principle of influencing driving habits/behaviour and considered shared space an interesting concept. They agreed that the lack of enforcement by the Police was an issue.

21. Resolved - That the Committee notes the issues and concerns raised and that the Principal Community Officer continues to work with the Parish Council and local member on proposals to put forward for the Community Issues List for future consideration by the Committee.

Application by West Hoathly Parish Council for a Traffic Regulation Order to ban HGVs from using the C319 through the parish

22. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Service Operations and Head of Highways and Transport (copy attached to the signed minutes). The report was produced in response to a request for a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) restricting HGVs along the C319 in West Hoathly.

23. The Principal Community Officer introduced the report. He advised that the report by the Parish Council had been shared with the Traffic Engineers and local member. He confirmed that the Traffic Engineers had advised that the 'Living with the Lorry' policy needed to be applied.

24. The Committee discussed solutions/improvements, however agreed that they could not support the request for a TRO to ban/restrict HGVs as it did not meet the criteria and was unlikely to be enforced by the Police.

25. Resolved – That the Committee agrees that this request for a Traffic Regulation Order to restrict the use of HGVs on the C319 through the parish of West Hoathly is not supported on the grounds outlined in the report.

Traffic Regulation Order Priorities 2013/14

26. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning (copy attached to the signed minutes). The report outlined the arrangements for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and asked the Committee to identify the three highest priority schemes for North Mid Sussex in 2013/14.
27. Resolved – That the Committee approves the priority order for implementing Traffic Regulation Orders within the CLC area for 2013/14 as follows:-

The following TROs to be combined:-

- (1) **NMS1031:** Lancaster Drive, Lynton Park Avenue, Oakfield, East Grinstead – Waiting Restrictions; and
NMS1002: Hoskins Place, East Grinstead – Waiting Restrictions.
- (2) **NMS1032:** Lowdells Lane (nr. Baldwin Hill Primary School), East Grinstead - Waiting restrictions; and
NMS1033: Windmill Lane and Manning Close, East Grinstead – Waiting Restrictions.

Community Initiative Funding

28. 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.

29. Resolved –

- (i) That the Committee approves the following application:-
 - **28/NMS East Grinstead and District Association for Mental Health, £800**, towards developing a website, printing brochures and the purchase of self-help books.
- (ii) The following application was withdrawn by the applicant as the organisation had successfully secured funding for the project from another source:-
 - **40/NMS West Hoathly Bowls Club, £1,920** towards the acquisition and installation of a defibrillator.

Appointment of Authority Governors

30. 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. Members of the Committee urged local people to consider applying for governorships at North Mid Sussex schools.

31. Resolved –

- (1) That the following appointments be approved:-

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- Mr J.E. Sachon to Grenstede Federation for a 4 year term.
 - Mr M.G.M. Fairall to Sackville School for a 4 year term.
- (2) The following appointment was approved subject to written approval from the School's Chair of Governors and Headteacher.
- Mrs A.D. Easton to The Meads Primary School for a 4 year term.

Date of Next Meeting

32. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 9 October 2013 at 7pm at Turners Hill Primary School.
33. The meeting closed at 8.53pm.

Chairman