

North Mid Sussex County Local Committee

9 October 2013 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm at Turners Hill Primary School, Turners Hill.

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

Apologies: Mr Acraman, Member for Worth Forest

Welcome

34. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

Declaration of Interests

35. No interests were declared.

Minutes

36. The Chairman informed members that the pothole on the B2110 (minute 15) had now been repaired and that Mrs A.D. Easton had been confirmed as an Authority Governor for The Meads Primary School following written approach from the Chair of Governors and Head Teacher (minute 31).

37. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2013 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

38. None

'talk with us' – Open Forum

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

- The Chairman of Turners Hill Parish Council spoke in support of the Turners Hill scheme as a priority on the Community Issues List (Agenda Item 6) emphasising its importance in ensuring a safe and accessible community space for the village. - The Chairman agreed that the Committee would consider the comments when determining its Infrastructure Plan priorities.
- A resident of Imberhorne Lane sought traffic calming measures owing to existing and future levels of traffic, exacerbated by ongoing housing development. - The Member for Imberhorne stated that the County Council had adopted a proactive approach to tackling this issue and work was ongoing with the Residents Association. A meeting with stakeholders was currently being planned to address these issues for all locally affected roads.
- A West Hoathly Parish Councillor stated that whilst he accepted the Committee's reasons for declining the TRO to restrict HGVs on the C319 at its July meeting he updated the meeting of subsequent local work. This had led to outline ideas to improve safety on the C319 discussed between West Sussex County Council and the Parish Council, with suggested complimentary

soft and hard landscaping features to discourage speeding and cut-through journeys which might be progressed if funding could be identified. - The Chairman agreed that the Committee would consider the comments when determining its Infrastructure Plan priorities.

- A Mid Sussex District Councillor for Copthorne and Worth questioned the accuracy of the assessment data leading to the recommendation to withdraw the Copthorne Bank HGV restrictions. - The Principal Community Officer confirmed that, as with all Committee reports, a rigorous process of internal checks had been applied to the data and conclusions prior to publication, but undertook to contact the officers if members had any concerns regarding the data.
- A resident of Crossways Avenue, East Grinstead stated that displaced, on-street parking and the resultant obstruction of driveways was increasingly a problem following the recent expansion of the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ). - The Chairman responded that the CPZ would be reviewed after six months and that the local Member for Imberhorne had recently discussed the impact of the CPZ on affected roads with senior officers. It had been agreed that residents in affected areas would be contacted during the review process to ensure their concerns were included.
- A resident of the Meadow Court retirement flats, East Grinstead, stated that parking for visitors and care providers was often difficult owing to limited off-street parking. The issue was compounded by parking restrictions, particularly for residents who were unable to walk any distance to their vehicles. - The Member for East Grinstead Meridian responded that she was aware of this issue and was currently working with County Council officers to explore options to increase on-road parking.
- A member of the public thanked the Committee for the recently laid yellow lines at various locations around Copthorne but queried the length of the lines at the Junior School and in Calluna Drive. - The Principal Community Officer asked the resident to contact him and the local Member for Ashurst Wood to discuss this issue.

40. 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.

Local Infrastructure Plan

41. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities and Infrastructure (copy appended to signed minutes) which provided information on the local highways and transport priorities identified in the Local Infrastructure Plan for North Mid Sussex. The Committee's attention was drawn to Appendix A which set out a shortlist selected by the Members of potential new Infrastructure Priorities for the North Mid Sussex area. The Committee would be asked to collectively agree two priorities for implementation between 2016/17 and 2017/18.

42. The Chairman invited comments from the Committee, which included:

- Members acknowledged that owing to the complexity of the individual schemes it would not be possible to merge the C319 items (10. & 16.).
- Members considered and agreed the inclusion of an additional scheme to the Community Issues List, concerning accessibility enhancements to the East Grinstead Railway Station footsteps.

- Members acknowledged the importance of the Vicarage Road, Hophurst Lane and Sandy Lane scheme (7.), but agreed that that as this was a complex junction further development work was required and therefore agreed that it should remain on the Community Issues List.
- Members noted that the land behind Crawley Down Village School (2.) was owned by Mid Sussex District Council and agreed to remove the scheme from the Community Issues List and request that the District Council undertakes the work.

43. The Chairman stated that projects on the shortlist that were not selected by the Committee on this occasion would remain on the Community Issues List and could be implemented in the future through other routes such as S106 funding, if available.

44. Resolved that -

1. That the following two new highways and transport priorities be selected and approved:
 - a) Turners Hill traffic management. – A consultant has identified a range of proposals to enhance safety including turning the crossroads into a roundabout, introducing a 20mph zone and stopping up East Street outside the pub.
 - b) Safety concerns on the C319 through West Hoathly – A range of proposals that could enhance safety and include shared space, road narrowing and encouraging residents to emphasise that the road is residential, rather than a cut-through.

That the following scheme should be progressed through S106 funding, as this becomes available.

Imberhorne Lane: request for traffic calming which has emerged from discussions with residents as part of local development. This would be expanded to include other roads in the area such as Garden Wood Road.

2. That further schemes in the Community Issues List be progressed if:
 - (a) There is local member and community support and
 - (b) Either the County Council can deliver such schemes without detriment to the agreed priorities in the Infrastructure Plan or there is an alternative means of delivering them and where S.106 or alternative funding is available.
3. That progress with the IP priorities and any scheme developed in the Community Issues List be reported to the CLC at least annually.

Copthorne Bank, Copthorne – Proposed Traffic Regulation Order to Prohibit HGVs.

45. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Service Operations and the Head of Highways and Transport (copy appended to signed minutes). The Principal Community Officer explained why Copthorne Bank did not meet the 'Living with the Lorry' criteria.

46. The Member for East Grinstead South and Ashurst Wood informed members that in order to progress the TRO if it did not meet the criteria, the agreement of the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport would be required. The Cabinet Member had previously indicated he would not support any exceptions to the criteria.

47. The Chairman stated that the Committee had declined a similar TRO at its July meeting as it did not meet the criteria and emphasised the importance of a consistent approach. She also informed members that the local member (Worth Forest) reluctantly supported its withdrawal.

48. Resolved - That the Committee, having regard to the current County Council policy on HGV controls "Living with the Lorry" and the assessment result for this proposal, authorises that the proposed TRO be withdrawn.

Community Initiative Funding

49. 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.

50. Members noted that they had previously agreed to set an upper limit of £2,500 for individual awards and agreed to apply this restriction to the current applications.

51. Resolved - that the Committee approves the following applications: -

- **86/NMS, Example, £2,327**, towards the East Grinstead Subway project.
- **105/NMS, Crawley Down Christmas Lights Association, £650**, towards the 2013 Christmas Lights Display
- **120/NMS, Opportunity Playgroup, £2,500**, towards internal redecoration.

Appointment of Authority Governors

52. 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.

53. The Chairman informed members that the local member for Worth Forest had indicated his support for Mr P. Murdie's application.

54. Resolved –

That the following appointments be approved: -

- Mr P. Murdie to Fairway Infant School for a four year term
- Mrs M. Osivwemu to Grenstede Federation for a four year term
- Mr E.J. Vermeer to The Meads Primary School for a four year term.

Date of Next Meeting

55. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 22 January 2014 at the Glen Vue Centre, Railway Approach, East Grinstead.

The meeting closed at 8.45.

Chairman