

South Chichester County Local Committee

3 December 2013 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm in Committee Room 3, County Hall, Chichester.

Present: Louise Goldsmith (Chichester West), Jeremy Hunt (Vice Chairman and Chichester North), Sandra James (Bourne), Pieter Montyn (The Witterings), Simon Oakley (Chichester East), Bernard Smith (Selsey) and Margaret Whitehead (Chairman and Chichester South).

Welcome and Introductions

46. The Chairman welcomed members of the public to the meeting.

Declaration of Interests

47. Mr Oakley declared a personal interest as a member of Tangmere Parish Council. Ms James declared a personal interest as a member of Chidham Parish Council. There were no other interests declared.

Minutes

48. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2013 were approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman, subject to the following change:

- In paragraph 37, the first bullet point, the second sentence be re-worded to "The resident was encouraged to participate in the development of Tangmere's Neighbourhood Plan with Tangmere Parish Council".

Urgent Matters

49. None.

Winter Maintenance Service Plans

50. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning (copy appended to the signed minutes). Ms Tracey Webb, Principal Community Officer, introduced the report which provided an update on the Winter Maintenance Service Plan which set out the operational strategy for keeping carriageways (roads), footways (paths) and cycleways (cycle paths) safe and passable during winter. It detailed the aims, preparation and quality assurance of the service.

51. The Chairman invited comments from the Committee which included:

- A request for Chidham School to be gritted from the main road (A259) up to the school. The Committee was informed that all schools had been contacted by the County Council regarding their gritting requirements prior to the winter. The Principal Community Officer would confirm what had been agreed with regards to the school.
- A request for information on how or whether local contractors could be asked to grit roads that were not on the gritting schedule, and how this could be

funded. The Committee were informed that all the roads which would be gritted this winter (2013/14) had been agreed in consultation with Parish and Town Councils. However, if any changes were required, Parish and Town Councils could discuss this with officers for the following winter (2014/15).

52. Resolved that - South Chichester County Local Committee note the Winter Maintenance Services Plans update.

Operation Watershed

53. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Service Operations (copy appended to the signed minutes). Ms Tracey Webb, Principal Community Officer, introduced the report which provided a briefing on Operation Watershed and an update on some projects in the South Chichester area to tackle problems caused by flooding and to help communities become prepared for floods.

54. The Chairman invited comments from the Committee which included:

- Recognition of the quick response by the County Council to the flooding, and praise for the community response and willingness to work together with the County Council to solve problems.
- In many areas, drainage infrastructure needed to be restored rather than replaced.
- A request for information on the flooding at the B2201 by the Old Vicarage/Manor Farm. The Principal Community Officer would investigate this.
- Noted that the report for the meeting contained only a selection of schemes, and others were in progress. There was also a request for more technical support to progress schemes more quickly.

55. Resolved that - South Chichester County Local Committee note the briefing on Operation Watershed.

Infrastructure Plan: Update on 20's Plenty for Westbourne.

56. The Committee received a verbal update from Ms Tracey Webb, Principal Community Officer, on progress with the current Infrastructure Plan priority of 20's Plenty for Westbourne.

57. It was reported that:

- The scheme had been identified by the CLC as one of its Infrastructure Plan priorities at the meeting in February 2012.
- A petition campaigning for 20's Plenty in Westbourne was received at the CLC meeting on 26 February 2013, and following this officers met with the campaigners to discuss options.
- A traffic survey was undertaken to identify average speeds within the proposed scope of the scheme.
- It was also identified that there were benefits to improving the street environment around Westbourne Primary School, which would be explored with the school through the School Travel Advisor as part of Safer Routes to School.
- The campaigners had engaged with Westbourne Parish Council and the local member regarding the new proposed scope of the scheme.

- The next steps included identifying the content of the Safer Routes to School scheme for Westbourne School and engaging with residents regarding the proposed 20mph speed limit scheme and identifying the level of community commitment, which was essential for a scheme of this nature.

58. Resolved that - South Chichester County Local Committee note the update on 20's Plenty for Westbourne.

Progress Statement

59. The Committee noted the report (copy appended to the signed minutes).

talk with us (Open Forum)

60. The Chairman invited questions and comments from residents in attendance which included:

- Mr Geoff King, Chair of the Whyke Residents Association, asked the Committee what the highway options were for alleviating the dangers to pedestrians when crossing the Bognor Road at the Co-op/Pets Corner stores. Suggestions from Mr King included a lighted pedestrian crossing, increased lighting, improved car parking, cutting back hedges and vegetation, and increased signage. The Chairman asked the Principal Community Officer investigate the issue and report back to the local Members. Mr Montyn, in his capacity as Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, reported that he would also ensure that officers investigated the issue.
- Mr Mike Hall, local resident, requested a further update on the petition requesting a lower speed limit at Halnaker.
- Mr Trevor Tupper, a resident of Brampton Court asked whether the County Council could contact Network Rail regarding the gritting of the Stockbridge Road crossing. The Principal Community Officer agreed to contact Network Rail.
- Councillor Potter of Boxgrove Parish Council, reported that the 30mph speed limit signs in Lavant Valley were faded and possibly therefore unenforceable. The Principal Community Officer agreed to investigate this.
- Mr Mark Hooper, representing the landowners at Chichester Food Park, requested improvements to the cycle/pedestrian/equestrian paths and crossings around Runcton and the Bognor footbridge. He did not feel the existing network of bridleways and footways was sufficient, connected or well maintained. He would like to reduce the number of pedestrians using Vinnetrow Road. Traffic calming was also required. The issue was complicated as some of the land required was owned by the business park and some by the County Council. It was noted that some S106 funding was available, although it was not sufficient to fund new paths or crossings. The Committee noted the issues raised by Mr Hooper and Mr Montyn, in his capacity as Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, agreed to investigate the matter with officers and meet Mr Hooper.

61. The Committee was presented with a petition on behalf of Boxgrove Parish Council requesting a school safety zone in The Street, Boxgrove, fronting Boxgrove CofE Primary School. The Chairman accepted the petition and reported that a written response would be provided.

Community Initiative Funding

62. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Law and Governance (copy appended to the signed minutes) which detailed applications for Community Initiative Funding. The Committee debated the respective merits of the projects for which funding was sought.

63. Resolved that -

a) The following awards were made:

- 38/SC The Richmond Fellowship, £1,000, towards a mosaic for the Westgate Centre.
- 155/SC Biking Belles, £4,000, towards hire of Goodwood Motor Circuit for a charity event which encourages women to cycle and will also raise money for Ovarian Cancer Action.
- 157/SC Arts Dream Selsey, £2,100, towards employing professional artists to run arts and sound installation workshops for young people with the emphasis on the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War.
- 170/SC Friends of Chartres, £900, towards the hire of artists, materials and venue to provide workshops for local school children. The Committee noted that the applicant had received funding in previous years and should be advised that CIF was not intended to provide repeat funding for annual events.
- 173/SC Selsey Cricket Club, £1,500, towards a tribute exhibition to Patrick Moore's involvement with the club.

b) The following application was declined :

- 168/SC Unity Arts Trust, £12,775, towards the hire of arts professionals and exhibition space. The application was declined as the Committee did not feel that a large number of people or the wider community would benefit should funding have been awarded.

Appointment of Authority School Governors

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

65. Resolved – that the South Chichester County Local Committee make the following appointments and reappointments:

a) Appointments:

Mrs Clare Goldfarb to Southbourne Infant School for a 4 year term.

Mrs Rosemary Savage to Boxgrove CE Primary School for a 4 year term.

Mrs A Johnson to Funtington Primary School for a 4 year term.

Mrs Joanne Carpenter to Funtington Primary School for a 4 year term.

Mrs Lesley Caroline Handford to West Wittering Parochial School for a 4 year term.

b) Re-appointments:

Mr J T Southgate to Bourne Community College for a 4 year term
Mrs MJ Veltom to Westbourne Primary School for a 4 year term.

c) Deferred:

Ms Linda Reeves to Southbourne Infant School for a 4 year term.

Date of Next Meeting

66. The Chairman reported that the next meeting would be held on 4 March 2014 in Committee Room 3 at County Hall, Chichester.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Chairman