

South Chichester County Local Committee

12 July 2011 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm at Jessie Younghusband Primary School, Woodlands Lane, Chichester.

Present: Mr M.N. Hall (Chairman), Ms. Goldsmith, Mr Montyn and Mr Jones.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A.R.H. Smith, Mrs Whitehead (Vice Chairman) and Mr T.M.E. Dunn.

Chairman's Welcome

30. The Chairman welcomed the public and representatives from the District, Town and Parish Councils to the meeting. The Chairman introduced Ms Tracey Webb, Principal Community Highway Officer, who would be attending meetings of the Committee in future to provide advice on highway and local community matters and Mr Mike Elkington, Strategic Planning Manager, for item 7 of the agenda.

Declarations of Interest

31. There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

32. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2011 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

33. In reference to minute 25 of the previous meeting in which the Committee had deferred its decision on whether to merge the Parish Initiative Fund with the Community Initiative Fund, it was reported that this matter would be considered when the Committee next received applications for funding. No applications had been received for the meeting on 12 July 2011.

Urgent Matters

34. There were no urgent matters.

Part II Matters

35. There were no requests for any items to be brought into Part II.

Chairman's Update and Progress Statement

36. The Committee considered the Progress Statement (agenda item 6, copy appended to the signed minutes). The Chairman asked the Principal Community Highway Officer to investigate the following in response to updates provided by members of the public in attendance:

- Access to Stockbridge Road was still not safe, was blocked with plants and there were no signs to indicate how to cross the road,
- The question from Selsey Town Council on whether S106 contributions could be used to fund mobile or semi-permanent traffic signs had not been answered fully.

West Sussex Waste Plan and shortlist of Strategic Waste Sites

37. The Committee considered a report (agenda item 7) from the Strategic Planning Manager (copy appended to the signed minutes) regarding the West Sussex Waste Plan. The Strategic Planning Manager introduced the report and in response to questions from the Committee and the public, reported that:

- Technical work was still being carried out on the Fuel Depot site in Bognor Road, Chichester and no decisions would be made regarding the site until later this year. The site was contaminated, and would need to be decontaminated in order to proceed. This would be responsibility of the owner of the site should they wish to use it for waste,
- District and Borough Councils in West Sussex were being consulted regarding the sites. Chichester District Council were not thought to be considering the Fuel Depot site as a Park and Ride any longer,
- The Fuel Depot site could potentially be used to provide energy from commercial and industrial waste. It would be housed in a large shed which could require a chimney stack for emitting steam. However, it was stressed that the site would not be used for handling municipal waste or the incineration of municipal waste,
- More sites were needed in West Sussex to recycle commercial and industrial waste in order for the county to send zero waste to landfill by 2031,
- The Highways Agency would not permit a direct link from the A27 to the Fuel Depot site. If the site did go forward, routes for vehicles visiting the site would be investigated and there could be a legal routing agreement,
- The County Council's role as the planning authority was to enable private companies to bring sites forward. It was noted that South Downs National Park Authority was the planning authority for the South Downs and the County Council was the planning authority for the areas in West Sussex not included in the National Park,
- The County Council would have a duty to cooperate with neighbouring local authorities,
- Fears of a spoilt view if there were large sheds and a chimney stack were noted. However, it was stressed that at this stage the Fuel Depot site had only been identified as a potential location. Detailed work had not yet been carried out, but the County Council was conscious of the location and need for decontamination. Such matters would be considered as part of any future application. An environmental permit from the Environment Agency would control what could be emitted from a chimney,
- If the Fuel Depot site was not taken forward, there would a need to ensure there were sufficient sites and capacity across the county.

38. Selsey Town Council reported that the town would like to be more involved in the recycling of municipal waste. It was suggested that the Town Council contact Chichester District Council.

39. Resolved – That the Committee informs the Select Committee Task Force and the Deputy Leader with portfolio Communities, Environment and Enterprise on their views on the assessment of the Fuel Depot site in Bognor Road, Chichester and their views regarding the possible allocation of the site in the West Sussex Waste Plan. This includes Committee comments that Chichester District Council should continue to be consulted and screening of the site be considered should it be taken forward.

Priorities for Traffic Regulation Orders for South Chichester

40. The Committee considered a report (agenda item 8) from the Director of Communities and Infrastructure (copy appended to the signed minutes) regarding the priority order for implementing traffic regulation orders (TROs) within the South Chichester area. The priority list was set out in the appendix to the report. The Principal Community Highway Officer introduced the report and asked the Committee to note that some of the road/areas on the priority list were already being considered as part of the controlled parking zones (CPZ) review and that neighbouring roads would be grouped together into areas to ensure parking problems were not passed on.

41. Ms. Goldsmith, Member for Chichester West, reported that residents in Sherbourne Road were very concerned about parking and there appeared to be some differences between proposals in the TRO and the CPZ review of the area. The Principal Community Highway Officer was requested to investigate and resolve these differences.

42. Mr Jones, Member for Selsey, felt it would be helpful if the priority list included information on where requests from TROs had originated.

43. The Committee received comments from members of the public on the priority list. Comments included:

- There was too much emphasis on the needs of Chichester city to the exclusion of the surrounding areas in the CLC area. It was suggested that of the annual 3 TROs for the Committee, 2 be allocated to the city and 1 to rural areas,
- Birdham (number 8 on the list – village area north of A286) needed a 20mph limit,
- There was too much bureaucracy, restrictions and cost required for TROs. It was noted that the Government had proposed changes to improve this, which the Committee welcomed,
- Town and Parish Councils could pay for additional TROs. The Principal Community Highway Officer reported that depending on the type of TRO requested, implementation costs ranged between £100 - £3,000 and advertising costs were approximately £2,000.

44. The Committee felt that the top 3 roads/areas on the priority list and the existing order of the list reflected the need in the South Chichester area.

45. Resolved – That South Chichester County Local Committee approve the priority order for implementing Traffic Regulation Orders within the South Chichester CLC as set out in the appendix to the report.

Talk with Us Open Forum

46. The Chairman invited questions from members of the public. Questions were asked to which responses were given, including those set out below:

- A parent at Central School informed the Committee of the campaign for a school safety zone at the school. The County Council had withdrawn funding for the zones, and so Central School together with 2 neighbouring schools would contribute funding. The County Council was asked to match this funding. The Principal Community Highway Officer was asked to investigate,

- A resident from Selsey asked whether a pedestrian crossing could be provided on the walkway to Manor Road by Gainsborough Drive. Mr Jones, Member for Selsey, suggested that the resident contact Selsey Town Council to ask the Council to make a recommendation to the County Council.

47. Concerns were raised about the decision due to taken shortly on the reduction in bus support funding. In response:

- Mr Montyn, Member for The Witterings and Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, reported that considerable discussion had taken place with bus companies who would explore alternative provision where possible,
- Before taking his decision, Mr Montyn stated that he would consider the views of the Strategic Environmental Services Select Committee, the large number of residents and groups that had responded to the impact assessment and the recommendations of the cross party working group that had investigated routes and options in great detail,
- Mr Montyn explained that the County Council was required to make savings across all services due to a severe reduction in funding from the Government. It was not possible to delay the decision to reduce the bus support funding,
- The process for Executive decisions and call-in was explained,
- Ms Goldsmith, Member for Chichester West and Leader of the County Council, reported that Mr Montyn immediately withdrew from the cross parking working group when he was appointed as Cabinet Member and a different member had been appointed to the group.

48. The Chairman invited Mrs Sarah Sharp from the 20's Plenty campaign to provide an update to the Committee. Mrs Sharp reported that:

- The campaign for Chichester started a year ago,
- The campaign was asked by the County Council to demonstrate that it had wide spread support. So far support had been pledged from various groups and organisation, including 5 schools, 4 residents associations, Mr Andrew Tyrie MP for Chichester, Chichester City Council, the Women's Institute, Sustrans, 2,000 individual people and 2 polls in the Chichester Observer,
- Support would continue to be sought from residents in the streets most affected.

The Committee praised Mrs Sharp and the work of the campaign, and looked forward to a report at a future meeting.

Appointment of Local Authority Governors

49. The Committee considered a report (agenda items 11) by the Director of Learning (copy appended to the signed minutes).

50. Resolved – That Local Authority Governors be appointed as follows:

(i) That the following appointments be approved:

Mr T Wiener at Seal Primary School for a 4 year term

(ii) That the following re-appointments be approved:

Reverend Russell at North Mundham Primary School for a 4 year term

Mrs S Stewart at Lavant School for a 4 year term

Community Initiative Funding – Urgent Action

51. The Committee noted the urgent action approved on 20 June 2011 to award Chichester Festivities £2,500.

Date of Next Meeting

52. The Committee noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place on Tuesday 1 November 2011 at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 8.50pm

CHAIRMAN