

South Chichester County Local Committee

10 March 2015 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm in Committee Room 3, County Hall, Chichester.

Present: Margaret Evans (Chairman and Chichester South), Louise Goldsmith (Chichester West), Pieter Montyn (The Witterings), Simon Oakley (Chichester East) and Bernard Smith (Selsey).

Welcome and Introductions

68. Mrs Margaret Evans welcomed members of the public to the meeting and highlighted the creation of the South Chichester Talk with Us Facebook page.

69. Apologies were received from Jeremy Hunt (Vice Chairman and Chichester North) and Sandra James (Bourne).

Declaration of Interests

70. None were declared.

Minutes

71. The Chairman informed the meeting that Mr Oakley had requested clarification on whether charities could reclaim VAT on items purchased and in response charities do not pay VAT on some goods and services and that full details could be accessed via the www.gov.uk website. In addition, the Chairman informed the meeting that Mr Tony Morris had contacted members prior to the meeting to challenge minute 61 and that the concerns he raised had been about deteriorating performance by West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (WSF&RS) in recent years and whether members present were aware of that deterioration and if they were taking any action. Those members who were present at the previous meeting stated that the minutes reflected that Mr Morris had concerns about WSF&RS and they were happy to keep the detail as drafted.

72. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

73. There were no urgent matters.

talk with us (Open Forum)

74. The Chairman invited Mrs Vicky Brown to present a petition to the CLC to ask the County Council to provide a Puffin crossing to enable children to safely cross Whyke Road to Rumboldswyke School, Chichester highlighting that there was only a part-time lollypop person providing assistance for children to safely travel to school. Mrs Brown asked that in the event that this couldn't be granted could an alternative be looked at. The Chairman highlighted that the major problem was the proximity of the level crossing. In response to this, the Principal Community Officer stated that Network Rail had indicated that in principle they did not have a problem

with the crossing. Mrs Fiona Sayce, the Headteacher at Rumboldswyke School said that the School Travel Advisor had worked with the school to help ensure bollards, which had been installed to indicate there was a crossing point were noticeable, however higher bollards would contravene highway control and even though an anti-skid surface had been laid it didn't say 'keep clear' on it. Mrs Brown concluded that the road was dangerous for a lollypop person as drivers were frustrated when they were held up at the level crossing lights. *The Chairman accepted the petition on behalf of the committee.*

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

- Representatives from the Whyke Residents Association circulated a document to members regarding the safe accessing between Whyke Road and the A27 pedestrian bridge (copy appended to the signed minutes). As local member, the Chairman supported comments that there was no crossing at the end of Whyke Road for pedestrians to reach the footbridge. It was asked if whether on the western side of the road the end of gardens could be compulsory purchased to provide a footpath. Mrs Goldsmith commented that compulsory purchase took a long time and that highways should be asked to provide appropriate signing to direct pedestrians to the footbridge.
- Mr Geoff Keech representing Funtington Parish Council asked for details of collision totals since the introduction of 20mph speed limit reduction scheme in Chichester as in some parts of the country schemes had been withdrawn where the numbers of injuries had doubled. *It was agreed that Mr Keech would be sent what was available.* Mr Oakley requested that all local members be provided with the information and that the data provide the number of instances rather than percentages.
- Mrs Carole Purnell reiterated her question from the previous meeting regarding pavements and informed members that she had stated in her response to the highways work programme consultation that the survey of pavements should be done with those who have to use mobility scooters in mind. *Mr Montyn informed the meeting that funding would be made available to prioritise work.* The Principal Community Officer noted Mrs Purnell's comments.
- A representative from Apuldram Parish Council raised concerns over the road at Rymans House (Apuldram Lane South) which was sinking and the issue that vehicles could not pull over due to a ditch and whether there was a chance that dollies could be installed. *The Principal Community Officer commented that it would be difficult to get them 400m from the edge of the road and maybe the bank could be built up.*

Chichester Junctions Feasibility Study

76. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Strategic Planning & Place and Strategic Planning Manager (copy appended to the signed minutes) and received a presentation (copy appended to the signed minutes) from Mr Paul Eagle, Principal Planner.

77. Member comments/questions included:

- The Chairman asked if the lights could respond to varying traffic demand as at the Grove Lodge junction in Worthing. *Mr Eagle confirmed that they could be.*

- Mrs Goldsmith expressed thanks that Westhampnett was being looked at as this was an important area for the local economy and good that signalised junctions could be sensitive to demand.
- It was asked what impact the no right turn from the A285 on to St Pancras would be. *Mr Eagle stated that approximately 2% of traffic made that movement so the impact would be small and would help the flow of traffic on Westhampnett.*
- Mr Oakley raised issues of cost to propose a culvert over parts of the Lavant, issues of traffic from St James Road to the west with signals and the delays getting out and the possible displacement of traffic if the Oving Crossroads across the A27 were closed. Mr Oakley confirmed that he would like to see this junction signalised.
- Mr Montyn stated that he was aware that two members of the committee were not present and suggested that members have a further opportunity to look at the technical detail before expressing a preference.
- Mrs Goldsmith highlighted that roads surrounding the Northgate Gyratory had shared electoral divisions and the Whitehouse Farm planning application would undoubtedly have an impact on increasing traffic on the Broyle Road. Mr Eagle commented that there were daily variations and that traffic may use Sherbourne Road. Mrs Goldsmith said that using roads as a cut through would have an impact on the local community and it was important that local residents had a detailed look at the proposals.
- Mr Oakley asked how the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) scheme on the Northgate Gyratory would be impacted by the proposals. *Mr Eagle said that the proposals would build on the imminent LSTF scheme as they could be flexible with the designs.*

78. It was concluded that a meeting for members would be arranged and that there should be public consultation as part of the preliminary design in autumn 2016. In response to Mr Rooth from the Orchard Residents Association, Mrs Goldsmith emphasised the importance of involving residents associations prior to any formal consultation.

79. Resolved – that the Committee asked for a separate meeting so local members could be provided with more technical detail on the options identified in the Chichester Junctions Feasibility Study for the Northgate Gyratory and Westhampnett Road junctions.

Pagham to Medmerry Trail

80. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Highways and Transport and the Manager of Improvements (copy appended to the signed minutes) which was introduced by Mr Richard Wells, Principal Engineer and Ms Sarah Cooper representing the RSPB. Ms Cooper informed members that the RSPB were very committed to providing the scheme in partnership with West Sussex County Council and would make a contribution through partnership funding. As part of the route was owned by Southern Water it was asked if they could provide a contribution to meet the cost. Ms Cooper confirmed that had been sought but they had their cooperation and consent. Mrs Goldsmith asked for further details of how the £200,000 would be used. Mr Wells stated that the proposed path alignment runs over a combination of an existing path and open land. One section required more extensive construction to ensure appropriate drainage of the path. Mr Oakley

asked if there would be provision to make this route a bridleway. Mr Wells responded that the existing use of the path was a public footpath and consent from adjacent landowners would be required to create a bridleway. At this time consent for permissive cycle use only was being given by the landowners.

81. Mr Montyn suggested that members should agree the scheme move forward but that funding opportunities should be explored further. It was enquired if a crossing of the B2145 would be incorporated however this was a separate item which would require additional consideration in a wider scheme.

82. Resolved – the South Chichester County Local Committee noted the content of the report and would confirm to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport support for the scheme to be progressed in a future Integrated Works Programme with a caveat for a focus on the costs.

Progress Statement

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

Community Initiative Funding

84. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Law, Assurance and Strategy (copy appended to the signed minutes) which detailed applications for Community Initiative Funding. The Chairman informed the meeting that application **521/SC** Chichester Rugby Football Club, £7,500.00 to furnish the Club's larger function room had been withdrawn. The Committee debated the respective merits of the projects for which funding was sought, key points from the discussion were as follows:

- Regarding application **550/SC** Arts Dream Selsey, £5,600.00 towards the costs of hiring event staff, sound and lighting equipment and publicity and marketing costs, members discussed the application with the applicant who was present at the meeting. Members noted the local support and enthusiasm for the project however the funding sought was for revenue funding for an event and did not fit the criteria enough for members to grant funding.
- Regarding application **556/SC** Coastal West Sussex MIND, £940.00 to purchase laptops, members asked that the applicant investigate purchasing these from an organisation offering reconditioned laptops which may allow them to buy more. *The Democratic Services Officer undertook to find the name of a relevant organisation and let the applicant have the details.*
- Regarding application **573/SC** Selsey Cycle Network, £2,500.00 towards fees for professional advisors members decided that a meeting with Selsey Cycle Network, local members and WSCC officers should be held to discuss the project in detail and ensure that there was no overlap with schemes currently being developed in the area and therefore the current application should be declined.

*Mr Oakley abstained from voting on application **641/SC** Christian Youth Enterprises Sailing Club due to reservations whether the application met the criteria.*

85. Resolved that -

a) The following awards were made:

484/SC Tuppenny Barn Education, £1,092.00 for advertising costs, to subsidise stallholders and for children's activities.

487/SC Friends of the Wrenford Centre, £2,500.00 to refurbish the arts and craft room.

505/SC The Hanover Band Foundation, £261.43 to purchase musical instruments to be loaned to school children.

517/SC Selsey Community Forum, £468.00 to install CCTV in Selsey Recreation Ground

556/SC Coastal West Sussex MIND, £940.00 to purchase laptops, however members asked that the applicant investigate purchasing these from an organisation offering reconditioned laptops.

571/SC Southbourne Men's Shed, £2,500.00 to purchase tools and equipment.

619/SC My Sisters House CIC, £2,395.00 to purchase 4 industrial sewing machines

641/SC Christian Youth Enterprises Sailing Club, £2,050.00 for a "living" willow shelter and some musical instruments

b) The following applications were declined:

490/SC Unity Arts Trust CIC, £2020.00 towards the costs of providing studio space for artists as the committee considered this to be running costs and therefore ineligible for Community Initiative Funding.

525/SC Seal Primary Academy Schools, £16,000.00 to fund a domestic abuse awareness training programme as the committee felt that the amount asked for was outside the remit of the Community Initiative Funding and that an alternative funding source may be more appropriate.

550/SC Arts Dream Selsey, £5,600.00 towards the costs of hiring event staff, sound and lighting equipment and publicity and marketing costs as the committee considered this to be revenue expenditure and therefore ineligible for Community Initiative Funding.

573/SC Selsey Cycle Network, £2,500.00 towards fees for professional advisors as the committee wished to hold a meeting with Selsey Cycle Network, local members and WSCC officers to discuss the project in detail and ensure that there was no overlap with schemes currently being developed in the area.

574/SC Sidleham Community Association, £1,792.96 towards subscription costs to Action in Rural Sussex as the committee considered subscription costs to be ineligible for Community Initiative Funding.

577/SC Fishbourne Parish Council, £5,000.00 to design manufacture and erect 3 signs as Parish Councils are ineligible for Community Initiative Funding.

c) That the Committee agreed to donate £3,091.57 to support the local Food Bank in Chichester and its satellite sites.

Appointments and Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies

86. The Committee considered a report by the Strategic Commissioner for Learning (copy appended to the signed minutes).

87. Resolved – that the South Chichester County Local Committee make the following reappointments:

- Mrs L Careswell to West Dean CEP School for a four year term
- Mrs M Tinkler-Reeves to Chichester Nursery School for a four year term.

Date of Next Meeting

88. The Chairman reported that the next meeting would be held on 16 June 2015 in Committee Room 3 at County Hall, Chichester.

The meeting closed at 8.46pm

Chairman