

## **South Chichester County Local Committee**

23 February 2010 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 pm in the Mitre Theatre, University of Chichester, Bishop Otter Campus, College Lane, Chichester.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Mr T.M.E. Dunn, Mr Montyn and Mrs Whitehead. Mr A.R.H. Smith was absent.

### **Chairman's Welcome**

105. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

### **Declarations of Interest**

106. None declared at this stage (but also see minute 119 and 124).

### **Minutes**

107. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2009 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

### **Progress Statement**

108. The Committee had before it a report providing updates on matters arising from previous meetings of the CLC and issues raised since the previous meeting (copy appended to signed minutes).

### **Draft Infrastructure Works Programme 2010/11 and Future Years Programme**

109. The Committee had before it a report by the Director Operations Infrastructure (copy appended to signed minutes). The report sought the views of the Committee on the draft Infrastructure Works Programme (IWP) 2010/11 and Future Years Programme for the South Chichester area. A number of issues were discussed:

- Steve Johnson, Deputy Divisional Manager, informed the meeting that the proposed programme was in doubt due to the severe winter weather and that a revised programme was being prepared. All the footway works and highway improvements would be deferred and this would mean that approximately £5m would be available to repair the damage caused by the severe weather.
- Members stressed that any money that could be identified was being used to repair potholes and urged people to report potholes online.
- Any essential maintenance would be carried out and the Traffic Regulation Order priorities would not be affected by the deferrals. The revised programme would be submitted to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport during March.
- A member of Selsey Town Council requested that details of the B2201 Road Safety Scheme be emailed to her.

- A member of the public expressed concern over the Puffin Crossing at Chidham and the total cost because he had never seen anybody using it. Mr Johnson informed him that the crossing was thirty-seventh on the County Council's list because there wasn't an immediate and urgent need so the Parish Council funded it by using their precept. The total cost of the crossing was approximately £53,000 and Chidham Parish Council paid approximately £46,000.

### **East Walls-Experimental Reversal of One-Way Traffic Movement**

110. The Committee had before it a report by Director of Operations – Infrastructure (copy appended to signed minutes). The report gave an update on the operation of the experimental scheme to change the permitted direction of travel in East Walls, Chichester. The Chairman introduced Martin Downy, Assistant Highway Manager, to outline the report. A number of issues were discussed:

- Mr Downy concluded that in his opinion the scheme had been a success and that the next step would be for a decision report to be brought back to the 11 May 2010 meeting for the Committee to approve, amend or reverse the order.
- A resident of East Walls Close expressed concern that the experimental order was creating shortcuts and there could be long-term issues when the Shippams development was fully open. Martin Downy responded that the development was 116 units, which would, on average, only generate 150 extra vehicle movements per day. He stressed that this was just an information report and all these issues would be addressed in the decision report. However, he was of the opinion that whilst there was a recognition that there would be winners and losers the changes should result in fewer 'rat runs' through the City than under the previous arrangements.
- A member of Chichester City Council suggested that the scheme be extended until the Shippams Development was fully open.
- Mr Jones asked to have the submissions by the City Council sent to him.
- A member of Newtown Residents Association reported that it was fully supportive of the order becoming permanent.

111. The Committee noted that a decision report would be brought to the Committee at a later date.

### **Summersdale Road Traffic Regulation Order**

112. The Committee had before it a report by Director Operations-Infrastructure (copy appended to signed minutes). The report dealt with the proposed waiting restrictions to tackle the problem of student parking in the area. Several objections had been received relating to the displacement of these cars to other residential roads in the area. A number of issues were discussed:

- A resident expressed his concern that emergency vehicles were unable to move freely along the road because there were no clear areas for cars to pull in to let them pass.
- The Summersdale Road Residents Association supported the proposals but felt that perhaps there should be more gaps to allow residents parking. They queried whether the university had been pressed to extend parking.

- Members questioned whether the university offered a car-sharing scheme and whether they have a shuttle service between the Chichester and Bognor Regis campuses. The County Council had been in touch with the university to promote 'Travelwise' initiatives and to offer help in developing a travel plan. The Committee undertook to write to the Chancellor of the university to explore this further.
- The Chairman had held a meeting with residents of the road and they were supportive of the proposals. He stressed that it was imperative for the order to be made for the buses to be able to park safely and to allow emergency vehicles access to the road.

113. Resolved - that the Committee authorises the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make the Traffic Regulation order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to give effect to the proposal as advertised.

### **West Sussex County Council Music Service**

114. Roger Crocker, Lead Adviser for the Music Service, gave a presentation to the Committee about the work of the service. There are currently 150 local authority music services in the country and West Sussex is judged as a Grade 1- Outstanding service. They currently provide children with 14,000 music lessons a week facilitated by 175 teachers. He stressed that the service had the capacity to do more if the Committee and members of the audience could identify any gaps in provision. The service was branching out into adult education and 300 people had recently applied for these classes.

115. The Chairman expressed his thanks to Roger for his presentation and the fantastic opportunities that the service gave to young people.

### **Talk with us (Community Forum)**

116. A member of West Wittering Parish Council questioned a proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to install double yellow lines around The Old House at Home Pub, Rookwood Road, and through part of Pound Road. It had been proposed by the County Council that the two TRO changes be taken forward together, to give them higher priority, and implemented with the proposed School Safety Zone (SSZ). He expressed concern that the Pound Road proposal could be highly controversial and did not want this to affect the Rookwood Road scheme. Martin Downy assured him that this would only be one order and they would bring a report to the Committee and if insurmountable objections had been received about one aspect of the scheme then the Committee could approve one part of the order and defer the other for further consideration. He also assured them that this order was now not part of the TRO list or budget and was part of the SSZ.

117. Several queries were raised about potholes including praise for the online reporting system. Steve Johnson informed the meeting that since 15 January 2010 7,883 potholes had been filled in 1,535 roads across the County. There were currently thirty teams temporarily filling the potholes because the weather is still in the freeze/thaw cycle. The Highways teams were aiming to start permanent repairs in the middle of March, weather permitting. The Chairman undertook to write to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport urging him to issue a press release to clarify the situation regarding potholes.

118. A resident of Merston expressed concern about the planning application by Langmead Farms to install an anaerobic digester at Chichester Food Park, Runcton. The Chairman agreed to meet with the resident in question to discuss the application despite not being the local member.

119. Mr Jones declared a personal interest as a substitute member of the Planning Committee.

120. A member of East Wittering and Bracklesham Parish Council questioned the gritting of Piggery Hall Lane and whether the Highway Manager had used his discretion to grit roads other than the primary network. Steve Johnson informed the meeting that 42 percent of roads are gritted across the county compared to 35 percent in most Shire authorities. He explained that there were only a finite number of gritters that are deployed to grit the A and B road network and that it would be physically impossible to grit Piggery Hall Lane with the size of the fleet at the Western area depot.

121. A member from Fishbourne Parish Council questioned whether a date had been set to meet with Network Rail to discuss the rail crossing on Fishbourne Road East and whether the Quality Bus Partnership could be invited to a future meeting. Steve Johnson informed the meeting that there had been no formal statement from Network Rail but believed that they favour the over bridge option but once a formal statement had been released they could discuss the implications.

122. A member of Birdham Parish Council congratulated Mr Hall on his successful notice of motion and expressed concern that it may not come to bear. Mr Hall assured him that work had already begun and more information would be available after the County Council meeting on 26 March 2010.

### **South Chichester Community Initiative Funding (CIF)**

123. The Committee had before it a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes). The report sought decisions from the Committee on the applications received under the CIF scheme. The Committee discussed a number of issues, which included those set out below:

- The Committee were fully supportive of the Parents and Carers Organisation and the work they carry out.
- Whilst the Committee are supportive of the work that the Cobnor Outdoor Activities Centre does they felt they could only provide a proportion of the funding requested to allow for further applications before the end of the financial year.
- The Committee felt that any work done to engage young people is very valuable but felt that they could only support the capital expenditure of Dance Core because the remainder of the sum applied for amounted to running costs which are not supported by the CIF scheme as stated in the terms and conditions.

124. Mr Hall declared a personal interest as a Governor of Boxgrove School where some of the Dance Core classes take place.

125. Resolved – that the Committee consider the Community Initiative Funding applications and allocate funding accordingly:

(i) The following applications and amounts are approved:

#1177-Parents & Carers Support Organisation-£600

#1222-Cobnor Outdoor Activities Centre-£5,000 (£10,000 had been requested)

#1233-Immanuel Church-£150

#1137-Dancecore-£647.63 (£3,500 had been requested)

### **Appointment of Local Authority Governors**

126. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes).

127. Resolved – that the Committee agree the following Local Authority School Governor Re-Appointments:

(i) Mr Andrew Smith to Tangmere Primary School for a term of 4 years commencing on 25 May 2010

(ii) Mrs Veltom to Westbourne Primary School for a term of 4 years commencing on 26 March 2010.

128. The Chairman drew the meetings attention to the two vacancies in the area at Chichester Nursery School and Lancastrian Infant School.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

129. The Committee noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 7.00pm at the Judith Adams Centre, 58A St Pancras, Chichester, PO19 7LS.

130. The Chairman thanked all for coming.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm

Chairman