

South Mid Sussex County Local Committee

24 February 2015 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7pm, Hurstpierpoint Village Centre.

Present: Mr Barrett-Miles (Burgess Hill Town), Mrs Jones (Burgess Hill East), Mr Griffiths (Chairman), (Hurstpierpoint and Bolney) and Mr Petch (Hassocks and Victoria).

Declarations of Interest

69. The following interests were declared: -

- Mrs Jones declared a personal interest as a Governor of Oakmeeds Community College in relation to Agenda Item No. 7 (CIF application 599/SMS - The Friends of Woodlands Meed).
- Mr Griffiths declared a personal interest in in relation to Agenda Item No. 7 (CIF application 622/SMS - Friends of Burgess Hill Green Circle Network) as he lives on the Green Circle.

Minutes

70. It was noted that under minute 55 (bullet point 3) the numbering of the scheme Footpaths on Junction Road was incorrect and should be scheme 19. It was agreed that the previous minutes should be amended to reflect this.

71. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26 November 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

72. The Chairman advised that he had been notified of a pending Local Authority Governor application submitted after the publication of the agenda papers and that as it was for an outstanding vacancy that would be considered under Agenda item No. 8.

Progress Statement

73. The Committee considered the statement of progress following the November 2014 meeting and 2014/15 Community Issues List (copy appended to signed minutes).

74. Members discussed the Progress Statement: -

- Reported void under the road in Highfield Drive, Burgess Hill - Roger Harding, Assistant Highways Manager, advised that these had been passed to the Highways Officer for further investigation and progress would be reported back to a future meeting.
- Junction Road, Burgess Hill – no further progress reported.

75. Members commented on the following schemes on the Community Issues list:

- Leylands Road and Various (Scheme 5): The Principal Community Officer advised that the yellow lines were now 100% complete.
- Middle Way, Burgess Hill (Scheme 13): The member for Burgess Hill Town advised that this scheme had two parts one yellow lines and one Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). Assistant Highway Manager to investigate the use of bollards to resolve parking issues.
- Keymer Road, Hassocks (Scheme 14): It was agreed that further investigations would be made by the Assistant Highways Manager.
- Manor Road, Burgess Hill (Scheme 21): Reference to Fairlea Road should be amended to Farnlea. The local member for Hassocks and Victoria requested an update.
- The Torch Holiday and Retreat Centre (Scheme 31): Members agreed that a site visit should be made as a priority.
- Malthouse Lane/Gatehouse Lane: The local member for Burgess Hill Town requested that the scheme for be reinstated on the Community Issues List as the scheme was still on-going.

76. Members requested updates on the four Infrastructure Planning priority schemes selected by the Committee in 2013. In particular, the member for Burgess Hill Town commented that in relation to the Leylands Road scheme an initial feasibility study had been undertaken and designs produced but that no further progress had been reported. With regard to the Chanctonbury Road scheme the member for Burgess Hill East commented that the local residents would not be happy about a further public consultation. The Principal Community Officer underlined the importance of engaging with the local residents to ensure that they were on board with the scheme. The Assistant Highways Manager offered to follow this up with County Council officers responsible for the schemes and provide members with an update.

77. In relation to the reference to the next round of Infrastructure Planning schemes under scheme 25, the Committee requested an update on the process. Members requested that their disappointment with the IP process be recorded. The Chairman agreed to write to the Chief Operating Officer on behalf of the Committee to express members' concerns.

78. Resolved – That the Committee notes the Progress Statement and Community Issues List.

Talk with Us Open Forum

79. The Chairman invited questions and comments from members of the public, which included:

- A Burgess Hill Town and Mid Sussex District Councillor requested an update on the request for a traffic island on Jane Murray Way, Burgess Hill, one of the schemes on the Committee's Community Issues List, and expressed concerns for the safety of pedestrians crossing the busy road where there was currently no dedicated crossing. The Chairman advised the local Councillor to write to the Leader of the County Council to seek reassurance that the scheme would be included in the £16.8million received by Local Enterprise Partnership Coast to Capital.

- Another Burgess Hill Town and District Councillor asked for an update on the sealing of the Leylands Road Traffic Regulation Order, especially an area outside Sheddingdean School in Petworth Drive. The Principal Community Officer agreed to follow this up.
- A resident of Valebridge Road, Burgess Hill, raised the issue of speed repeaters along Valebridge Road. The Chairman advised that in fact the road was split between two CLC areas and the stretch of road in question was within the Central Mid Sussex CLC area. He confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for Tuesday 10 March, 7pm in Haywards Heath.
- A resident of Downsview Road, Hassocks raised concerns about flooding around Spitalfields Bridge from the Herring Stream and asked for any assistance that the County Council could provide. The Principal Community Officer advised that the issue would need to be notified to the County Council's Drainage Strategy Team.
- A resident of Stonepound Crossroads raised concerns about the phasing of traffic lights which were now changing very rapidly causing traffic including Heavy Goods Vehicles to slow down quickly when approaching the lights increasing pollution. The Chairman and member for Hassocks and Victoria agreed to work with the residents to look at this issue.
- A Hassocks Parish Councillor advised that she was speaking on behalf of 50 houses on Clayton Hill. She raised concerns that the 50mph speed limit was rarely adhered to especially the area near junction of A273 and New Road. The Committee agreed to add the issue to the Community Issues List and that the Principal Community Officer would arrange a site visit.

Community Initiative Funding

80. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy (copy appended to the signed minutes) which detailed applications for Community Initiative Funding.

81. The Committee debated the respective merits of the projects for which funding was sought.

82. Resolved –

(a) That the following awards, totalling £8,776.88, are made:

537/SMS - Bolney Volunteers, £1,766.00 towards costs of building a bus shelter, installing gates and planting trees and bulbs.

541/SMS - Signpost Mid Sussex, £1,816.00, to purchase window blinds, furniture and vinyl screening.

531/SMS – Kangaroos, £1,258.00 to purchase to specialist buggies.

551/SMS – Opportunity Playgroup, £1,200.00 to purchase exercise and play mats and a sink.

593/SMS – Mid Sussex Older People’s Council, £700.00 for costs associated with having meetings to discuss the Care Act.

599/SMS – The Friends of Woodland Meed, £600.00 towards the costs of a firework display.

622/SMS – Friends of Burgess Hill Green Circle Network, £1,437.00 to purchase various equipment.

(b) That the following applications are declined: -

501/SMS – Hanover Band Foundation as the Committee considered that West Sussex Music musical instrument library could be accessed free of charge and the application was not specific to the South Mid Sussex CLC area.

528/SMS – Pyecombe Parish Council as the Committee did not consider it met the criteria. The local County Councillor and Principal Community Officer agreed to work with the Parish Council to look for alternative funding streams.

536/SMS - Bolney Rovers Football Club as the Committee considered the application was more appropriate for the Members’ Big Society Fund.

555/SMS – Forest School as this application is predominantly for running costs which is outside of the CIF criteria.

576/SMS – Sussex Chorus as the Committee considered that ticket sales should cover the costs of the concert.

623/SMS – 4Sight Service as the Committee considered that this application was more appropriate for the Prevention and Wellbeing Grant scheme.

(c) The following applications were deferred for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee on 2 June 2015: -

546/SMS – Horsham & Mid Sussex Voluntary Action, £10,000.00. This is a combined bid across all 3 Mid Sussex CLC’s and Horsham and Chanctonbury CLC’s, to purchase IT and communications systems infrastructure and website development. The contribution being sought from SMS CLC is £2,000.00.

637/SMS – Cancervive, £6,000.00 for IT & office equipment costs and publicity and advertising materials.

(d) Agreed there was no balance of funding to be re-assigned.

Authority School Governors

83. The Committee considered a report by the Strategic Commissioner for Learning which included a list of current Authority Governor Ofsted reports (copy appended to the signed minutes).

84. Resolved that under the 2007 Regulations: -

(a) That the Committee approves the following appointment: -

- Mrs Judith Kew to Bolney CEP School for a four year term.

(b) That the Committee approves the following re-appointment: -

- Mr A Richardson to Albourne CEP School for a four year term.

Date of Next Meeting

85. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would be held at 7pm on Tuesday 2 June 2015 at a venue to be confirmed.

86. The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Chairman