

South Mid Sussex County Local Committee

11 June 2013 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7pm, Albourne Village Hall, The Street, Albourne, Hassocks.

Present: Mr Barratt-Miles, Mr Griffiths (Chairman), Mrs Jones and Mr Petch.

Election of Chairman

1. Mr Griffiths was elected Chairman of South Mid Sussex County Local Committee for the 2013/14 municipal year.

Welcome and Introductions

2. The Chairman invited members of the Committee to introduce themselves and welcomed all to the meeting. The Chairman thanked Henry Langridge of Rushfields Farm Shop for providing prize winning sausages for tasting prior to the meeting. The Chairman also highlighted that samples of Bedlam Beer, sparkling wine from Albourne Vineyard and apple juice made at the Windmill School in Hassocks, had also been available for tasting and encouraged all those present to support local businesses.

Declarations of Interest

3. Mrs Jones declared a personal and prejudicial interest regarding item 9 and the application for a Prevention and Wellbeing Grant from Neighbourly Care (Ref: TB18) as Chairman of the organisation.

Minutes

4. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 17 January 2013 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

5. There were no urgent matters.

Terms of Reference

6. The Chairman invited the Committee to note the County Local Committee's Terms of Reference (copy attached to the signed minutes) highlighting the key roles such as appointment of schools governors and community initiative funding criteria. The Chairman also drew the committee's attention to the Councillor Call for Action function.

7. Resolved – The Committee noted its terms of reference.

Talk with Us Open Forum

8. A resident of Pakyns Court, Albourne Road in Hurstpierpoint, representing PCPC (Pakyns Court Pedestrian Crossing) stated her concern of the dangers faced by residents of Pakyns Court who wished to cross Albourne Road, herself being a

mother of twins with a double buggy. The danger lay with the speed limit being 60mph on this stretch of road and the need to go up a grassy bank on the other side of the road to Pakyns Court. She asked if a ramp could be installed on the grassy bank and asked if the speed limit on Albourne Rod could be reduced to 40mph when exiting the village. The resident also raised concerns of parking on Albourne Road between Orchard Way, the garage and the White Horse Pub, especially a Ford Focus which had been parked for 4 months and as it was taxed could not be removed by the local authority. She requested for yellow lines to be considered for this stretch of road. *The Chairman suggested that the residents of Pakyns Court request the use of a speed gun to monitor speeds on Albourne Road and set up a working group to work up a business case in order to gain funding for the works requested. The Chairman concluded that he had visited the area with the local highway officer and was confident that a case could be made for funding, and suggested the Members Big Society Fund.* In addition, the Principal Community Officer informed the meeting that the issue of parking between Orchard Way and Western Road was being addressed in partnership with a Parking and Traffic Working Group which had been set up by Hurstpierpoint Parish Council. The County Council was working with the Parish Council with a traffic engineer assessing the situation. The Chairman concluded the discussion by encouraging the resident to galvanise public support for the scheme and suggested a petition. The Principal Community Officer undertook to provide the resident with detail of the Parking and Traffic Working Group organised by Hurstpierpoint Parish Council.

9. The Chairman informed the meeting that he had received a petition from two local residents from Bolney and Twineham Parishes requesting a reduction in speed limit on the Bolney Chapel Road from 40mph to 30mph and a crossing point where it joins the A272. The Chairman also invited the Chairman of Bolney Parish Council to provide the meeting with details of challenges on A272 at Bolney. The meeting was informed that this particular stretch of the A272 had been monitored over a month long period over which there had been 11 road traffic accidents, one of which had involved a 42 tonne lorry, and had been closed for a total of 32 hours. Members were informed that there were a number of children who needed to cross the A272 to either get to Bolney Infant School or to access school transport, over a 7 mile stretch there were no crossing points. *The Chairman accepted the petition on behalf of the CLC and commented that work was underway with Bolney Primary School to review the school's Travel Plan.* The Parish Council had put money towards the School Safety Zone and the Chairman would see if the Parish Council could contribute to a crossing scheme as a result of the petition.

10. The Chairman of Twineham Parish Council informed the meeting that now the planning inspectorate had accepted the planning application from EoN for the Rampion Offshore Windfarm, she wished to raise the concerns of the Parish Council regarding the traffic which would be involved in the construction of the substation on roads throughout the parish. She informed the meeting that the anticipated construction period would be 28 months between 7am and 7pm, Monday to Friday and Saturday mornings involving 60 workers per day, it was requested that these workers park on site. In addition, she mentioned that over 6,000 HGV's would be accessing the site via the A23 and A272, highlighting the difficult junction of the A23 northbound and the A272 westbound at Bolney. In conclusion, the Parish Council wished to make a request that no HGV's use Wineham Lane from the south due to two weak bridges and that they would be happy to meet with Highways Authorities to discuss the situation. Another resident raised concern of construction traffic travelling in convoy on the A272 at the beginning of the day, which would be

dangerous for those trying to cross the A272 such as school children. *The Chairman stated that all the points raised were noted and would be considered and that any traffic management plan would involve the Parish Council.*

11. A resident raised concerns of the dangers which had been caused by additional parked cars in Woodlands Avenue, Burgess Hill due to a housing development. She commented that there would be section 106 money available as a result of the development and asked that the County Council make provision for this on their community issues list.

12. A District Councillor representing a Neighbourhood Panel requested that 30mph flashing signs be installed at either end of Leylands Road, Burgess Hill, by the roundabouts, to prevent cars from speeding. She stated that there were two bus request stops on bends on this stretch of road. She also raised concern of speeding cars on Valebridge Road towards the bridge before Rocky Lane and that residents were fearful of exiting their homes. A request was made that the speed limit on this stretch of road be reviewed.

13. The Chairman raised the potential development of 10,000 houses in the locality area and members agreed that they could consider this as an item at a future meeting.

14. A resident informed the committee of discussions he had had with County Council officers regarding the mini roundabout on Leylands Road at Leylands park. He had contacted the County Council in 2012 asking for the mini roundabout to be lowered as pavements and verges were being damaged. White posts had subsequently been installed to protect the grass verges however; there was a gap which had been left which allowed cars to park behind them on the grass verge. The resident informed the meeting that he contacted the County Council to state his concerns and has spoken to a local highway officer. He commented that he had received a very unsatisfactory response. *The Chairman asked the Principal Community Officer to follow this up.*

15. Representatives from the Park Centre Wives Group informed the committee that they had been told by representatives of the Youth Service that they would no longer be able to meet in their usual room on a Monday night at the Park Centre. They stated that they had been given two weeks to confirm if they would agree to meet in another room or on another night. They had had no consultation and were upset at how they had been treated. *Mrs Jones informed the meeting that she had spoken to Tony Kershaw, Head of Law and Governance at the County Council that morning and that she believed there were a lot more discussions and negotiations to be had.* The Chairman suggested that the committee could take this up under a Councillor Call for Action. It was agreed that members would discuss this with Phil Edwards at the County Council before any further action was taken.

Progress Statement

16. Mr Petch asked for an update on progress, under January minute point 86 – Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) Priorities, of the Burgess Hill/Hassocks – Victoria Avenue – Weight Limit/Narrowing of Road to remove HGV Traffic TRO. *The Principal Community Officer informed the meeting that the Signs Team at the County Council were currently working on proposals which should be available over the next two weeks.* Mr Petch asked what would happen if the signs did not work.

Members were informed that if this was the case then the local member and residents would be consulted further. Mr Barrett-Miles commented that the Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan mentioned closing Avenue to HGV's, however this would be a future measure about five years away. *The Principal Community Officer undertook to look at the proposals and link up with the Neighbourhood Plan.*

Prevention & Wellbeing Grants 2013/14

17. The Chairman introduced the report by the Director of Public Health (copy attached to the signed minutes) highlighting the criteria which awarding the grants should be based on. The Chairman also highlighted the applications totalled nearly £20,000 and the allocation of grant funding available for the CLC was much less.

18. As Mrs Jones had declared a personal and prejudicial interest regarding the application from Neighbourly Care as Chairman of the organisation, the Chairman asked her to leave the room whilst the application was discussed.

Mrs Jones left the room.

19. Members discussed the application and concerns were raised that this a repeat application. However, members acknowledged that the organisation had made efforts to raise funds.

20. Resolved – that the application from Neighbourly Care (Ref: TB18) be awarded £1,250.00

Mrs Jones returned to the room.

21. Members discussed the remaining applications. A representative from Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks U3A attended the meeting and stated that they currently had no equipment which explained the large bid however, they would find £2,000 extremely useful and thanked the committee for the award.

23. Resolved –

(i) That the following applications and amounts be approved:

- 4 Sight (Ref: TL047) - £500.00
- Alzheimers Society West Sussex (Ref: BB002) - £500.00
- Bolney Community Cafe Society (Ref: TB33) - £1,500.00
- Cruse West Sussex Area (Ref: DR030) - £60.00
- Headway-Bognor (Ref: TL008) - £384.61
- Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks U3A (Ref: TB39) - £2,000.00
- Mid Sussex Older People's Council (Ref: TB22) - £500.00
- PBC Foundation (Ref: TL048) - £48.24
- SASBAH (Ref: TB05) - £250.00
- Sheddingdean Community IT club (Ref: TB24) - £1,400.00
- Sussex Community Day Centre (Ref: TB20) - £2,000.00

(ii) That the following applications be declined:

- Collected Works CIC (Ref: DR043) - Members agreed that the application required further work and that officers would work with the organisation to reapply next year.

- Friends, Families and Travellers (Ref: DR033) - Members agreed that they were unsure what the organisation was trying to achieve and that officers would work with the organisation to reapply next year.
- In Safe & Caring Hands Limited (Ref: BB0017) - Members were aware that WSCC had recently awarded a contract to the WRVS for a similar service and the cost of phone calls was considered to be high.
- Lifecentre (Ref: DN16 N&S) - Members felt that the service would not be provided in the South Mid Sussex CLC area.
- Peters House Project (HIV stay healthy) (Ref: BB0020) - Members considered that this was expensive for a small number of people and an extremely expensive venue. Members were also unclear how the residents of South Mid Sussex would specifically benefit.

Community Initiative Funding

24. The Chairman introduced the report by the Head of Law and Governance, which sought decisions on applications received under the CIF scheme (copy attached to the signed minutes).

25. Resolved –

- (i) The application **4/SMS** Kangaroos - Raising the Bar – Saturday Club, £1,500, towards costs of running a Saturday Club in Burgess Hill for young adults with learning disabilities be approved.
- (ii) The application **48/SMS** Albourne Parish Council Village Hall Trust Committee, £9,515, towards improvement works to Albourne Village Hall be declined as members believed that there were other more appropriate funding routes for this project.

Authority School Governors

26. The Committee noted a report by the Head of Learning (copy attached to the signed minutes) that set out proposed nominations to school governing bodies and the criteria for their appointment. Mr Petch commented that he had tried to contact the proposed governor in his division but had been unable to do so and requested that local members be kept fully informed of proposed governor appointments in their division in future.

27. Resolved – That the following appointments and re-appointments of Authority School Governors be approved:

- (i) Appointments:
 - Miss A.L.M. Leitch to Sheddingdean School for a 4 year term.
 - Mrs P. Edwards to Hassocks Infant School for a 4 year term.
- (ii) Re-appointments:
 - Mrs J. Henwood to Manor Field Primary School for a 4 year term.
 - Mrs C.E. Jeanne to Albourne C.E. Primary School for a 4 year term.

- Mr G.E. Knight to Sheddingdean Primary School for a 4 year term.

Date of Next Meeting

28. It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Tuesday 10 September 2013, 7pm, at Hurstpierpoint Village Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Chairman