

South Mid Sussex County Local Committee

19 April 2011 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7pm at Downlands Community School, Dale Avenue, Hassocks, West Sussex BN6 8LP.

Present: Mr P Griffiths, Mrs S Knight, Mrs H Ross and Dr C Wilsdon (Chairman).

Chairman's Welcome

1. The Chairman introduced the Committee and Officers and welcomed all to the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

2. There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

3. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 25th January 2011 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

4. The Chairman agreed to add a further item to the agenda following the talkwithus public forum to elect a new chairman for the South Mid Sussex County Local Committee for the new municipal year.

Matters Arising/Progress Statement

5. The Committee noted the report.

Proposal to Create Controlled Parking Zones in the Burgess Hill area.

6. The Chairman introduced the Parking Strategy Manager, Miles Davy, to present this report concerning a proposal to introduce a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in the Burgess Hill area. The Committee noted that parking surveys had been undertaken to assess parking problems in the area, both on street and off street and consultation undertaken on the merits of a CPZ in the form of letters to local businesses and residents. The Committee noted that further investigation into a CPZ did not appear to be justified as 55% of respondents were against the principal of the Residents' Parking Scheme, 35% were in favour, 6% had no opinion and 4% did not answer the question.

7. The Chairman invited questions and comments from residents. The Committee noted the parking problems that remained at issue in certain localities and resolved to add a requirement to the recommendation that the issues identified by the parking survey be collated and reported to the Committee at a later meeting. In addition the Highway Manager undertook to liaise with residents of a cul de sac in relation to difficulties for carers needing to park outside clients houses.

Resolved that the Committee:

- i) Does not authorise the preparation of any proposals for a Residents' Parking Scheme at this time, and
- ii) notes that the parking arrangements in the town will be kept under review; and
- iii) requests a report from the Southern Area Highways Office detailing issues identified by this parking survey for future reference

An Outline of the County Council's Infrastructure Planning Process

8. The Chairman gave a verbal report on the County Council's newly established process for ensuring that the planning of local infrastructure was made in close consultation with all local stakeholders. The Committee noted that the intention was to assimilate this new approach into the working practices already established with the Three Tiers Group.

9. The Chairman explained that letters would be sent out to various stakeholder groups such as Parish Councils, the Town Council, Neighbourhood Councils, residents associations, parent teacher associations and business associations before the local elections to seek their priorities for future consideration and that these would be collated into a report to come to the September meeting of the Committee.

Authority School Governors

10. The Committee considered and agreed two Authority governor appointments and one reappointment:

11. Resolved that the following appointments:

Mrs S Stewart to Bolney Primary for 4 years

Mr A Richardson to Albourne Primary for 4 years

and reappointment be made:

Mrs D Webley-Ward to Hassocks Infant for 4 years

Community Initiative Funding

12. The Chairman introduced the report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes). The Committee heard from representatives of three of the organisations putting bids forward and resolved to support all of the applications.

13. Resolved that the following awards be made:

1527/SMS, Action for Deafness requested £2,150.00 towards an otoscopy training course. Awarded £1,200 (a lesser amount in keeping with the other awards made)

1557/SMS, Circles Network requested £1,200.00 towards equipment towards the establishment of a 'time bank' project in Burgess Hill. Awarded £1,200

1574/SMS, Speak Up requested £1,000 towards the set-up costs of the 'Thumbs Up Campaign'. Awarded £1,000

1600/SMS, Slaugham Parish Council requested £1,136.00 to protect the village green from further erosion. Awarded £1,136.00

Talk with Us Open Forum

14. The Committee received a presentation requesting support for a School Safety Zone at St Lawrence School. It was noted that plans had been drawn up for the scheme by the County Council's team but that funding had been withdrawn prior to agreement to proceed. The Chairman explained that without the funding it would be necessary to look at alternative ways to improve road safety around the school. The Highway Manager noted that signing work had been given the go-ahead and asked to be informed if this was not seen to be completed in the near future.

15. It was suggested that Police Officers at Burgess Hill Police Station be asked to undertake spot checks on parked vehicles. It was suggested that issues with over-grown hedging be referred to the Highway Rangers Team and the telephone number available on the County Council website was given. The importance of attempting to raise money for a 'lollipop' person was emphasised. The Chairman reiterated that the infrastructure planning initiative may help to raise the profile of this request in the future.

16. The Parish Council Chairman for Albourne alerted the Committee to four further road traffic accidents that had occurred on the B2116 since the last meeting and said that these had been reported to the Highway Manager.

17. The Parish Council Chairman for Hassocks thanked the Committee and the Highway Manager for the double yellow lines opposite the entrance to the Adastra Hall which had recently been installed and the County Council for planting new trees on Grand Avenue. He also highlighted ongoing communication with the Highway Manager regarding new white lines on the roundabout at Jane Murray Way.

Urgent Matters

18. The Chairman reminded the Committee of the additional agenda item agreed at the beginning of the meeting and nominated Mrs Ross as the new Committee Chairman. A vote was taken and Mrs Ross duly elected as Chairman of the Committee for the coming year.

Date of Next Meeting

19. It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on 14 July at a venue yet to be determined.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Chairman