

South Mid Sussex County Local Committee

27 January 2010 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 pm in Room 121/122 at St Paul's Catholic College, Jane Murray Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 8GA

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

Chairman's Welcome

66. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and invited members and officers to introduce themselves. Thanks were extended to representatives from Fairtrade for the preparation of refreshments for the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

67. Dr Wilsdon declared a prejudicial interest in Community Initiative Funding (CIF) application 1206 at Item 10 as Chairman of the Hassocks Community Partnership management committee.

Minutes

68. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 05 October 2009 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

69. The Chairman informed the meeting that there had been two late applications to the CIF and that these would be discussed at Item 10. The Chairman also asked the Committee if it would be happy to lend the mobile Speed Indicator Device (SID) to the Adur CLC for a short time. A loan was agreed on the understanding that this was not to be repeated.

70. Resolved that Adur CLC could borrow the South Mid Sussex SID for one week following its last scheduled deployment on 31 May 2010.

Progress Statement

71. The Committee considered a report which provided updates on matters arising from previous meetings of the CLC (copy appended to signed minutes). The issue of the poor state of unadopted roads was highlighted and the Committee resolved to call for changes in legislation to help to engender increased adoption of roads in new housing developments. The Committee also queried whether responsibility for private drains on all roads was going to be taken over by water authorities from April of this year. The Highway Manager undertook to confirm this for the next meeting.

72. Resolved that:

- i) the Chairman, in conjunction with Mid Sussex District Council, would write to Central Government calling for changes in planning legislation in respect of the adoption of roads in new housing developments; and that

- ii) the Chairman would raise this issue for discussion at the next County Local Committee (CLC) Chairmen's meeting on 10 February.

Draft Infrastructure Works Programme 2010/11 and Future Years Programme

73. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Operations Infrastructure (copy appended to the signed minutes) which sought the views of the members on Programme for the area covered by the Committee.

74. The Chairman invited comments from members and residents. Various issues were raised with the Highway Manager. Members noted that Parish Council's could still comment on the programme but that it would be difficult to amend next year's schedule and that the Highway manager would report back on proposed works in Potters Lane, update on planning permission for the Green Circle cycle route, drainage problems on Jane Murray way east of Tesco and final plans for a traffic island in Albourne. The Committee agreed that it was content with the programme as it stood.

75. Resolved that the Chairman would write to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport to inform him that the Committee endorsed the Draft Infrastructure Works Programme 2010/11 and Future Years Programme.

76. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at this point for refreshments and the opportunity for residents to speak informally with their County Councillors. The meeting was reconvened at 8pm.

Community Initiative Funding (CIF)

77. The Committee noted thank you letters from previous CIF applicants and considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes) which sought decisions from the Committee on new applications for CIF.

78. The Committee agreed it wished to award the deferred application from Hassocks Boxing Club £1,500 and considered whether they wished to fund the new applications in principal. They then received presentations by two applicants following which Dr Wilsdon left the room.

79. The Committee resolved to award the Hassocks Community Partnership £6,000. Dr Wilsdon then returned to the meeting and awards were agreed for the remaining applicants, with the exception of the application from Fulking Parish Council which was deferred to be considered from monies from the 2010/11 CIF.

80. Resolved that:

- i) the following awards were made: 1076/SMS Hassocks Boxing Club, £1,500, towards the purchase of a portable boxing ring; and 1206/SMS Hassocks Community Partnership. £6,000 towards the set-up costs for a cycle rental service; and 1218/SMS Kangaroos, £318 towards equipment and materials for 'Dig It' a horticultural project for young people with severe learning difficulties. This

organisation was invited to reapply for further funding if necessary in the new financial year: and

- ii) the following application was deferred requesting matched funding be sought and it be considered at the next meeting; 1217/SMS Fulking Parish Council, £3,000 funding towards playground equipment.

Appointment of Local Authority School Governors

81. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes) which set out proposed nominations to school governing bodies and the criteria for their appointment.

82. Resolved that the following candidates be appointed:

- i) Mrs Pippa Bellringer to The Gattons Infant School for a period of four years with immediate effect; and
- ii) Mr Paul King to Hassocks Infant School for a period of four years with immediate effect; and
- iii) Miss Lynda Powell to Southway Junior School for a period of four years with immediate effect.

Safer Routes to School (SRtS)

83. The Locality Manager updated the meeting on the Safer Routes to School Scheme in Albourne. The Albourne Parish Council Chairman emphasised that improvements were to be made to the village hall car park as part of the scheme and also that a Speed Indicating Device (SID) was necessary to slow traffic in the village. The application for the SID will run parallel to the SRtS plan.

Talk with Us Open Forum

84. The Chairman invited comments and questions from residents; responses were as follows:

- support was sought for the retention of the manager of the Denham Road Community House, it was explained that Affinity Sutton could no longer fund the project in its current form although the House would remain open and 7 services would continue to be offered by a range of providers and the manager's full-time post would be replaced by a new worker who would be based at the Community House 1.5 days per week. There was concern about the loss of some of the current services, particularly the children's activities, and fears that the estate would suffer. The Committee agreed that the Chairman should write to the Cabinet member expressing its support for the facility manager remaining in post for the sake of the community. It was also noted that the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership were looking into this issue but that support from the CLC would be very welcome
- information on further accidents on the B2116 was given. The Highway manager informed the meeting that traffic management work was to commence on 08 February, weather permitting

- information on the current situation with regard to the future of the Beacon Centre was requested and given. An undertaking was made to keep Parish Councils up to date with this issue
- parking issues at World's End were raised and it was noted that the anticipated Controlled Parking Zones would help to ameliorate this problem. The Committee undertook to write to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport and request that Burgess Hill be the first town to be considered for implementation when the programme resumed.

85. Resolved that the Committee:

- i) will write to the Cabinet Member for Adults Services requesting support for the retention of a manager at the Denham Community House; and
- ii) will keep Parish Councils updated on the situation with regard to the future of the Beacon Centre at Hassocks; and
- iii) will write to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport requesting that Burgess Hill be the first town to be considered for implementation of Controlled Parking Zones when the programme for the scheme resumes.

Future arrangements for County Local Committees

85. The Locality Manager gave a verbal update on the current review of arrangements for County Local Committees noting the proposal to merge the 14 current CLCs into six. Residents were informed that they could write to the Chairman of the Working Group with their comments on this proposal via the CLC. It was noted that the first meeting of the Working Group would be held on 03 February and would report its recommendations to Governance Committee in early July 2010. The Chairman then invited comments or questions; responses were as follows: it was felt that

- merging the Mid Sussex CLCs would result in too large an area and that South Mid Sussex residents would not necessarily be interested in issues affecting towns in North Mid Sussex; and that
- nothing needed changing, that the CLC worked well; and that
- Chichester was remote and having the County Councillors convening meetings in the locality was very important.

Date of Next Meeting

86. The Committee noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place on 27 April 2010 commencing at 2.30pm at a venue yet to be determined and that the meeting would be themed around young people and issues of interest to them.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Chairman