

Unconfirmed minutes – subject to change until confirmed at the next meeting

Worthing County Local Committee

10 June 2014 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 pm, Durrington High School, The Boulevard, Worthing.

Present: Mr High (Chairman), Mr Cloake, Mrs Hall, Mr R Oakley, Mr J Rogers, Mr R Rogers, Mr Smytherman (Vice Chairman) and Mr Waight.

Apologies: Mr Turner

Chairman's Welcome

1. The Chairman welcomed members and the public to the meeting.
2. A petition from the residents of Durrington Hill was received.

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Mr Smytherman in the Chair

3. The Vice Chairman invited nominations for the Chairmanship for the ensuing year.
4. Resolved – that Mr High be elected for the municipal year 2014/15.

Mr High in the Chair

5. The Chairman invited nominations for the Vice Chairmanship for the ensuing year.
6. Resolved – that Mr Smytherman be elected for the municipal year 2014/15.

Declarations of Interest

7. Mr Smytherman declared a personal interest in the Prevention and Wellbeing grant applications from the Alzheimer's Society and Guildcare as in his capacity as Mayor of Worthing, he had recently provided them with funding for projects.
8. Mr J Rogers declared a personal interest as a trustee of Heene Community Centre relating to the Community Initiative Fund application 389/W.
9. Mr R Rogers declared a personal interest as Chairman of the Maybridge Keystone Centre in relation to the Community Initiative Fund application 352/W as the applicant had undertaken work at the Keystone Centre.

Minutes

10. Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 March 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

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Urgent Matters

11. The Chairman agreed that a late application for Community Initiative Funding (CIF), number 389/W could be considered at agenda item 12.

Future Fire and Rescue Service – Phase 2 Consultation

12. The CLC received a presentation from Gary Locker, Group Manager, West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service on the proposals for Phase 2 of the Fire and Rescue Service Redesign. Mr Locker advised Members that the proposals were as follows:

- Proposal 1: Move one of the two immediate response fire engines at Horsham to Littlehampton, making it a 24-hour immediate response station;
- Proposal 2: Introduce group-crewing model at immediate response stations;
- Proposal 3: Remove the 2nd fire engines at Midhurst, Petworth and Storrington, leaving one fire engine and 4x4 vehicle at each station;
- Proposal 4: Closure of retained unit and removal of 3rd fire engine at Crawley, leaving two fire engines, Heavy Rescue Tender, and a 4x4 vehicle;
- Proposal 5: Implement revised day crewing model at Variable Crewed Stations
- Proposal 6: Increase operational capacity and support for communities in flooding and severe weather;
- Proposal 7: Reductions in management and administrative support;
- Proposal 8: Utilise additional trained staff to improve operational resilience

13. Mr Locker emphasised that no fire stations were closing and that where second fire engines were being removed it was on the basis that they were used very infrequently and therefore there would be little or no impact on response times and outcomes. Likewise changes to crewing arrangements would have no noticeable effect and although there would be fewer firefighters, better use would be made of those in specialist roles by ensuring that they provided cover for frontline firefighters where necessary.

14. In response to questions about the proposals Mr Locker answered as follows:

- There would be no reduction in fire safety checks as they would be carried out in a different way by deploying staff at no risk of call out;
- While the changes were not entirely without risk, resilience for Worthing had been maintained as an immediate response engine would be deployed at Littlehampton and could be called on if necessary;
- The number of firefighters actually being made redundant would be kept to a minimum through the continuing management of vacancies;
- The number of lives lost as a result of fires remained low due to the number of fire safety checks carried out in homes. It was not anticipated this would change as fire safety checks would continue
- The proposed £1.6m savings were part of the County Council's overall savings requirement for 2015/16;
- While traffic volumes were always a problem, no change in the response times was expected whether the speed limit on residential roads in Worthing was changed or not;
- There were no changes to the firefighters pay although there may be changes to their conditions of service as a result of the changes. They would however remain compliant with the nationally agreed conditions of service.

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15. The Chairman thanked Mr Locker for the presentation and encouraged Members and the public to respond to the consultation by the closing date of 23 August 2014.

Worthing – Review of Town Centre Parking Controls: Zones A, B & C

16. The CLC received the report by the Director of Communities Commissioning regarding the review of the Controlled Parking Zones A, B and C (copy appended to the signed minutes).

17. The CLC broadly welcomed the proposals but recognised that this was only the first phase of the review and further work was required to find additional on-street parking places in Worthing. Members agreed that the proposals for The Steyne, Gratwicke Road (south), Chandos Road and Buckingham Road all required further consultation with local residents and businesses. The local Member would speak to both the residents and businesses affected by these proposals and to officers about the way forward for each of these roads.

18. Resolved -

That the Head of Law and Governance be authorised to implement the proposed amendments to the on street parking controls within zones A, B and C of the existing controlled parking zone with the amendments detailed in section 3.1 of the report but excluding proposals for The Steyne, Gratwicke Road (south), Chandos Road and Buckingham Road.

Progress Statement – Worthing Schools and Age of Transfer

19. The CLC noted that the recent public consultation on proposals to allow the Local Authority to change the age at which pupils transfer schools in the Worthing locality with effect from September 2015 had closed and that the majority of respondents to the informal consultation were supportive of the proposals. The Cabinet Member for Children – Start of Life therefore took the decision to publish statutory notices including the amendments to the original proposals following the consultation. No further responses material or significant in number were received during the statutory notice period which closed on 26 March 2014. Therefore the proposals would be implemented subject to modifications as necessary to the number of forms of entry.

20. The Chairman informed the CLC that the Durrington Multi-Academy Trust (DMAT) was reviewing its position and was expected to announce shortly whether it wished to continue the sponsorship of the New Academy to be built on part of the current Broadwater site in Worthing. The detailed design of the Academy was continuing and should come before the County Council's Planning Committee in early September. If DMAT decided not to proceed, the DfE should have time to bring on board a new sponsor in time for presentations to parents early in the Autumn.

Infrastructure Plan Updates

21. Montague Street – The CLC received the report by the Director of Communities Commissioning regarding progress with the Montague Street Town Centre Enhancement (copy appended to the signed minutes).

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22. It was noted that the improvements included in the scheme now covered more streets than Montague Street and was a significant opportunity to improve the town centre of Worthing. Members acknowledged the ambition of the scheme but expressed their concern about the sources of funding for it, not least from S106 funds. The Member for Goring proposed that the Chairman write to the Cabinet Member for Finance to request that an allocation of funds be made for this project from the 2013/14 underspend.

23. Resolved -

That the Chairman write to the Cabinet Member for Finance to request that an allocation of funds be made for the Montague Street Town Centre Enhancement from the underspend in the 2013/14 financial year.

24. Durrington Hill - The CLC received the report by the Director of Communities Commissioning updating Members on the Durrington Hill scheme (copy appended to the signed minutes).

25. The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport had included the scheme in the Integrated Works Programme for 2015/16. However, it was noted that the local Member had withdrawn her support for the scheme and that residents in Ivydore Avenue and Exmoor Drive in particular had called for the scheme to either be stopped or alternatively for those roads to be included in the traffic calming scheme. Many residents commented that they had not, until recently, heard anything about the Durrington Hill scheme and were concerned about the impact it would have on the adjacent roads. Traffic was already speeding in Ivydore Avenue in particular and residents also commented that many buses were using the local roads inappropriately. Residents of Durrington Hill confirmed that they wanted the scheme to proceed as vehicle speeds down the narrow road warranted the traffic calming.

26. Members acknowledged the concerns expressed by residents from the roads in the area. On balance they agreed that the scheme should proceed with pre and post traffic monitoring being carried out in Ivydore Avenue and Exmoor Drive. Consideration would be given to funding an additional scheme in these roads in a future year if required.

27. Resolved

1. That the Durrington Hill scheme proceed as planned in 2015/16;
2. Pre and post traffic monitoring be carried out on Ivydore Avenue and Exmoor Drive;
3. Consideration be given to funding and additional scheme in these roads in a future year, should there be a demonstrated increase in traffic after the implementation of the Durrington Hill scheme.

Prevention and Wellbeing Grants

28. The CLC received the report by the Director of Public Health, Commissioner for Health and Social Care (copy appended to the signed minutes).

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29. Resolved – That

1. funding for the following organisations be approved as follows:

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| ➤ Action for Deafness | £300.00 |
| ➤ Action for Dysphasic Adults
Worthing | £1,500.00 |
| ➤ Alzheimer's Society - decafe | £1,000.00 |
| ➤ Bognor Shopmobility | £2,500.00 |
| ➤ Complement Wellbeing CIC | £1,476.60 |
| ➤ Cruse West Sussex | £740.00 |
| ➤ Headway | £1,000.00 |
| ➤ Impact Initiatives | £1,000.00 |
| ➤ In Safe & Caring Hands | £150.00 |
| ➤ Men in Sheds | £1,400.00- to exclude staff costs; Last time the organisation can apply. |
| ➤ Sage | £833.00 |
| ➤ SASBAH | £850.00 |
| ➤ Seaside Hospital Radio | £2,500.00 |
| ➤ The Life Centre | £900.00 |
| ➤ Worthing Homes | £4,000.00- to exclude rent |

2. the following applications be declined:

- Guild Care - The organisation had substantial reserves it could use for this project and the grant was not intended to solely provide for a social function;
- St Barnabas House (day hospice service) – the organisation had adequate reserves from which to provide the service and had received Community Initiative Funding from the CLC recently
- Storm Ministries - Needs were met elsewhere; the project did not provide good value for money

'talk with us' Open Forum

30. A resident expressed concern about dangerous parking on junctions with Bulkington Avenue and that needed a traffic regulation order (TRO) to resolve the problem and also commented that the white lines in Bulkington Avenue needed to be repainted. Members agreed that there was a parking problem in the area and there was already a proposed TRO for St Thomas' Road and Lanfranc Road that was awaiting prioritisation. The local Member commented that he did not want that TRO to be delayed pending the addition of other roads off Bulkington Avenue to be included. In the meantime the PCSO for the area had been issuing penalty charge notices for dangerous parking on the junctions. The Principal Community Officer would arrange for feasibility studies on the remaining junctions off Bulkington Avenue to be carried out. The Area Highway Manager would arrange for the white lining to be carried out.

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31. In response to a question about the classification of Titnore Road, the Area Highway Manager commented that County Council had always classified Titnore Road as class C. However, a resident said that the Highways Agency classified it as an A road. The Area Highway Manager would speak to the Highways Agency about the correct classification and signage on the A27.
32. It was noted that there was a sign referring to Worthing College was still on the Centenary House roundabout. The Area Highway Manager would arrange for it to be removed as it was now redundant.
33. A member of the public expressed his concern that the quality of education in Worthing was being adversely affected by the new Ofsted inspections and good teachers were leaving local schools as a result. The Chairman agreed, said he would write to the local MP about this and encouraged other Members of the CLC to also write to the MP.

Community Initiative Funding

34. The CLC received the report on Community Initiative Funding from the Head of Law and Governance (copy appended to the signed minutes).

35. Resolved – That

1. funding for the following applications be approved:

- **348/W** – Tarring Community Health Forum - £679.20
- **364/W** – Worthing Women's Aid - £4,000
- **367/W** – Worthing Farmers' Market - £3,500 subject to issues about insurance being resolved. The award did not include entertainment costs detailed in the application.
- **373/W** – St Matthew's Church - £1,700 agreed as a one off payment only.
- **386/W** – Worthing and District Stroke Club - 250

2. That the following applications be declined:

- **351/W** – Town Centre Ice Rinks – The CLC considered that it was not appropriate to use CIF to support this application. However, it was recognised that the Ice Rink did bring benefits to the town and therefore suggested that the applicant applied to the Big Society Fund to support this venture.
- **352/W** New Tyne Resource Centre – The CLC was concerned about the CIF being used to support a Council run facility. It was suggested that the applicant should apply to the Big Society Fund.

3. That the following application be deferred:

- **389/W** - Laugh and Learn Montessori Nursery, £2,500 towards a buggy park at Heene Community Centre as the Committee were concerned that this was a commercial enterprise.

36. It was noted that Mr Waight was standing down from the CIF Sub Group.

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37. Resolved - That Mr J Rogers be appointed to the CIF Sub Group.

Appointment of Authority School Governors

38. Members received a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning (copy appended to the signed minutes) regarding the appointment of Authority School Governors.

39. Resolved - That:

1. the following appointments be made:

Appointments under the 2007 Regulations

- Hawthorns First School - Mr Brian David Glickman for a four year term
- Thomas A'Becket Middle School - Mr Mark Rigby for a four year term
- West Park First and Middle School - Mrs Denise Loydell for a four year term

Reappointments under the 2007 Regulations

- Broadwater CEFM School - Miss JA Crutchfield for a four year term
- Davison CE High School - Ms Y Leonard for a four year term

2. the following application be deferred to enable the local Member to speak to the applicant:

- Downsbrook Middle School - Dr Dennis Stephenson for a three year term

Date of Next Meeting

40. The next meeting of the Committee would take place on Thursday 18th September 2014 at the Elmgrove First School, Elm Grove, Worthing, BN11 5LQ.

The meeting ended at 9.45pm

Chairman