

West Crawley County Local Committee

10 October 2013 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00pm, in the Longley Exhibition Room, Crawley Library, Crawley.

Present: Mr Oxlade - Chairman (Member for Bewbush and Ifield West), Mr Jones (Member for Southgate and Crawley Central), Mrs Mullins (Member for Gossops Green and Ifield East), Mr Quinn (Member for Broadfield) and Mrs Smith (Member for Langley Green and West Green).

Declaration of Interests

28. Mrs Smith declared a personal interest in Item 7 (Community Initiative Fund) as a member of the Crawley Signal Box Preservation Society

Minutes

29. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Report

30. The Committee received a progress report on matters relating to West Crawley (copy appended to the signed minutes).

31. Mr Jones expressed disappointment about the slow pace of progress with the installation of a safe road crossing across the Brighton Road near the Southgate Medical Centre. George Chisenga (Gatwick Diamond Team Manager) advised that as soon as the essential preliminary documents had been received by the County Council it would draw up the new agreement promptly. He agreed to ask Marie Ovenden (Principal Community Officer) to enquire about the current situation and to report back to Mr Jones.

32. Mr Quinn reported on further discussions between councillors and officers about the TRO on the Broadfield Service Road, a 1 hour waiting limit at the service area at the rear of Broadfield Barton had been proposed.

33. The Chairman reported that a letter from the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport had been received in response to the Committees concerns about the street-lighting installation programme in Crawley. The Chairman reported that he would be accepting the offer by SSE (the County Council's street-lighting contractor) to attend the next meeting in January and asked members to collate specific street-lighting issues raised by residents to send to SSE in advance of the meeting.

34. The Committee noted the report.

Infrastructure Plan

35. The Committee considered a report by the Director Communities Commissioning and the Community and Economic Development Manager (copy appended to the signed minutes).

36. George Chisenga introduced the report and advised that the Committee was being asked to select three priorities from the Community Issues List to be included in the Infrastructure Plan (IP) for the West Crawley CLC area.

37. The Chairman reported on three schemes to be proposed as priorities for the IP.

- Pedestrian crossing at Pelham Place, Broadfield – this was a much needed scheme requested several years ago by the local community, a petition had been organised to support the scheme. The crossing would help residents cross from a busy residential area into the main shopping facilities at the Barton.
- To improve and widen the footway on Hyde Drive between Guinevere Road and Dobins Place and to install a new footway on Hyde Drive between Drummond Road and Hammond Road – this was a longstanding request for improvements, the scheme had also been identified in a community audit carried out by Crawley Borough Council.
- Improved crossing facilities at Southgate Avenue, adjacent to St Francis School and Southgate Park. A request for this scheme follows an extensive partnership project that Crawley Borough Council and the County Council supported. The scheme will ease parental parking by St Francis School and enable safe and convenient crossing to the car park adjacent to Southgate Park. The scheme will discourage verge parking by offering more convenient alternative parking.

38. Resolved that

- (1) That the following new highways and transport priorities for the IP are approved: -
 - (a) Pedestrian crossing at Pelham Place, Broadfield
 - (b) To improve and widen the footway on Hyde Drive between Guinevere Road and Dobins Place and to install a new footway on Hyde Drive between Drummond Road and Hammond Road
 - (c) Improved crossing facilities at Southgate Avenue, adjacent to St Francis School and Southgate Park.
- (2) That the current Community Issues List is noted.
- (3) That schemes in the Community Issues List be progressed if:
 - (a) there is local member and community support and
 - (b) either the County Council can deliver such schemes without detriment to the agreed priorities in the IP or there is an

alternative means of delivering them and where S.106 or alternative funding is available.

- (4) That progress with the IP priorities and any scheme developed in the Community Issues List be reported to the CLC at least annually

Community Initiative Funding

39. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Law and Governance (copy appended to the signed minutes) which detailed applications for Community Initiative Funding. The Committee debated the respective merits of the projects for which funding was sought.

40. Resolved that - The following awards are made:

98/WC Crawley Signal Box Preservation Society, £2813 towards replacement signal box steps

101/WC CAMEO Club, £556 towards a visit to an Old Tyme Music Hall

139/WC Crawley District Scout Council, £2778 towards the building of wet rooms at the Scout Hut to enable disabled access.

Report of Urgent Action

41. The Committee noted that following consultation with the Chairman of the West Crawley County Local Committee, the Director Finance and Assurance and the Chairman of the Performance and Finance Select Committee under Standing Order 61, the Head of Law and Governance authorised a Community Initiative Funding award of £1,333 to the Celtic and Irish Cultural Society. The decision on the award had to be made in August as the application was time critical and could not wait until the October meeting.

Appointment of Authority School Governors

42. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Learning (copy appended to the signed minutes).

43. Resolved – that the West Crawley County Local Committee makes the following appointments:

Dr Howard Bloom to Manor Green College for a 4 year term

Mrs Janet Sully to Ifield Community College for a 4 year term

Mrs Tuck to The Holy Trinity CE Secondary School for a 4 year term

44. Mrs Smith reported that a nomination had been received for the outstanding vacancy at Our Lady Queen of Heaven School.

'Talk with Us' – Open Forum

45. The following answer was given in response to a question about matters affecting Crawley residents.

- Streetlighting: a resident from Little Crabtree referred to the poor customer service received from SSE. The Chairman re-iterated that SSE would be attending the next meeting of the CLC and this complaint would be added to list of items to be put to SSE.

Date of Next Meeting

46. The Chairman informed all that the next meeting would be held on 14 January 2014 at Crawley Library.

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm

Chairman