

West Crawley County Local Committee

19 January 2015 – 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 & West Green)

In attendance: Monique Smart (Democratic Services Officers) and Kath Brookes (Community Officer)

Welcome and Introductions

33. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Declaration of Interests

34. Mr Jones declared a personal interest as a registered patient of Crawley Health Centre.

Minutes

35. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Report.

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

37. Issues in relation to the Progress Report and attached Infrastructure Plan Priorities and Community Issues List raised by the Committee and residents included:

- Members welcomed the updates on the Community issues List regarding progress with taking forward a pedestrian crossing in Downland Drive, Southgate and a safer routes to school scheme for West Green Primary School.
- Mrs Smith commented that some items on the Community Issue List in her division do not seem to have progressed. Kath Brooks agreed to look into these and go back to Mrs Smith.

Development of health services in Crawley

38. Richard Woolterton, Head of Primary Care and Shelley Eugene, Contracts Manager, provided Members with a presentation about the consultation on services provided at Crawley Health Centre. (slides appended to the signed minutes).

39. Following the presentation a number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Mrs Smith stated that the 24 hour service at the Urgent Treatment Centre was already in existence and not a new service. Richard Woolterton confirmed that the funding from walk in centre element of the contract would be transferred to the Urgent Treatment Centre and therefore improve the services overall.
- Mrs Smith raised concern that there is not another local GP surgery in West Green and stated that the 3100 patients would have to transfer to surgeries not easily accessible by public transport.
- Mrs Mullins asked how many non-registered patients used the walk in service as she was concerned that groups such as homeless or young people would not register elsewhere if the walk in centre closes. Shelley Eugene stated that she did not have this figure to hand but could find out and let Mrs Mullins know.
- Mr Jones expressed disappointment about the proposals for closing the walk in centre. He stated that at present it is central and convenient for many but the hospital is a distance away. Mr Jones also raised concern about waiting times if the walk in centre patients attended the Urgent Treatment Centre. Richard Woolterton reiterated that the funds from the walk in centre will support the Urgent Treatment Centre to improve and expand services.
- Mr Oxlade voiced concern about pushing patients out to other surgeries that were already over capacity.
- Mr Quinn asked if the NHS could consider reintroducing a service for pharmacists to deal with minor ailments. Richard Woolterton agreed to look into this.
- Peter Smith, a Crawley Borough Councillor, asked why residents of West Green are being disadvantaged if there was no cost benefit to the NHS? Richard Woolterton replied stating that to procure a contract for such a small registered patient list would be very difficult and possibly unsustainable in the future. He confirmed that this was not a cost saving exercise but about reinvesting services.
- Karen Sudan, a Crawley Borough Councillor, urged the NHS to reconsider the proposals as she felt that this cut back would have a detrimental effect on the lives of local residents, especially the elderly and vulnerable.
- Ashvin Sunny asked how many people currently used the walk in centre. It was confirmed that 28, 000 people had used the walk in centre.
- Mrs Smith did also felt that engagement with local Members should have been undertaken sooner. Shelley Eugene confirmed that contact had been made with the Health and Adults Scrutiny Committee (HASC) at an early stage.

40. The Chairman thanked Richard Woolterton and Shelley Eugene for their presentation and time. The Chairman reminded everyone that the consultation ran until 1 February and he urged people to respond. The Chairman also agreed to respond with the points raised this evening.

Community Initiative Funding (CIF)

41. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy (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.

42. Resolved – That the following awards be made:

474/WC Gurjar Hindu Union, £2,777.77 towards the costs of staging a dance and drama show, including hiring the Hawth Theatre,

482/WC Young at Heart Over Sixty's Club, £277.77 towards the costs of coach hire and a cream tea,

492/WC, 2nd Ifield Scout Group, £2,000.00 towards the cost of excavating a water drain to the public sewer

518/WC, St Catherine's Hospice, £1005.55 towards the costs volunteer training and expenses.

The following award was deferred:

502/WC, Hanover Band, towards the costs of purchasing musical instruments. Members agreed to defer the application pending confirmation that the service would be available to the schools in West Crawley.

Appointment of Authority School Governors

43. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning on the appointment and nomination of Authority School Governors.

44. Resolved that the following re-appointment be approved:

- Mr GRD Tyler to Manor Green Primary School for a four year term

'Talk with Us' – Open Forum

45. The following answers were given in response to a question about matters affecting Crawley residents.

- It was confirmed that at a County Council meeting in Horsham today, Members agreed not to support a second runway for Gatwick airport.
- A resident asked for the County Councils policy on wooden posts on grass verges to stop parking. Members confirmed that many of the posts have been paid for by residents but if the residents contact their local County Councillor they can work with them to try and resolve issues. The Chairman confirmed that this is something that the County and Borough Councils are working together on to address.
- The Chairman confirmed that he would be writing to all schools in the West Crawley area to ask them to confirm if they have or when they will be reconstituting their governing bodies. The Chairman confirmed that his letter also asks schools to help improve engagement between them and the local County Councillors.
- A resident requested County Council support for improvements to pedestrian and disabled access to the south west corner of Crawley Football Stadium. The request was also for safety barriers beside the stream along the footpath. It was confirmed that a site visit with the area Highways manager

would take place tomorrow. The local County Council Mr Quinn stated he would support the request to be added to the Community Issues List and would like to attend the site visit to discuss in more detail.

Date of Next Meeting

46. The Chairman informed all that the next meeting would be held on 17 March 2015 at Crawley Library.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Chairman