

West Crawley County Local Committee

23 January 2013 - At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. in the Longley Exhibition Room at Crawley Library, Southgate Avenue, Crawley.

Present:

Mr Quirk, Member for Broadfield (Chairman), Mr Blake, Member for Gossops Green and Ifield East, Mr Oxlade, Member for Bewbush and Ifield West and Mrs Brenda Smith, Member for Langley Green & West Green.

Apologies were received from Dr Bloom, Member for Southgate & Crawley Central.

Declarations of Interests

67. Mr Oxlade declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 8 Community Initiative Funding. Mr Oxlade left the room for the consideration of Application 1980/WC as he is a trustee of Crawley Open House.

68. Mr Quirk, Mr Blake, Mr Oxlade and Mrs Smith declared a personal interest in Item 7, West Sussex Flood Investigation as members of Crawley Borough Council.

Minutes

69. Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 25 October 2012 be confirmed as a correct record subject to some corrections to road names previously recorded in error (see minute 70 below) and that they be signed by the Chairman.

70. Minute 63 refers: Marie Ovenden also agreed to add a TRO for double yellow lines along *Oatlands* to the list.

Minute 65 refers: The following issues were also identified by Councillor Chris Mullins: -

- Parking at Rother *Crescent and Highams Hill*
- Reducing the speed limit in *Langley Drive*

Progress Report

71. The Committee considered a progress statement on matters arising from the last meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes).

72. The Chairman stated that the highways improvement proposals associated with the Kilnwood Vale Development would probably result in the junction improvements for Buckswood Drive, one of the Committee's Infrastructure Plan priorities. Mrs Smith asserted that it was important to keep up the pressure for the junction improvements to be made as soon as possible. Marie Ovenden (Principal Community Officer) confirmed that the Buckswood Drive scheme was being moved forward by officers at the County Council. The Chairman also commented that he was disappointed that the Cabinet Member for Highways

seemed to think that an increase of over 20% in traffic flow, from the Developments, was acceptable at busy times, even though the current flows exceeded capacity now. The Chairman felt that infrastructure changes needed to be put in before the houses were built not afterwards. No mention was made of a ring road.

Priorities for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs)

73. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities Commissioning and Head of Highways and Transport on priorities for TROs to be commenced in 2013/2014 in the West Crawley area (copy appended to the signed minutes).

74. Resolved – That the following TRO priority is approved: -

- (1) Crawley Town Football Stadium Parking/several junction protections – waiting restrictions near junction
- (2) A decision on two further TRO priorities would be deferred to a future meeting pending further investigation of some potential schemes, this will include Vancouver Drive/Canberra Close (waiting restrictions near junction, listed in Appendix A of the Committee Report).

West Sussex Flood Investigation Report

75. Marie Ovenden introduced the Report (available on the County Council Website) which sets out the findings of the County Council investigation following the June 2012 flood event. Marie Ovenden advised that a number of hotspots had been identified in Crawley which would require remedial work. Discussions were taking place with Crawley Borough Council and a further update on the next steps to be taken would be reported back to the Committee.

76. The Committee noted the West Sussex Flood Investigation Report.

Community Initiative Funding

77. The Committee received a report by the Head of Law and Governance regarding requests for Community Initiative Funding (copy appended to the signed minutes). The report concerned the Community Initiative Fund (CIF), which is a County Local Committee (CLC) administered fund that provides assistance to local community projects.

Application 1980/WC, Crawley Open House

78. Crawley Open House had requested £2778.00 towards replacement of a kitchen in the Day Centre. The Committee agreed to allocate £2778.00.

Application 1987/WC, Crawley Amateur Boxing Club

79. Crawley Amateur Boxing Club had requested £2778.00 towards alterations and renovation to toilets and changing facilities particularly to

accommodate increased female membership. The Committee agreed to allocate £2778.00.

Application 1995/WC, Homes @ Pembroke

80. Homes @ Pembroke had requested £1389.00 towards the costs for a street party. The Committee agreed to allocate £1389.00.

81. The Committee also agreed that any funding not allocated on 31 March 2013 would be donated towards the setting up of a Food Bank in Crawley which is being organised by Crawley Community and Voluntary Service.

82. Resolved – That

(1) the Committee awards the following funding: -

- £2778.00 to Crawley Open House
- £2778.00 to Crawley Amateur Boxing Club
- £1389.00 to Homes @ Pembroke

(2) any funding not allocated on 31 March 2013 would be donated towards the setting up of a Food Bank in Crawley which is being organised by Crawley Community and Voluntary Service.

Appointment of Authority Governors

83. The Committee considered a report by the Director Operations - Learning on the re-appointment of Authority Governors (copy appended to the signed minutes).

84. Resolved – That

(1) Mrs R A Leonard is re-appointed as an Authority Governor at Manor Green College for a four-year term.

(2) Ms C E Collins is re-appointed as an Authority Governor at Mill Primary School for a four-year term.

'Talk with Us' - Open Forum

85. The following answers were given in response to questions about matters affecting Crawley residents.

86. Amazon Lockers in Crawley Library – questions about the County Council's policy to install lockers in West Sussex libraries which could be used by Amazon customers were asked on behalf of Geraint Thomas. These included questions about contract length, revenue and allegations about UK tax avoidance. A response from the Deputy Leader whose portfolio includes the library service would be sent to Geraint Thomas.

87. Ifield Drive cycle route – Marie Ovenden advised that she would check the status of this project with regard to the Infrastructure Plan priorities list. The Committee would have opportunity to discuss the priorities list at the next meeting in June.

88. Expansion of Gatwick Airport and The Airports Commission (Davies Commission) – Keith Blake advised that the County Council will have to consider its stance on the future of Gatwick Airport and whether it wants to present views and evidence to the Commission.

89. Hyde Drive, lack of pavement on the left hand side – Marie Ovenden advised that this would be added to the Community Issues List.

90. As this was the last meeting of the Municipal Year the Committee thanked the Chairman, this would be his last CLC meeting as he was not standing for re-election at the forthcoming County Council elections. The Committee also sent best wishes to Dr Bloom who was in hospital.

Date of Next Meeting

91. The Committee noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on 18 June 2013. The meeting will be held at Crawley Library.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.