

## **Joint Downland Area Committee**

22 September 2014– At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. at The White Swan Hotel, Arundel.

Present:

West Sussex County Council: Mr Peters, Mrs Phillips and Mrs Urquhart

Arun District Council: Councillors Mr Dendle, Mr Jones, Mr Bicknell, Mr Charles and Mr Dingemans

Town/Parish Council representatives: Miss Verinder (Angmering), Mrs A Harriott (Arundel), Mr Humphris (Clymping), Mr Allington (Eastergate), Mr Goldsworthy (Findon), Mr Ford (Ford), Mr Looker (Houghton), Mrs Harriott (Lyminster & Crossbush), Mr Fox (Patching), Mrs Brimblecombe (Slindon), Mr Roddham (Walberton), Mr Brown (Warningcamp) and Mr Taft (Yapton).

Officers: Karl Roberts, Assistant Director (ACD) Monique Smart, Democratic Services Officer (WSSC) and Scott Judge, Principal Community Officer (WSSC).

### **Chairman's Welcome**

33. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

34. Apologies had been received from Councillors Mr Cooper, Mr Whittington, Mr Haymes, Mr Phillips and Mrs Chapman

### **Declarations of Interest**

35. No declarations of interest were declared.

### **Minutes**

36. Resolved –that the minutes of the Joint Downland Area Committee (JDAC) held on 23 June 2014 are confirmed as a correct record and that they are signed by the Chairman.

### **Progress Statement**

37. The Progress Statement was noted.

### **Talk with us – public question time**

38. The Chairman invited questions from members of the public. Questions were asked to which responses were given, including those set out below:

- A representative from Arundel Community Orchard asked Members to reconsider the Community Initiative Sub Group recommendation to only award half the amount requested. She stated that the assistance of experts

to help the volunteers was essential and she did not see this as running costs. The Chairman thanked the applicant for her question but stated that the response should be debated when the application is considered later in the agenda.

## **Community Policing Update**

39. The Chairman welcomed Inspector Marc Clothier who provided an update on current issues in the JDAC area. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Inspector Clothier referred to the previously circulated statistics and noted that reported crime had increased. He stated that although the aim would be to reduce this figure they are also encouraging people to report crime, especially around domestic violence
- Inspector Clothier confirmed that there was no evidence to suggest that increases were linked to any specific issues or offenders other than some that were linked to the main road networks such as the A27 and A29.
- Inspector Clothier confirmed that powers had been used in recent months to seize equipment used for raves.
- It was noted that Internet fraud was not recorded on the crime statistics circulated. Inspector Clothier stated this was difficult to Police on a District level but a new officer has been appointed to deal with this Sussex wide.
- Inspector Clothier stated that he was not aware of any plans to have a custody suite in the District.

## **Area Action Plan**

40. The Chairman referred Members to the Area Action Plan previously circulated. The Committee noted the Area Action Plan.

- Councillor Dendle requested that the cycleway for Ford station to Arundel be included as part of the scheme in item 1. Karl Roberts confirmed that a proposal for a cycleway for the whole river corridor is included in the Arun Local Plan and once this is approved, the scheme can look to move forward to attract funding streams. Councillor Dendle confirmed that it was important that the route was near the road rather than the river so that those using the station, especially school children, would be more likely to use it.
- In relation to Item 6 Flooding and Drainage, local Angmering Members asked that they and the Parish Council have copies of any plans from the Highways Agency. Scott Judge agreed to take this request forward. In addition Scott Judge agreed to ask officers about progress in relation to flooding on the A29 in Shripney and add this back on the Area Action Plan.
- Members were reminded that the consultation on the Lyminster Bypass closed this week and Councillor Mrs Caroline Harriott encouraged people to respond to the consultation.
- In relation to the A27 a proposal was put forward that JDAC write to the Secretary of State in support of improvements to the A27 at Arundel. **Resolved** that the Chairman write to the Secretary of State in support of improvements to the A27 at Arundel.

## **Your Energy Sussex**

41. The Chairman welcomed Siobhan Walker, Partnership Manager, West Sussex County Council. Ms Walker provided a powerpoint presentation (attached to the minutes) about Your Energy Sussex, a partnership of 15 Sussex local authorities working together to improve efficiently in homes and non-domestic buildings.

42. Following the presentation a number of questions were raised and answers provided as follows:

- Councillor Mr Allington referred to a scheme that allowed people who do not have cash to invest in schemes to pay back via other means such as Council Tax. Siobhan stated she was not aware of such schemes but would look into them.
- Councillor Mr Dendle stated that it needed to be easier to get a green assessment as he was personally aware of the difficulties.
- Mr Karl Roberts confirmed that new developments do require a certain amount of energy to be renewable.
- Mrs Urquhart urged Parish Councils to promote green energy projects and contact Siobhan directly if they require any advice.
- Siobhan confirmed that they were looking into using car parks for solar panels.

43. The Chairman thanked Siobhan Walker for her presentation and attendance.

## **Community Initiative Funding**

44. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Law, Assurance and Strategy (copy appended to the signed minutes), which sought a decision from the County Council Members of the Committee on the applications received under the Community Initiative Funding (CIF) scheme.

45. Mrs Urquhart referred Members to the CIF Sub Groups recommendations. In relation to the application from Arundel Community Orchard Mrs Urquhart stated that the area had many community orchards that run on donations and local fund raising. Mrs Urquhart stated she would have liked to have seen match funding for this project rather than CIF providing the whole project costs. In response, Mr Peters stated that this would complete the Orchard and the scheme is a community hub that provides many activities including apple pressing and links with local schools. Mr Peters proposed that the full amount be granted.

46. The County Councillors on the Committee resolved that Community Initiative Funding be allocated as follows:

- 416/JEAAC, Voluntary Action Arun and Chichester, £170, towards the costs of purchasing a tablet to allow volunteers to search on-line for volunteering opportunities.

- 431/JEAAC, Arundel Community Orchard Group, £1,727.50 towards the costs of purchasing and planting 10 fruit trees and buying a pruning ladder.

### **Appointment of Authority Governors**

47. The Committee considered a report by Director of Communities Commissioning, West Sussex County Council (copy appended to the signed minutes).

48. Resolved that The County Councillors of the Committee agreed that Mr Richard Marshall Dyer be appointed to Arundel CE Primary School for a four year term.

### **Items to be raised by Town and Parish Council representatives.**

49. The Chairman invited questions from Town and Parish representatives on the Committee. A number of questions were asked to which responses were given, including those set out below.

- Mrs Joan Phillips asked if JDAC could request if the surplus funding from a Yapton cycle path could be put towards improvements at Comet Corner. It was agreed that Scott Judge would ask officers would look at the feasibility of this.

### **Items for Future Meetings**

50. It was agreed that a presentation about Slindon Affordable Housing project would be taken of the list for now and members would review again later in 2015. It was also agreed that the information circulated to members in relation to Business Crime Reduction Partnership for Arun was sufficient and therefore did not need to be considered at a future meeting.

51. The following items were agreed for consideration at future meetings:

- Broadband presentation
- Update on Cycling and Cycling Strategy

52. It was also requested that Monique Smart request information from Stonepillow for Members to consider if they wish to have a future presentation.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

53. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Monday 15 December 2014 at Arundel Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm