

Agenda Item 4 Unconfirmed minutes

Joint Downland Area Committee

22 June 2015– At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. at Eastergate Parish Hall

Present:

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

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

Town/Parish Council representatives: Councillors: Mrs S Francis (Angmering), Mrs A Standing (Arundel), Mr Phillips (Barnham), Mr Humphris (Clymping), Mr Allington (Eastergate), Mr Ford (Ford), Mr looker (Houghton), Mr Hulmes (Lyminster & Crossbush), Mrs Brimblecombe (Slindon) and Mrs Wallsgrove (Walberton).

Officers: Karl Roberts, Assistant Director (ADC) and Monique Smart, Democratic Services Officer (WSCC).

Chairman's Welcome

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. Apologies had been received from Councillors Mr Goldsworthy (Findon), Mr Brown (Warningcamp) and Mr Steward (Arundel).
3. The Chairman announced with sadness the death of Len Prior from Findon. Len was a dedicated local Councillor and most known to JDAC Members as the first Parish Council Chairman for the Committee, a role that he carried out with commitment and professionalism. The Chairman agreed to send a letter of condolences to Mr Prior's family.
4. It was also agreed that the Chairman would write to congratulate Mrs Jean Goad of Barnham, district and parish councillor, on the OBE she has received for services to local government

Appointments

5. Following the decision that the Chairmanship of the Joint Arun Area Committees should rotate amongst the three tiers, the Chairman for 2015/16 would be a Town or Parish Councillor and the Vice Chairman would be a County Councillor.
6. The Chairman explained that following the recent elections JDAC had a number of new Town and Parish Council representatives. To allow new Members the opportunity to see a JDAC meeting in action and have time to decide if they wish to nominate themselves for Chairman, it was agreed that the current Chairman, Councillor John Charles, remain as Chairman for this meeting. Nominations for Chairman for the remainder of 2015/16 would be sought from Town and Parish Councillors at the following meeting on 21 September.

7. **Resolved** that Mr Peters be appointed as the Vice Chairman of JDAC and Chairman of the Joint Downland County Local Committee (CLC).

8. **Resolved** that Councillor Mr Charles be appointed as the lead District Councillor.

9. **Resolved** that the membership of the Community Initiative Funding (CIF) Sub Group for 2015/16 be as follows:

Mrs Urquhart (WSCC)
Mr Whittington (WSCC)
Cllr Mr Haymes (ADC)
VACANCY (Parish/Town Council)

10. **Resolved** that the membership of the Community Projects Sub Group of JDAC for 2015/16 be as follows:

Cllr Mr Dendle (ADC)
Cllr Mr Dingemans (ADC)
Mr Whittington (WSCC)
Cllr Tu (Arundel TC)
Cllr Ms Verrinder (Angmering PC)
Cllr Mrs Wallsgrove (Walberton PC)

11. **Resolved** that Councillor Mr Phillips from Barnham Parish Council be appointed as the JDAC representative on the Arun Conservation Area Advisory Committee.

12. Whilst discussing memberships and appointments. Mrs Urquhart raised an issue about the number of Members that Arun District Council have on JDAC. She explained that a recent electoral review at Arun resulted in four wards becoming two (Angmering & Findon and Arundel & Walberton) but Arun have not reduced the number of Members they appoint to JDAC. Mrs Urquhart made particular mention of Angmering as only a small section of Angmering falls within JDAC and she felt that ward should only have one District Member on JDAC. Mr Karl Roberts agreed to take this back to Arun for discussion.

13. Mr Whittington raised a separate issue about whether Angmering should be included in JDAC as the small area of Angmering in JDAC only has 39 households. Mr Whittington suggested that Angmering should be solely in the Joint Eastern Arun Area. Mr Whittington stated that he had requested that WSCC look into this.

Declarations of Interest

14. In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, the following personal interests were declared:

- Mr Peters declared a personal interest as a Member of Arundel MIND.

Minutes

15. Resolved –that the minutes of the Joint Downland Area Committee (JDAC) held on 9 March 2015 are confirmed as a correct record and that they are signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

16. The Progress Statement was noted.

17. Regarding minute 90 of the previous meeting, Cllr Mr Hulmes stated that Lyminster and Crossbush Parish Council did receive a response from WSCC regarding the speed of traffic and repeater signs for the new 40mph speed limit. However Cllr Humles still had concerns and that repeater signs are needed. He also stated that the current signage is blocked by overgrown foliage. Monique Smart agreed to forward these concerns back to the traffic engineers at WSCC.

Talk with us – public question time

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

- Mr Richard Wilby addressed the Committee in relation to the community grant application for St Mary's Church war memorial, Aldingbourne. He welcomed the sub group proposal to grant 50% of the application but urged Members to consider the full amount requested. Mr Wilby circulated some photos of the memorial. *The Chairman thanked Mr Wilby and confirmed that Members would consider the application at agenda item 11.*
- Mr James Baird asked if JDAC would consider updating their Area Action Plan item on Coastal Defence at Clymping to reflect that policy is now moving away from unfunded maintenance and towards the provision of sustainable defences. Mr Baird referred to 'a common effort by West Sussex County Council, Arun District Council, Littlehampton Town Council, Rope Walk Residents and Business owners, the Environment Agency and the owner of Clymping Beach and farmland has resulted in the prospect of new River and Coastal defences being provided through enabling development from the Littlehampton Economic Growth Area (including the West Bank) allocation in the Arun District Council Local Plan. It is expected that new defences could be provided within the next decade. *Cllr Mr Humpris responded by saying that JDAC should be cautious to amend their Area Action Plan at this early stage. The Chairman confirmed that JDAC would consider this request.*
- Mrs Halstead from Lake Lane, Barnham requested that JDAC ask West Sussex County Council Highways to undertake a review of Lake Lane as the road is extremely narrow and vehicles often have to use the verges making it dangerous for residents, cyclists and pedestrians. In addition she asked why a study for a slip road onto Lake Lane for HGV's is being undertaken but no other improvements are being suggested. *Mr Whittington replied as the local Member stating that this issue had previously been looked into by the County*

Council as well as the Local Government Ombudsman and that Mrs Halstead had received responses stating that the issue had been fully investigated and no further action could be taken. The Chairman agreed to contact WSCC Highways and pass on Mrs Halsteads concerns.

- Mr Payne raised concern about a proposed greenhouse development on Maypole Lane Yapton. He explained that Maypole Lane was only 3 metres wide and leads to Lake Lane, neither he felt were suitable for the HGV's that the development would generate. Mr Payne also commented that the development would not create any jobs or houses for local people as it was simply moving from another location. In addition Mr Payne was extremely concerned about flooding in Maypole Lane. *Mr Karl Roberts from Arun District Council replied stating that the planning application was yet to be determined and urged anyone with an interest to view the full details on the Arun District Council website. Mr Roberts stated he would speak to the case Officer at Arun and ensure all of Mr Paynes points are considered. Cllr Mr Haymes stated that Yapton Parish Council has responded to the planning application but as Chairman of Development Control at Arun he was unable to comment. Some Members did echo the concerns raised about HGVs using narrow lanes and although unfortunately they could not do anything about the sites that already have planning permission in Lake Lane, Members stated they hoped that the planning process would look carefully at future proposals.*

Community Policing Update

19. The Chairman welcomed Sergeant Sarah Leadbetter who provided an update on current issues in the JDAC area. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Arun and Chichester Districts will continue to be one hub with one District Commander. This policing model will be rolled out across Sussex. It was confirmed that there could be some changes to PCSO support as resources need to be allocated to where needed most. However response teams will remain as before.
- Current operations include Operation Magpie to highlight the need to look windows and doors when leaving the house in summer months and Operation Dragonfly to promote no drinking and driving.
- Scams and internet crime are priorities for the Police but the previously circulated statistics do not include these.
- It was confirmed that the Police are recruiting for Specials.
- The new transit site near Chichester seems to be helping as illegal encampments can be moved on to the new site.

Area Action Plan

20. The Chairman referred Members to the Area Action Plan previously circulated. The Committee noted the Area Action Plan. A number of issues in relation to the plan were discussed including those set out below:

- Mr Roberts confirmed that he would ensure that the issue of foot and cycle paths on Ford Road was raised at every possible opportunity including upcoming meetings about the A27 improvements.
- Cllr Mr Ford confirmed that Ford Parish Council is also looking at possible options for car parking at Ford Station.
- Mr Whittington commented on the Environment Agencies response regarding the footpath. He stated that it is not part of the beach but a public right of way.
- Regarding Mr Bairds previous comments about item 2 Coastal Defences, Mr Roberts stated that the item was specifically in relation to Coastal Defences at Clymping and the update regarding that is that the Environment Agency are likely to publish the approved plan by the end of the summer. With regard to Mr Bairds wider points, Mr Roberts stated that we would need to wait and see what the inspector says in relation to the local plan package but he was happy to discuss this further with Mr Baird outside of the meeting.
- In relation to broadband, Cllr Mr Allington reported that the Barnham cabinet was not working and that he had reported this to BT 4 weeks ago. It was agreed that Monique Smart would report this back to the Broadband Team at WSCC to take forward with BT.
- It was also requested if the 5% area not covered by the Broadband rollout could be looked at again for alternative solutions. Mrs Urquhart confirmed that the National Park and the County Council are in discussion about this issue.
- Mr Roberts confirmed that some detail was still being finalised regarding the Lyminster bypass application but that an update should be included for the next meeting.
- Regarding flooding Cllr Mr Bicknell stated that the ditches on the south side of the A27 had been cleared but this also needed doing on the north side. Monique Smart agreed to notify Kevin Macknay at West Sussex County Council.
- It was requested that an update on the Lidsey Surface Water Management Plan come back to JDAC at a future meeting.

Prevention and Wellbeing Grants 2015-16

21. The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director Care, Wellbeing & Education and Director of Public Health and Social Care Commissioning (copy appended to the signed minutes).

22. The report set out the prevention & wellbeing commissioning objectives for 2015 along with the Prevention and Wellbeing Grant applications received for 2015-16. It also identifies how the grants were spent in 2014/15. Grants are awarded annually on merit in relation to the application and awarding criteria. The criteria reflect countywide and service area objectives, as well as specific local needs.

23. The County Council Members of the Committee considered the grant applications for 2015-16 as set out in Appendix B and approved those that it considered most appropriate to the local needs of the community

24. Resolved:

a) That the following applications were approved:

Arundel Apple Day £500
Arun Co-Ordinated Community Transport £1,500
Cruse West Sussex Area £160
LifeCentre £200
PBC Foundation £8.12
SASBAH £300

b) That the following application was declined:

St Barnabas House - Due to the large amount of reserves that the organisation holds, Members felt that funding was not required.

Community Initiative Funding

25. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy, West Sussex County Council (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. The Committee debated the respective merits of the projects for which funding was sought.

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

a) The following awards were approved:-

737/JDAC, Coastal West Sussex MIND, £500.00 to purchase two laptops.

740/JDAC, Yapton and Ford Local History Group, £846.00, to purchase 3 display boards.

b) The following application was declined:-

741/JDAC, Yapton and Ford Village Hal. Members considered that advertising was an ongoing revenue cost and therefore not suitable for CIF.

Community Grant Applications

27. The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Director, Arun District Council (copy appended to the signed minutes), which sought a decision from the Committee on the applications received under the Community Grant fund.

28. The Committee resolved that Community Grant be allocated as follows:

- (i) £2,000 for funding the restoration (cleaning and repointing the damaged stonework) of Aldingbourne War Memorial;
- (ii) £6,465.60 for funding towards furniture for the baby and children's play area needed for Walberton Community Playcentre;
- (iii) £785 for funding the replacement of 25 secondhand chairs with arms and 80 sets of tableware use by community groups using Yapton & Ford Village Hall.

29. Mr Roberts confirmed that there was about £10,000 left in the fund and a decision on further funding would be made by Arun District Council Cabinet very soon.

Appointments and Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies

30. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Care, Wellbeing and Education, West Sussex County Council on the appointment and nomination of Authority School Governors.

31. Resolved that County Council Members of the Committee approved the following nominations under the 2012 Regulations:

Reappointment:

Eastergate CE School
Mrs JA Walker for a four year term

Walberton & Binstead CEP School
Mr T Davey for a four year term

Appointments:

Aldingbourne Primary School
Mrs R Peters for a four year term

Items to be raised by Town and Parish Council representatives.

32. 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.

- Cllr Mr Hulmes asked if Lyminster could be considered for a 20mph speed limit through the village. *The Chairman replied stating that the first port of call regarding these requests is for the community or Parish Council to raise concerns to their local County Councillor. In terms of actually progressing the requests, this would be subject to meeting policy, consultation, budgets, feasibility and the result of the review currently taking place with regards to how the County Council prioritise Traffic Regulation Orders in the future. The Chairman confirmed that at present the County Council are not adding any new requests to the list until the review is complete, although it can be noted. Mr Peters confirmed his support for this request and agreed to follow it up with Highways.*

- Cllr Mr Bicknell asked what could be done about parking on grass verges. Monique Smart agreed to ask Highways for a response and get back to Cllr Bicknell.

Items for Future Meetings

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

- Update on Cycling and Cycling Strategy - 2015
- A27 (once details become available)
- Lidsey Surface Water management Plan update – March 2016

Date of Next Meeting

34. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Monday 21 September at the White Swan Hotel, Arundel.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm