

Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee

21 March 2013, – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7 pm at The John De Bohun Room, Rustington.

Present:

West Sussex County Council Dr Walsh, Mr Tyler (Vice Chairman), Mr Evans and Mr Peters.

Arun District Council Councillor Mr R Elkins, Councillor Mr Bicknell, Councillor Mr Chapman, Councillor Mr Steward and Councillor Mrs Emberson

Town / Parish Council representatives Councillor Mr Mountain (Angmering), Councillor Mrs Robertson (Ferring), Councillor Mrs Walker (Kingston) (Chairman), Councillor Mr Duijf (East Preston) and Councillor Mr A Cooper (Rustington).

In attendance:

West Sussex County Council: Monique Smart (Democratic Services Officer) and Sue Furlong (Principal Community Officer)

Arun District Council: Paul Warters (Assistant Director Customer Services)

Chairman's Welcome

72. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There followed a minutes silence as a mark of respect following the death of Councillor Mrs Julie Hazelhurst.

73. Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs Urquhart, Mr Bower, Mrs Bowyer and Mrs Neno.

Declarations of interest

74. In accordance with the Members code of conduct, the following declarations of interests were made:

- Dr Walsh declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 12 as the Chairman of St Johns Ambulance.
- Mr Peters declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 12 as the President of St Johns Ambulance.
- Mr Evans declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 14 as one of the governor applicants
- Mrs Emberson declare a personal interest in Agenda Item 14 as one of the governor applicants

Minutes

75. **Resolved** –, that the minutes of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee, held on 18 December 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

76. The Committee had before it a progress statement on matters arising from the previous meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes). Comment/queries were as follows:

- Regarding flooding Dr Walsh was pleased to report that Sea Road in Littlehampton had now been re-drained and it was hoped would resolve the flooding issues on that stretch of road.
- Peter Evans also reported that flooding inspection and alleviation works had begun in East Preston. A new outfall was required and it was planned to link this with the outfall in Ferring.
- Councillor Mr Chapman stated that flooding was due to be on the agenda of a Joint Scrutiny meeting between District and County later this year.

'Talk with Us' – Public Questions

77. The Chairman opened the meeting to questions from members of the public. The Chairman requested that issues in relation to the A259 be taken during agenda item 8. In the discussion that followed, a number of points were raised, which included those set out below (responses in *italics*):

- Mr Sax, a Littlehampton resident asked two questions. The first asking if the Lyminster by pass was a clear priority for the WSCC and whether there was a definitive timetable for its construction? *Dr Walsh replied stating that a pre-condition of the North Littlehampton development was that the bypass must be completed. Dr Walsh also confirmed that this was in the County Councils Forward Plan and initial plans have been approved. The County Council is currently investigating sources of funding, in addition to the secured developer contributions, to develop and deliver the scheme.*
- Mr Sax's second question was regarding the pot holes on the A284 in Littlehampton. He had noted that the A284 is being resurfaced in short sections at the Wick Street end and asked if there were plans for Arundel Road, South of Wick Street, to be given the same treatment? *Dr Walsh confirmed that this was in the programme for surface dressing for the coming financial year. Dr Walsh also reminded everyone of the love west sussex website where people could report and send photographs of potholes and other issues.*

Community Police Issues

78. The Chairman welcomed Inspector Nick Bowman, who provided an update on crime statistics and current issues in the JEAAC area. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Inspector Bowman referred to the latest crime statistics for the Eastern Arun area and was pleased to report a 13% reduction in overall crime compared to

this time last year. He did note that some areas had seen an increase but in areas such as drug related crime this could be seen as a positive as they are only recorded as a crime when someone is arrested.

- Mr Evans asked what the Police could do locally to help reduce speed in the village of Ferring. He explained that they were hoping to implement a 20mp zone. *Inspector Bowman asked Mr Evans to provide him with the details of specific areas and he would look into deploying a Speed Indicator Device (SID). Sue Furlong also confirmed that East Preston will be starting a Community Speed Watch scheme in partnership with the County Council and Roads Policing team.*
- Councillor Mr Chapman noted that the statistics for 'Violence against the person' seem quite high. He asked if this included domestic Violence. *Inspector Bowman confirmed that it did and he stated that the Police had specific campaigns to deal with this issue.*
- Councillor Mr Elkins asked if the police had any current initiatives to seek to reduce burglary or to seek awareness or prevention measure to the public. *Inspector Bowman stated that the key to reducing burglaries was to review the evidence and catch the criminals. With regard to awareness in the community it is a matter for each case as the police do not want to increase fear of crime but do require the public's assistance on occasions.*

A259 Route Improvement Study

79. The Chairman welcomed and introduced David Marsh from West Sussex County Council and Colin McKenna and Richard Clark from Parsons Brinkerhoff.

80. David Marsh introduced a report by the Director for Communities Commissioning and Strategic Planning Manager, West Sussex County Council. He explained that the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee had previously identified the need for this study of the section of the A259 from the River Arun (west of Littlehampton) up to, and including, Goring Crossroads roundabout. As a result Parsons Brinkerhoff had been commissioned to undertake the study.

81. Colin McKenna and Richard Clark went on to provide a powerpoint presentation (attached to the signed minutes) that included proposals for improvements to junctions as well as dualling of some sections of the A259. They also briefly discussed the estimated costs of the proposals as detailed in the presentation.

82. The Chairman then opened the meeting to questions from the Committee and the public. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Mr Evans asked if any 'quick fixes' could be identified so that things should be done in stages or be prioritised. Mr McKenna said this was not considered as part of the study but the junction identified as in the most need of improvements was the Goring Crossways.
- Dr Walsh confirmed that the Highways and Transport Sub Group have endorsed the study. He commented that the proposals, in particularly the dualling, would likely require developer contributions and are therefore longer term solutions. However some smaller developments could contribute to and achieve some junction improvements or 'quick fixes'. It was hoped this could resolve some local problems. Dr Walsh did also confirm that this study was the starting point and that the detail would be an on-going process via both the Highways and transport Sub Group and JEAAC.

- Councillor Mr Bicknell asked if a filter lane to East Preston was considered at Junction 11. Richard Clark stating that this would not be possible due to the entrance to a farm.
- Councillor Mr Cooper stated that he was still disappointed that the Rustington Golf Club junction had not been included in the proposals for improvements. Dr Walsh did say that it is factored into the study but in addition there have been recent meetings regarding the proposed development at that junction.
- Councillor Mr Mountain asked for confirmation that pedestrians and cyclists needs were included in the study. Sue Furlong confirmed that page 34 of the study did include specific proposals.
- David Marsh summarised a questioned submitted by Councillor Derek Hulme. His concerns were whether the study had taken account of proposed future development, particularly in North Littlehampton. It was confirmed that the study did include a forecast for growth and this included the North Littlehampton Development. It was also confirmed that the proposed Fitzalan Link Road crossway was included in the study but no improvements were suggested as its design meets capacity. Councillor Mr Hulme also asked why not all of the A259 in the study could be dualled. David Marsh confirmed that the section not proposed as being dualled was mainly due to the effect on property and land in that location but also that there was less demand on that small section.
- A local resident who had previously worked with Dr Walsh and other local Councils to identify traffic solutions, had a number of points to raise and suggestions to make in relation to the study. It was agreed he would email these to David Marsh.
- An East Preston resident asked for clarification regarding railway crossings closures that Mr Hulmes question had previously referred to. Dr Walsh stated that this was regarding the Lyminster Road and Toddington Lane crossings that are proposed to close when the Lyminster bypass is completed as this includes a bridge over the railway.
- Another East Preston resident raised concern about the proposals for the Station Road junction. Dr Walsh confirmed that the proposals did include two lanes from Station Road so this should elevate some pressure. Councillor Mr Mountain did also say that Angmering Parish Council are in discussions to improve the restrictions through Angmering village to encourage more people to use the A280 and therefore further relieve the stress on the Station Road junction.

Highways and Transport Sub Group

83. The Chairman referred the Committee to the notes of the last meeting of the Highways and Transport Sub Group (copy appended to the signed minutes), and asked Dr Walsh, Chairman of the Highways and Transport (H&T) Sub Group, to run through any issues. The Committee discussed a number of issues, which included those set out below:

- As briefly discussed under the previous item, Dr Walsh confirmed that he and other relevant members have had meetings with County Council planners and the agents for the proposed new development of land near the Windmill Bridge in Rustington. Both the Sub Group and JEAAC will be kept updated as this progresses.
- Dr Walsh referred members to the recommendations of the sub group that relate to the decisions on the next two agenda items.

Traffic Regulation Order Priorities

84. The Committee considered a report by the Director for Communities Commissioning and Head of Highways and Transport, West Sussex County Council (copy appended to the signed minutes). Sue Furlong introduced the report and asked the County Council Members of the Committee to approve the top three Traffic Regulation Orders for the CLC area to commence delivery in 2013/14.

85. Resolved that the County Council Members (CLC) of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee approved the priority order for implementing Traffic Regulation Orders within the area with the top three priorities as:

- JEA1012 Fitzalan Road, Littlehampton – Waiting Restrictions
- JEA1010 Clun Road/Chapel Close, Littlehampton – Waiting Restrictions
- JEA1025/JEA1019/JEA1017/JEA1018/JEA1024 (The Grangeway, Claigmar Rd, B2140 Sea Lane, Broadmark Lane & Shafesbury Rd jc B2140 Sea Lane) – Waiting Restrictions (can be combined as they are within half mile of each other)

Proposed Signalled Controlled Pedestrian Crossing, South Terrace near Beach Road, Littlehampton.

86. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Service Operations and Head of Highways and Transport, West Sussex County Council (copy appended to the signed minutes). Dr Walsh introduced the report. He explained that the Highways and Transport Sub Group had discussed this proposed crossing and considered the objections and the alternative location suggested in the report. However they felt that the proposed alternative would raise very similar objections and that the need for the crossing outweighed the objections. Their recommendation to the County Councillors was therefore to approve the crossing as originally advertised.

87. Resolved that the County Councillors of the Joint Eastern Area Committee having considered the benefits of the proposed crossing in light of the objections received, gave approval for the installation of the Signal Controlled Pedestrian Crossing on South Terrace, near Beach Road, Littlehampton as advertised.

Community Initiative Funding

88. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Law and Governance, West Sussex County Council (copy appended to the signed minutes), which sought decisions from the County Council Members of the Committee on the applications received under the CIF scheme.

89. Resolved that the County Council Members of the Committee approve the following applications.

- **2041/JEAAC**, St John Ambulance Littlehampton Unit, requested £233 towards vehicle maintenance equipment and event laptop. Granted £175.45
- **2043/JEAAC**, East Preston Film Society, requested £2,500 towards new hall chairs. Granted £1,880
- **2044/JEAAC**, Angmering In Bloom Association, requested £1,140.52 towards a greenhouse and garden equipment. Granted £858
- **2059/JEAAC**, Warren Recreation Ground, requested £2,500 towards renovating and improving Fives Court. Granted £1,880.

Arun District Council Grant Funding

90. The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Director of Customer Services, Arun District Council (copy appended to the signed minutes). Paul Warters introduced the report and asked Members to support the setup, Terms of Reference and Membership for this new group.

91. Members discussed the membership of the new group and suggested it should include the Members already appointed to the Sub Group for the County Council CIF.

92. Resolved:

- 1) That JEAAC agree to the Terms of Reference for the Sub Group
- 2) That JEAAC agree the membership of the Sub Group as Nigel Peters (County Councillors), Roger Elkin and Ray Steward (District Council) and Steve Mountain, Andy Cooper and Geraldine Walker (Parish Councils).

Appointment of Authority Governors

93. The Committee considered a report by Head of Learning, West Sussex County Council (copy appended to the signed minutes), which set out proposed nominations to school governing bodies and the criteria for their appointment and sought decisions from the County Council Members of the Committee on the applications received.

94. Resolved that the County Council Members of the Committee agreed the following appointments and re-appointments of Authority School Governor:

Appointments:

Mrs S Greig to St Catherine's Catholic Primary School for a 4 year term

Mrs C Emberson to Lyminster Primary School for a 4 year term

Re-appointment:

Mr P Evans to Ferring CEP School for a 4 year term

Items to be raised by Town and Parish Council representatives

95. Ferring Parish Council had two issues to raise but as they were in relation to planning at Arun District Council, Councillor Mrs Robertson agreed to email her questions directly to Councillor Mr Bower.

Items for future meetings.

96. It was agreed that organisations who had received CIF funding would be asked to report back to the Committee with details of how it has benefitted the community.

Date of next meeting

97. The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on 2 July 2013. Members wishing to place an item on the agenda should notify Monique Smart via e-mail: Monique.smart@westsussex.gov.uk or on 033022022540.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Chairman