

Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee

1 December 2015, – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7 pm at The John De Bohun Room, Rustington.

Present:

West Sussex County Council Mr Tyler, Mr Buckland, Mr Evans, Mrs Urquhart and Dr Walsh.

Arun District Council Councillors Mr Bicknell, Mr Bower, Mr Elkins and Mrs Neno.

Town / Parish Council representatives Councillor Mrs Francis (Angmering), Councillor Mr Duijf (Chairman) (East Preston), Councillor Mrs Walker (Kingston), Councillor Mr Squires (Littlehampton) and Councillor Mrs Cooper (Rustington).

In attendance:

West Sussex County Council: Monique Smart (Democratic Services Officer), Peter Lawrence (Principal Community Officer) and Ben Whiffin (Area Highways Manager)

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

Chairman's Welcome

50. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

51. Apologies had been received from Councillors Mr Peters, Mr Gammon, Mr Purchase and Mrs Robertson.

Declarations of interest

52. The following interests were declared:

Mr Ian Buckland as a Member of Arun District Council and Littlehampton Town Council

Dr James Walsh as a Member of Arun District Council and Littlehampton Town Council

Mr Peter Evans as a Member of Ferring Parish Council

53. Members asked for advice as to whether they have to declare interests as Members of Councils other than those they are at JEAAC to represent. Dr Walsh stated he had previously received legal advice to do so.

Minutes

54. **Resolved** that the minutes of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee, held on 8 September 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

55. The Committee had before it a progress statement on matters arising from the previous meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes). A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Councillor Mr Bicknell raised concern about the County Council proposals to change the JEAAC and JDAC boundaries so that all of the Angmering Parish is in JEAAC. Dr Walsh confirmed that this had now been approved by Governance Committee. It was noted that Arun District Council were not changing their boundaries so this would only affect the County Council functions of the meetings such as Community Initiative Funding and prioritisation of Traffic Regulation Orders and Highway Improvement schemes. Mrs Urquhart added that this had been happening in practise and the proposals simply formalise that.

'Talk with Us' – Public Questions

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

- A number of residents from Littlehampton raised concerns about parking in and around Littlehampton Train Station, River Road, Pier Road and North Ham Road. The main issue was that shoppers, commuters and visitors could park freely in the roads to avoid paying for car parks and therefore residents found it difficult to park near their homes. It was understood that JEAAC had previously made a decision not to introduce a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) for Littlehampton and some residents asked if this could be reconsidered.
- Mr Ian Buckland, as the local County Councillor, stated that he supported his residents in asking for a new consultation for a CPZ for Littlehampton. He also confirmed that Littlehampton Town Council, who had previously not supported proposals for a CPZ, had agreed to discuss it further at their next Planning and Traffic Committee on 7th December.
- Mr Ben Whiffin (Area Highways Manager) confirmed that the previous consultation started in 2012 but there was not support from key stakeholders, such as the Town Council, to progress to public consultation. This would have to change before the County Council would consider any further review.
- Mr Whiffin also referred to a pilot 'road space audit' scheme that the County Council was undertaking in the Chichester District. This would look at all parking issues including capacity and possible solutions and until this scheme reports in spring 2016 it is unlikely that the County Council would consider a new CPZ. The main reason for this was that often a CPZ can displace a problem rather than solve it.
- Mr Whiffin stated that there was a cost to residents for a CPZ and that it would not guarantee a space outside their house or even in their street.
- Dr James Walsh suggested that there were alternative solutions to a CPZ and that he would agree for this issue to be added as a future item for the JEAAC Highways and Transport (H&T) Sub Group to consider.
- Cllr Mr Ricky Bower suggested that a supplementary planning document may help in that it can state the minimum parking requirements for new developments. Cllr Mr Bower undertook to look into this issue with Arun District Council.
- Residents from Rustington were also in attendance and asked for an update regarding the parking problems in Broadmark Lane and the petition they had

submitted. Dr Walsh confirmed that a response to the petition had been sent to the petition lead and as noted in the minutes of the JEAAC H&T Sub Group the situation would be kept under review.

- Derek Chester asked a question in relation to the three counties bid to Government for the devolution of further powers and specifically increasing housing delivery and land supply. Cllr Mr Bower responded stating that the devolution bid was in the process of evolution and will require the Government's approval. More detail will emerge in the few months. Dr Walsh added that he had raised the issue of openness and accountability with the leader of West Sussex County Council.

Community Police Issues

57. Unfortunately no Police Officer was in attendance so this item was deferred until the next meeting but the Chairman did remind Members to contact Inspector Clothier with any issues.

Highways and Transport Items

58. The Chairman referred Members to the notes from the last meeting of the Highways and Transport Sub Group (appended to the signed minutes). Dr Walsh, Chairman of the H&T Sub Group provided a brief update of the main issues, including:

- It was noted that the title for minute 5 should only be Ferring & Worthing Road East Preston TRO progress update.
- Regarding campervans parking on the seafront it was noted that Members supported making this a priority but that it would have to wait until the new TRO process was introduced. As this issue crosses into the Worthing County Local Committee it would need a joined up approach to any proposals. Mr Peter Evans, as the local County Councillor, stated that the County Council Gypsy and Traveller team had had some success in moving those that appeared to have people living in them but a long term solution was required before next summer.
- It was confirmed that Ben Whiffin was looking into the possibility of new signs for the Windmill Bridge roundabout to ensure that people use the correct lane.

59. The Committee then went on to consider 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 Committee on the future administrative arrangements for JEAAC H&T Sub Group.

60. Resolved that the Committee agreed that Parish and Town Councils will provide the administrative support for the meeting on a 6 monthly rolling basis for willing Parish and Town Councils.

61. The Chairman welcomed Mr Tony Bathmaker, Project Manager West Sussex County Council. Mr Bathmaker provided an update regarding the A259 Improvement Scheme. He confirmed the preliminary design had been completed and was currently out to tender for design and build. The next stage involved contacting land owners to acquire some small sections of land to enable sections to be dual carriageway. Following that a business case would formally be put to the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to draw down funds. Then it was planned that a full public consultation would take place. This was anticipated to be from 8th January to 19th February 2016 and would include radio and newspaper adverts, letter drops, website and social media and 4 drop in events across the local area.

62. Members welcomed the update and the progression of the scheme and thanked Mr Bathmaker and his team for bringing the scheme to the delivery stage. Members were generally happy that their previous comments and concerns had been looked into and hoped that the public would engage in the forthcoming consultation.

Community Funding

63. The Chairman welcomed previous successful Community Initiative Fund (CIF) applicants and asked them to provide a brief update of their project and how the funds had benefitted their organisation and the local community. Members welcomed the updates and thanked the applicants for taking the time to come along and provide feedback.

64. The Committee then went on to consider a report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy, 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.

65. Mr Evans declared a personal interest in application 793 as a Vice Chairman of one of the Youth Groups that would benefit should funding be allocated.

66. Resolved that the County Council Members of the Committee considered the CIF applications and allocated funding as follows:

793/JEAAC – Arun Community Church, £3000 towards 3x XBOX, games and sports equipment for 3 Youth Clubs.

804/JEAAC - South Downs Film Makers, £900 towards the purchase of a projector, speakers and other equipment.

808/JEEAC – Ferring Village Hall, £600 towards the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator.

815/JEAAC - Arun Divers, £3,000 for replacement SCUBA equipment.

Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies

67. The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director Care, Wellbeing and Education (copy attached to the signed minutes).

68. Resolved –That the County Council Members of the Committee approves the following nominations under the 2012 Regulations: -

Appointment:

Mr N Crowther to St Wilfrids Catholic Primary School for a four-year term.

Items to be raised by Town and Parish Council representatives

69. There were no items raised.

Items for future meetings.

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

- WSCC Cycling and Walking Strategy

Date of next meeting

71. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on 8 March 2016 at The New Millennium Chamber, Littlehampton Town Council. 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 8.30pm

Chairman