

Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee

Tuesday 14th June 2011, – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7 pm at The New Millennium Chamber, Littlehampton.

Present:

West Sussex County Council Mr Evans, Mr Peters, Dr Walsh, Mr Tyler, Mrs Urquhart,

Arun District Council Councillor Mr Steward, Councillor Mrs Hazlehurst (Chairman), Councillor Mr Bicknell, Councillor Mrs Bowyer, and Councillor Mrs Emberson

Town / Parish Council representatives Councillor Mrs Francis (Angmering), Councillor Mrs Robertson (Ferring), Councillor Mrs Lines (Rustington), Councillor Mr Hulmes (Littlehampton), Councillor Mrs Walker (Kingston) (Vice Chairman) and Councillor Mr Melser (East Preston)

In attendance:

West Sussex County Council: Richard Bennett (Highways & Transport) and Monique Smart (Democratic Services).

Arun District Council: Wendy Ashenden-Bax (Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer)

Sussex Police: Chief Inspector Jane Derrick and Inspector Gavin Whitehouse.

Chairman's Welcome

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He informed the meeting that following the local elections there had been a number of changes to the Membership of the Committee. New Members representing the District Council were Councillors Mrs Joyce Bowyer, Mrs Carol Emberson and Mr Ricky Bower. New Members representing Parishes were Councillors Mr John Melser (East Preston) and Mr Steve Mountain (Angmering).

2. Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mr Britton, Mr Elkins, Mrs Emma Neno and Mr Steve Mountain. Councillors Mr Derek Hulmes and Mrs Susan Francis were in attendance as substitute Members.

Appointments

3. Following the decision that the chairmanship of the Joint Arun Area Committees should rotate amongst the three tiers, the Chairman for 2011/12 would be a District Councillor and the Vice Chairman would be a Parish Councillor. The Chairman also explained that the County Councillors would appoint a Chairman of the Eastern Arun County Local Committee and this appointed person would attend pre agenda meetings and lead on any County Council items at JEAAC.

4. **Resolved** that Mr Graham Tyler be appointed Chairman of the Eastern Arun County Local Committee for the forthcoming year.
5. **Resolved** that Councillor Mrs Julie Hazlehurst be appointed Chairman of JEAAC for the forthcoming year.
6. **Resolved** that Councillor Mrs Geraldine Walker be appointed as Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year.
7. **Resolved** that the Memberships of the Highways and Transport Sub Group and the Community Initiative Sub Group remain the same for the forthcoming year. It was requested that Councillor Ricky Bower be added as a District Council Member on the Highways and Transport Sub Group but the Chairman of the Sub Group, Dr James Walsh, confirmed that the agreed Terms of Reference did not officially include District Councillors but that a number of the County Councillors were also District Councillors. It was agreed that this would be discussed further at the next meeting of the Sub Group.

Declarations of interest

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

- Mrs Susan Francis as a Member of Angmering Parish Council -Item 14.
- Mrs Joyce Bower as a Member of Littlehampton Town Council, Arun District Council and Littlehampton Harbour Board – Item 10.
- Mrs Carol Emberson as a Member of Littlehampton Town Council, Arun District Council – Item 10
- Mr Paul Bicknell as a Member of Angmering Parish Council – Item 14
- Mr Nigel Peters as a Member of Littlehampton Harbour Board - Item 10.
- Mr Ray Steward as a Member of Arun District Council – Item 10.
- Dr Walsh as a Member of Littlehampton Town Council and Arun District Council and Littlehampton Harbour Board – Item 10
- Mr Graham Tyler as his grandchildren attend River Beach School -Item 17 and a Member of Arun District Council and Littlehampton Harbour Board – Item 10.

Minutes

9. **Resolved** – that the minutes of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee, held on 1st March 2011, be confirmed as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Part II

10. Members agreed that agenda item 17 would remain as Part II and exempt because of information about individuals.

Progress Statement

11. 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:

- Alternative Route to Sea Lane into Rustington. Dr James Walsh informed the Committee that the walk had taken place and Richard Bennett confirmed that a report including costings, would be presented to a future H&T Sub Group meeting.
- Roadside Vehicle Sales. Richard Bennett confirmed that there was only one contractor to undertake this work and that legal services were checking that the correct procurement process had been followed. It was hoped that once this had been agreed then the contract could be signed.

'Talk with Us' – Public Questions

12. The Chairman opened the meeting to questions from members of the public. In the discussion that followed, a number of points were raised, which included those set out below:

- A representative from St Bridget's residential home thanked those who attended the recent walk. She did state that the residents were concerned that only one route into the village was being progressed and any obstructions such as gas works would mean that residents could not access the village. Dr Walsh confirmed that a full report on the results of the walk would be presented at the next Highways Sub Group and then any recommendations would be brought forward to the next JEAAC meeting.
- A number of representatives from the Courtwick Lane Opposition Group (CLOG) attended the meeting. Following their attendance at the last meeting they had written to the Chairman, Mr Peter Evans, requesting that the County Council reconsider their highways response to the planning application. Mr Peter Evans confirmed that the County Council response would not be reconsidered at this stage. It was also stressed that any objections to the Planning Application must be made to the Planning Authority – Arun District Council. Wendy Ashenden-Bax confirmed that when the application is considered by the Development Control Committee at Arun District Council, the public can request to speak for or against an item and must request this in writing to the Planning Officer. Councillors Mr Ray Steward, Mrs Joyce Bower and Mrs Julie Hazelhurst declared an interest at this point as Members of the Development Control Committee. They took no part in the discussions.

Community Police Issues

13. The Chairman welcomed the new Chief Inspector for the Arun Area, Jane Derrick and also Inspector Gavin Whitehouse, who provided an update on crime statistics and current issues and in the JEAAC area. Chief Inspector Derrick confirmed that the new West Sussex Division had been effective since 1st April and the new model of policing was working well with response times being met. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Increase working with local retail community regarding shoplifting. Hoping to improve the shopwatch scheme.
- Targeting of vehicle crime – particularly in the East Preston and Angmering areas. An arrest had been made following a number of vehicle fires in Littlehampton and Rustington.
- Success regarding the night time economy and making the town centres a safer place.

- Inspector Derrick encouraged the public, members and traders to report any incident as it happens.

14. Mr Peter Evans thanked Chief Inspector Derrick and Inspector Whitehouse on keeping crime rates down during a period of such change.

Littlehampton Regeneration

15. The Chairman welcomed Anthony Everitt, Senior Economic Development Officer, and Miriam Nicholls, Business Development Manager, Arun District Council, who provided a presentation (copy appended to the signed minutes) to update Members on the Littlehampton regeneration programme. Following the presentation a number of questions followed to which responses included:

- It was confirmed that the flood defence timetable by the Environment Agency was on schedule to link the riverside development and the pier.
- Some concern was raised about the St Martins car park development and the effect this would have on the high street shops.
- It was confirmed that St Martins would include a multi story car park.
- A meeting would take place next week to discuss how the arcade could be improved.
- Some members supported regeneration but stressed that improvements to the infrastructure of the A259 and A27 need to be part of any development.

Community Initiative Funding

16. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (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.

17. **Resolved** that the County Council Members of the Committee approved the following applications and amount of Community Initiative Funding:

1550/JEAAC Action for Deafness, £1,044 requested for development and set-up costs for 'sign for fun' workshops – also equipment and materials. **£1,044 granted**
1627/JEAAC Arun Valley 1087 Air Training Corps, £2,150 requested towards the purchase of a second-hand replacement 15-seater minibus. **£2,150 granted**

Appointment of School Governors

18. The Committee considered a report by Director of Operations Learning (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.

19. Resolved that the following be re-appointed as School Governor:

- Mr. S Mountain to Cornfield School for a 4 year term

Highways and Transport Sub Group

20. 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 James Walsh, Chairman of the Highways and Transport Sub Group, to run through any issues. The Committee discussed a number of issues, which included those set out below:

- 20 plenty campaign. Littlehampton now have signs on Beach Road. The issue in East Preston was that the signs looked too much like speed limit signs. It was suggested East Preston should look at the style of signs in Beach Road.
- Councillor Mr Derek Hulmes asked in the West Sussex Transport Plan had been consulted on or discussed at a local level. Dr James Walsh confirmed that this had been discussed at the JEAAC Highways Sub Group and reported back to JEAAC.

Bramley Green, Angmering - Traffic Regulation Order

21. The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director Communities (copy appended to the signed minutes), which sought a decision from the County Council Members of the Committee to progress Traffic Regulation proposals for Bramley Green, Angmering

22. **Resolved** that the County Council members of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee authorised the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make the 20mph zone and waiting restrictions as advertised and that the traffic calming measures be constructed as advertised.

Items for future meetings.

23. It was agreed that the Environment Agency would be invited to a future meeting to discuss the outcomes of Exercise Watermark.

Date of next meeting

24. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on 13th September 2011 at The John De Bohun Room, The Woodlands Centre, Rustington. Members wishing to place an item on the agenda should notify Monique Smart via e-mail: Monique.smart@westsussex.gov.uk or on (01243) 752730.

Exclusion of Press and Public

25. Resolved - That under Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I, of Schedule 12A, of the Act by virtue of the paragraph specified under the item and that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption of that information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Appointment of School Governors

(Exempt – Paragraph 1, Information relating to any individual)

26. The Committee considered a report by the Director Operation –Learning which set out proposed nominations for Authority Governors for the new River Beach Primary School Governing Body and the new White Meadows Primary School Governing Body. Both Governing Bodies received more applications than vacancies therefore these were all contested applications.

46. Resolved – that, based on the details provided in the application form, the County Council Members of the Committee:

1) Approved the following appointment of Authority Governor:

- Mrs. D Thompson to River Beach Primary for a 4 year term
- Mrs. P King to River Beach Primary for a 4 year term
- Mr. S McConnell to River Beach Primary for a 4 year term
- Mr. R Fuke to River Beach Primary for a 4 year term
- Mrs. A Briggs to White Meadows Primary for a 4 year term
- Mr. P Sanderson to White Meadows Primary for a 4 year term
- Mr. M Pridmore to White Meadows Primary for a 4 year term.

2) And declined the following appointment:

- Mr. P Brophy-LeMay to River Beach Primary for a 4 year term
- Mrs. E Matthews to River Beach Primary for a 4 year term
- Mrs. J Ellis to White Meadows Primary for a 4 year term

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Chairman