

## **Joint Western Arun Area Committee**

1 November 2017– At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. at The Regis School, Bognor Regis

Present:

West Sussex County Council: Mr Patel, Mrs Pendleton, Ms Flynn and Mr Whittington

Arun District Council: Councillors Mr Charles (Chairman), Mr English, Mr Dillon, Mr Dingemans and Mr Haymes.

Town/Parish Council representatives: Councillors Mrs Richardson (Aldwick), Mr Ballard (Barnham), Mr Knight (Bersted), Mr Cunard (Bognor Regis), Mrs Ballard (Eastergate), Mrs Wild (Felpham), Mr Darling (Middleton), Mr Camerer Cuss (Walberton), Mrs Brimblecombe (Slindon),

Officers: Monique Smart, Democratic Services Officer (WSSC), Benjamin Whiffin, Area Highways Manager (WSSC), Tracey Light, Principal Community Officer (WSSC) and Jackie Follis, Head of Policy (ADC).

### **Chairman's Welcome**

29. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

30. Apologies had been received from Councillors Mr Edwards, Mrs Hall, Mr Bence, Mrs Bence, Mr Wotherspoon, Mr Beaton, Mr Pickthall, Mr Humphris, Mr Allsopp and Mr Ford.

### **Declarations of Interest**

31. None

### **Minutes**

32. Resolved – that the minutes of the Joint Western Arun Area Committee (JWAAC) held on 28 June 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and that they are signed by the Chairman.

### **Progress Statement**

33. Cllr Mr Cunard raised concern about the future of the Street Scene contract between Bognor Regis Town Council and West Sussex County Council. He stated this would affect all Parishes within the old JWAAC area as the Town Council contract was to remove graffiti and flyposting from all those areas. The Area Highways Manager responded stating that he understood the contract had been reinstated until the end of the year and a full review and consultation would take place in the meantime. The Area Highways Manager confirmed that a full response would be sent to the Town Council from the Cabinet Member for Highways Infrastructure at West Sussex County Council.

## Talk with us – public question time

34. The Chairman invited questions from members of the public. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below (responses in italics):

- Mr Parsons asked what was the Joint Western Arun Area Committee's assessment of the current state of local community involvement and engagement in civic affairs and in what specific ways would they be open to community inspired ideas and innovations on how it might be improved. *The Chairman stated that he was aware that Mr Parsons had good links with both officers and Members from the District and County Councils and welcomed this involvement. Cllr Mr Dillon referred to the Community Engagement Committee at Bognor Regis Town Council and stated that they work with Mr Parsons. Cllr Mr Dingemans also commented that there had been a lot of public consultation in recent years about regeneration in Bognor and that gave the public the opportunity to engage.*
- In relation to the decision on the Felpham Traffic Regulation Order later on the agenda, Mr Farrell asked if the proposed speed cushions were worth the money as none of the recent collisions in the area were speed related. He also referred to the low response rate from the community for this proposed scheme. *The Chairman asked the Members and officers to consider the questions but respond at the agenda item.*
- On the same subject Mrs Drinkwater asked if the Committee was satisfied that the formal consultation demonstrates adequate community support. She also asked how much the volume of traffic had reduced through Felpham since the opening of the relief road and whether this was taken into account before considering the proposal. Lastly she asked if the Committee agreed that the relief road had indeed relieved Felpham of through traffic whether they would be willing to put these proposals on hold and carry out a full and proper consultation with the help of Felpham Parish Council and local schools and organisations to ascertain whether community support for 20 mph speed limit throughout Felpham still exists now that the relief road exists? *Again the Chairman asked the Members and officers to consider the questions but respond at the agenda item.*
- Mr Goodheart asked how many Parishes within JWAAC had signed up for the 'What If' programme. *Monique Smart confirmed that four had officially signed up and a further four were currently undertaking the training.*
- Mr Goodheart also asked about street drinking and the rules around moving people on. *The Chairman asked the Police representative to respond to this in his update.*

## Community Police Update

35. The Chairman welcomed Acting Inspector Danny West who provided an update on neighbourhood policing in the JWAAC Area. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Inspector West explained the changes to Neighbourhood Policing in that from Monday they are known as the Prevention Team rather than Neighbourhood

Team. He confirmed that the Arun and Chichester Prevention Team had 15 PCs, 4 Sergeants and 27 PCSOs.

- In response to the public question about street drinking, Inspector West confirmed that public protection space orders can be used by the Police (including PCSOs and Business Wardens) to deal with anti-social drinking and withdraw alcohol. Whether to move people on is a decision based on individual circumstances.
- Inspector West explained that Cuckooing is when drug dealers from major cities target vulnerable people in places such as Bognor Regis. He reported some successes and recovered drugs and was pleased to report that Sussex Police are making it harder for groups to work in Sussex.
- Members expressed disappointment that they no longer received crime statistics in advance of the meetings.

### **Highways and Transport Sub Group**

36. The Chairman referred Members to the minutes of the last meeting of the Highways and Transport (H&T) Sub Group (copy attached to the signed minutes). Members noted the minutes and the following issues were discussed:

- Cllr Mr Dingemans asked why the Parish and Town Council had to pay a fee to be part of the Highways and Transport Sub Group. Monique Smart responded stating this was as a result of the last review of County Local Committees by West Sussex County Council and was for the administration costs of the meetings.
- In relation to minute 4.4, Mr Whittington provided a map of the location with a 'missing link' in the cycle network in Bognor Regis. He explained this was on the eastern side of the A29 between the new roundabout and Halfords roundabout. He stated that he had a meeting with officers tomorrow and asked Members if, in principle, they supported him trying to progress a cycle path for this 'missing link'. Following a short debate the majority of members supported this being investigated for progression.

### **Traffic Regulation Order – Felpham, Traffic Calming.**

37. The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director of Economy, Infrastructure & Environment and the Director of Highways and Transport, West Sussex County Council (copy appended to the signed minutes), which sought a decision from the County Council Members of the Committee.

38. Peter Bradley, Project Manager, West Sussex County Council introduced the report and explained the background to the proposed scheme, details of the consultation undertaken and responses to some of the objections received as detailed in the report. In responding he tried to address the questions asked at 'Talk with Us'. He confirmed that traffic flows on the old A259 had reduced by 18/20% since the relief road had opened.

39. Cllr Mr English spoke in support of the scheme stating that it was a community led scheme that would be enforced by residents. He stated that the response rate to the informal consultation for this scheme was high. He asked the Committee to support the proposals. Mrs Flynn also spoke in support of the

proposed scheme stating there had been a lot of consultation and it was one of the three main priorities for Felpham Parish Council.

40. **Resolved** that the County Council Members of the Committee, having considered that the benefits from managing traffic speed in this area where people live outweigh the concerns expressed by the objections, agreed to authorise the Director of Law and Assurance to make the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised.

### **Prioritisation of Traffic Regulation Orders**

41. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Highways and Transport and Head of Highways Operations, West Sussex County Council (copy appended to the signed minutes), which sought a decision from the County Council Members of the Committee.

42. The Area Highways Manager introduced the report explaining that the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) requests received since July 2016 had been assessed and scored and the results attached in appendix A of the circulated report.

43. **Resolved** that the County Council Members of the Committee agreed to progress the two highest scoring TROs from the list attached at Appendix A, those being:

Furse Field, Aldwick – Double Yellow Lines

Elmer Road, Middleton – Double Yellow Lines

### **Community Highway Schemes**

44. The Area Highways Manager introduced the previously circulated information report that provided an update on Community Highway Schemes. He explained that no new requests had been submitted for the JWAAC area and encouraged any residents or Councillors to apply for new schemes by completing the online application form.

45. The Area Highways Manager went on to highlight the schemes previously put forward and detailed in Appendix C of the information report. He stated that it was hoped these schemes would be programmed for delivery in 2018/19

### **Community Initiative Funding**

46. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law and Assurance, 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.

47. The Committee discussed the respective merits of the projects for which funding was sought and indicated support or otherwise for each application.

48. RESOLVED that the County Councillors on the Committee allocate Community Initiative Funding as follows:

The following applications were approved: -

24/JWAAC - 60 Minutes of Classical Music £900.00 towards the purchase of trombones. Members did request that the applicant actively look to extend membership of the group.

67/JWAAC - Bognor Regis Youth Cricket Club, £2323.75 for new kit and training equipment.

71/JWAAC - Blake's Mead Community Association, £1500.00 for Organisation costs and events.

76/JWAAC - Grandads Front Room, £750.00 towards a laptop to set up a community hub.

79/JWAAC - Willowhale Community Centre, £2,500.00, towards new flooring.

The following applications were declined:

75/JWAAC Genesis Community Centre, £2,500.00 requested towards outside sheltered seating area. Declined as CIF is not for ongoing funding and they have had CIF previously. It was also suggested that they set up as a CIC or Charity to be able to access other funding.

78/JWAAC Walberton Pavilion, £1,114.00 requested towards Pavilion refurbishment. Declined as they are a precepting authority

87/JWAAC Radio Respect, £4,432.94 requested towards New Radio Equipment. Declined as the application stated the project would not go ahead unless fully funded. It is very rare that the Committee would give over £2500. It was suggested the applicant look at fundraising/match funding and then come back at a future date.

### **Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies**

49. The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director of Children, Adults, Families, Health & Education (copy attached to the minutes).

50. Resolved that the County Council Members of the Committee approved the following nomination: -

Mrs Christine Barker to St Mary's CE Primary School, Clymping for a four year term.

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

51. The Chairman invited questions from Town and Parish representatives on the Committee. The following issues were discussed:

- Cllr Mrs Wild raised concern about a number of Trees with Preservation Orders (TPOs) that had been incorrectly felled by developers at Site 6. Her main concern was that Arun District Council were not going to fine the

developer. The Chairman agreed to discuss this with the appropriate officers at Arun District Council and follow up with Mrs Wild.

### **Items for Future Meetings**

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

- Evaluation of Bognor Regis Public Realm Improvements – to possible include update on Regeneration (February 2018)
- Updates on Youth Provision to be included on the Progress Statement for each meeting.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

53. The Chairman confirmed that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee was due to be on Wednesday 28 February 2018 at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Chairman