

Joint Western Arun Area Committee

27 February 2018– At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. at The Regis School, Bognor Regis

Present:

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

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

Town/Parish Council representatives: Councillors Mr Beaton (Aldingbourne), Mrs Richardson (Aldwick), Mr Robinson (Barnham), Mr Knight (Bersted), Mr Allington (Eastergate), Mrs Wild (Felpham), Mr Allsopp (Middleton), Mr Camerer Cuss (Walberton) and Mr Pickthall (Yapton)

Officers: Monique Smart, Democratic Services Officer (WSCC), Benjamin Whiffin, Area Highways Manager (WSCC) and Jackie Follis, Head of Policy (ADC).

Chairman's Welcome

54. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

55. Apologies had been received from Councillors Mr Oppler, Mr Brown, Mrs Bence, Mr Cunard and Mrs Brimblecombe.

56. The Chairman stated that he would bring forward agenda item 9 'Transforming Grants' so that it was prior to Talk With Us.

Declarations of Interest

57. The following declarations were declared:

- Councillor Mr Dillon declared a personal interest in agenda item 10 application158.
- Mr Pendleton declared a personal interest in agenda item 10 application191

Minutes

58. Resolved – that the minutes of the Joint Western Arun Area Committee (JWAAC) held on 1 November 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and that they are signed by the Chairman.

Urgent Matters

59. The Chairman announced that an additional Authority Governor nomination for Slindon Primary School had been received after the agenda was first published. This had been added to the online report and circulated to all Members and would be considered at Agenda Item 12.

Progress Statement

60. Councillor Mrs Richardson expressed disappointment that Arun District Council would not be prosecuting following a developer removing Trees with Preservation Orders (TPOs). She felt this sent the wrong message to developers. She was also disappointed that there was still no decision about the size, type or location of the replacement trees. The Chairman confirmed this was being followed up by his officers at Arun District Council and he would undertake to update JWAAC when decisions had been made.

Transforming Grants: Crowdfunding

61. The Chairman welcomed Rachel North, Director of Communities, West Sussex County Council. Rachel North provided a powerpoint presentation, attached to the signed minutes, detailing the County Councils new approach to community funding using a crowdfunding model.

62. Rachel North confirmed that the new approach would mean organisations having to apply for Community Initiative Funding (CIF) via a new internet based system. Advice and guidance from the Communities Team and Democratic Services at West Sussex County Council would continue. Applications would still be discussed with local Members and at pre agenda and sub group meetings, prior to coming to JWAAC for final decision as they do now.

63. It was hoped the new approach would start in April and there would be the opportunity to review the process after a full year.

Talk with us – public question time

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

- Mr Goodheart asked for confirmation of whether the final decision for CIF would be as now and just for County Councillors or would the decision be extended to the whole of JWAAC. *It was confirmed it would be as now where decisions are debated by the whole Committee but the final decision would still be for County Councillors.*
- A resident asked if projects have to have match funding. It was confirmed that that the County Council will not fund 100% of any project and it was therefore expected that local businesses and residents as well as other funding organisations such as the National Lottery would contribute to projects.

Community Police Update

65. The Chairman welcomed Sgt Ian Cheesman who provided an update on neighbourhood policing in the JWAAC Area. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Revised crime data was tabled and circulated.
- It was confirmed that the local policing programme and restructure was now complete.

- A lot of work and achievements had happened around areas such as child exploitation, scams, low level anti-social behaviour and drug dealing.
- Some Members expressed disappointment about the increases in crimes.
- It was stressed that any incidences should be reported using 101 for non emergencies and 999 for emergencies.

Coastal Care: 'Inspiring Healthier Communities Together' – Local Community Networks (LCNs)

66. The Chairman confirmed that due to the presenter not being able to attend, this item would be postponed to a future meeting.

Community Initiative Funding

67. 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.

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

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

The following applications were approved: -

109/JWAAC - Felpham Sailing Club, £2,700.00 towards 1 RS Tera Dinghy

118/JWAAC - Home-Start Arun, £362.50 towards training

123/JWAAC - TS Montrose, Nautical Training Corps, £1,500.00 towards storage.

This award is dependent on confirmation of planning permission.

125/JWAAC - Bognor Regis Camera Club, £1,000.00 towards a new projector.

126/JWAAC - Southdowns Folk Festival, £1,500.00 towards setting up Making your mark

150/JWAAC - Aldingbourne Trust, £1,750.00 towards No 73, Aldwick Road.

158/JWAAC - Bognor Regis Armed Forces Committee, £1,569.33 towards Regis Armed Forces Day 2018.

161/JWAAC - Pagham Cricket Club, £1,500.00 towards Cricket Nets.

183/JWAAC - International Birdman, £1,000.00 towards International Birdman 2018.

191/JWAAC - Middleton on Sea Pond & Village Green, £1,000.00 towards footpaths and seating.

The following application was declined: -

103/JWAAC- BluePrint22 –declined as the applicant has recently received other West Sussex County Council funding for similar projects.

70. Following the decisions the process for reviewing and approving the CIF applications was discussed. It was agreed that the current CIF Sub Group could be

more effective if they met in person rather than virtually. It was agreed that Monique Smart would look to make those arrangements prior to the next meeting.

71. Cllr Mr Allington raised concern that not all applicants appear to be registered charities and are therefore not required to comply with the transparency and governance requirements of the charity commission. Monique Smart confirmed that this was not a criteria for the Community Initiative Fund.

Highways and Transport Sub Group

72. 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 issue was discussed:

- Members debated the merits of the H&T Sub Group over bringing all items directly to JWAAC. Some Members suggested that strategic issues such as the Arun Local Plan should take priority at JWAAC. Others spoke in favour of the current arrangements and the benefits of the H&T Sub Group and JWAAC.

Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies

73. The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director of Education & Skills (copy attached to the minutes).

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

- Miss Katherine Eccles for a four year term to Bognor Regis Nursery School
- Mr D Lind for a four year term to Bishop Tufnell C.E. Junior and Infant Federation
- Mr Johnson for a four year term to Slindon CE Primary School

Items to be raised by Town and Parish Council representatives.

75. No issues were raised.

Items for Future Meetings

76. 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.
- Sussex Community Housing Hub (including Community Land Trusts)
- Arun Local Plan update – to include CIL and S106.
- Arun District Councils proposals for future arrangements with Town and Parish Councils.

Date of Next Meeting

77. The Chairman confirmed that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee was due to be on Wednesday 13 June 2018 at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 9pm

Chairman