

Joint Western Arun Area Committee

29 June 2016– At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. at Butlin's Conference Centre

Present:

West Sussex County Council: Mr Jones, Mrs Rapnik, Mr Patel and Mr Sutcliffe.

Arun District Council: Councillors Mr Bence, Mrs Pendleton, Mr English, Mr Wotherspoon and Mrs Hall.

Town/Parish Council representatives: Councillors Mrs Richardson (Aldwick), Mr Knight (Bersted), Mr Cunard (Bognor Regis), Ms Piedot (Felpham), Mr Allsopp (Middleton) and Mr Radmall (Pagham)

Officers: Paul Askew, Head of Policy and Partnerships (ADC), Monique Smart, Democratic Services Officer (WSCC), Peter Lawrence, Principal Community Officer (WSCC)

Chairman's Welcome

1. The outgoing Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Apologies had been received from Councillors Mr Oppler, Mrs Phillips and Mr Dillon

Appointments

3. Following the decision that the Chairmanship of the Joint Arun Area Committees should rotate amongst the three tiers, the Chairman for 2016/17 would be a County Councillor and the Vice Chairman would be a District Councillor.
4. **Resolved** that Mrs Ann Rapnik be appointed Chairman of JWAAC and also as the Chairman of the Joint Western Arun County Local Committee (CLC).
5. **Resolved** that Councillor Mr Paul Wotherspoon be appointed as the Vice Chairman of JWAAC
6. **Resolved** that Councillor Mr Adam Cunard be appointed as the lead Town/Parish Councillor.
7. **Resolved** that the membership of the Community Initiative Funding (CIF) Sub Group for 2016/17 be as follows.

Mr Jones (WSCC)
Mr Sutcliffe (WSCC)
Cllr Mr English (ADC)
Cllr Mr Bence (ADC)
Cllr Brian Knight (Bersted PC)

8. **Resolved** that Mr Graham Jones be appointed as the Chairman of the JWAAC Highways and Transport Sub Group.

9. **Resolved** that Councillor Mrs Richardson from Aldwick Parish Council be appointed as the main JWAAC representative on the Arun Conservation Area Advisory Committee and Cllr Mrs Barbara Piedot from Felpham Parish Council be appointed the substitute representative.

Declarations of Interest

10. In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, the following personal interests were declared in relation to applications to the Community Initiative Fund.

- Cllr Mrs Piedot as a member of Felpham Village Hall Committee
- Cllr Mr Allsopp as a close relative of the applicant of the Bognor Handbell Ringers
- Cllr Mr Cunard as a member of Bognor Regis Twinning Association

Minutes

11. Resolved – that the minutes of the Joint Western Arun Area Committee (JWAAC) held on 9 March 2016 are confirmed as a correct record and that they are signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

12. The Committee had before it a progress statement on matters arising from the previous meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes). The progress statement was noted.

Talk with us – public question time

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

- Mr Huntley from Pagham asked how unelected officers can impose housing on local Parishes that go against local community neighbourhood plans. He also asked what was the point of building houses in known potential flood areas? *Cllr Mr Wotherspoon responded by saying the firstly the decisions are made by elected members not officers. He also stated that there would be a special full Council meeting at Arun District Council in December to decide the next steps with regard to the Local Plan. He explained that the Local Plan was currently suspended and work requested by the planning inspector was being carried out. Cllr Mr Wotherspoon confirmed that the Planning Inspector was an officer appointed by Central Government. Cllr Mr Radmall added that Pagham Parish Council is seeking an urgent meeting with planning officers to discuss a number of planning issues.*
- Mr Coster stated that the opening of the new Bognor relief road was resulting in more traffic on the A259. He also made reference to a County Council

planning application for 13 new houses in Middleton and suggested this could increase to a much higher number. He urged Members to oppose the planning application or to put pressure on West Sussex County Council to seek 106 money for a roundabout at Comet Corner to make the road safer. *Mr Jones responded stating that the planned works for Comet Corner are going ahead but if there was the opportunity of seeking S106 money for further improvements he would support that. Cllr Mr Wotherspoon added that the Head of Planning at Arun District Council has written to West Sussex County Council asking why a development in Yapton of 100 houses was not seeking s106 money for Comet Corner. Cllr Mr Allsopp stated that Middleton Parish Council had asked to meet West Sussex County Council about the proposals for development on their land but this had been declined.*

- Mr Brooks made a plea on behalf of traders from the 'West End' of Bognor for some of the regeneration funding to be put into that area of the town.
- Mr Goodheart asked for information about road resurfacing plans for Bognor Regis. *Mr Graham Jones undertook to get this information to Mr Goodheart via the Highways Manager, Ben Whiffin.*
- Ms Daniels asked about any progress to improve the access to the Matalan/Lidl trading estate. *Mr Graham Jones replied stating he was working with Highways and it was hoped a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) could come forward for JWAAC to consider.*
- Mr Coster also asked about the 3in1 card consultation and why was WSSC considering scraping it when the consultation stated that 96% of people want to keep it. *Mr Jones confirmed it had been through Scrutiny Committee at WSSC and they had recommended keeping it but the final decision would be made by the Cabinet Member.*

Community Police Update

14. The Chairman welcomed Sergeant Jon Chapman who provided an update on Neighbourhood Policing in the JWAAC area. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- The restructure of the PCSOs would start from 4 July. This included Arun and Chichester teams being used as one resource and PCSOs being deployed where needed. PCSOs were also undertaking training to upskill. Full details of this will be communicated to Parish Councils and via social media.
- A campaign was underway to encourage residents not to leave valuables in cars as there had been an increase in thefts from vehicles.
- Members raised concern about the slow response of the 101 no emergency number. Sergeant Chapman acknowledged the concerns and suggested for non-emergencies residents could consider emailing the Neighbourhood Team or reporting via operation crackdown if it is a traffic issue.

Community Initiative Funding

15. The Chairman invited previously successful Community Initiative Funding (CIF) applicants to provide feedback on how they had used the grant and the benefits it had brought to the community. The following organisations were in attendance:

- Felpham Arts Group received £1000 towards the cost of a new trailer. They thanked the Committee for the money and explained that the trailer allowed

them to both store and move equipment and artwork and therefore have more opportunity to be involved in community events.

- Making Theatre Gaining Skills received £1472 for various equipment including a tent. The tent was being used within their current premises at Bognor Regis Station to create a meeting space. They thanked the Committee for the money that was helping attendees gain transferable skills and gain qualifications. The money was also used towards a family art day at the Pheonix Centre. A full presentation would be circulated to Members after the meeting.
- Jenesis received £300 for publicity and printing associated with the event 'The Clowns are back in Bognor'. They thanked the Committee for the money and said it had helped attract attention and visitors to the event parade and picnic.
- Rox Music and Arts received £2000 towards security and a PA system for the event. They thanked the Committee for their support and the event was due to go ahead at the end of July.

16. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law, Assurance & Strategy, 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.

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

The following applications were approved: -

988/JWAAC - Bognor Regis Handbell Ringers, £300.00, for replacement uniforms

1001/JWAAC – Junior Parkrun, £1,200.00, towards start-up costs (such as cones, timing devices and volunteer training) for a Bognor Junior Parkrun

1003/JWAAC – Bognor Regis Twinning Association, £1,000.00, for assistance with costs of guest visits.

The following application was deferred:

1000/JWAAC - Felpham Village Hall, £5,000.00, towards the refurbishment of the Ladies toilets. Members stated that this was over the advisory upper limit for CIF and suggested the applicant apply to the Members Big Society Fund. If this was not successful then JWAAC would reconsider it for CIF in September.

Highways and Transport Sub Group

18. The Chairman referred Members to the minutes of the last meeting of the Highways and Transport Sub Group (copy attached to the signed minutes). A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Mr Graham Jones, Chairman of the H&T Sub Group, confirmed that Jeremy Pardy from Butlin's had attended H&T sub group and provided the information as outlined in the notes. He also noted that Butlin's had

provided the venue for JWAAC this evening free of charge and he felt this was further evidence of their intent to work with us and the community.

- Cllr Mr Cunard referred to the diversion that was in place when the sink hole appeared in Victoria Drive. He had been in touch with Highways Manager Ben Whiffin who had confirmed an incorrect diversion was put in place. Cllr Mr Cunard hoped this would be investigated to ensure it does not happen again.
- Cllr Mr Bence raised concern about parking problems in Lindon Road and Victoria Drive. Mrs Rapnik confirmed she had asked Arun enforcement officer to visit the area but was not aware this had happened. Mr Jones agreed for this to be discussed at the next H&T Sub Group.

Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies

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

20. Resolved that the County Council members of the Committee approved the following nomination under the 2012 Regulations: -

Reappointment:

Ms S Fisher to Bartons Primary School for a four year term

Appointment:

Mrs M Taha to Felpham Community College for a four year term

Items to be raised by Town and Parish Council representatives.

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

- Cllr Mr Cunard stated that SALC had produced some useful information on devolution and suggested that Trevor Leggo be invited to a future JWAAC to discuss this. However Cllr Mrs Richardson stated that SALC are arranging a session for all Parishes in JWAAC.

Items for Future Meetings

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

- WSCC Cycling and Walking Strategy (September 2016)
- Evaluation on Public Realm Improvement (2017)
- A27 consultation (Chichester) – Summer 2016
- Youth Services update – September or November 2016

Date of Next Meeting

23. The Chairman confirmed that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee was due to be on Wednesday 28 September.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Chairman