

Joint Western Arun Area Committee

29th June 2011 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. at Bishop Tufnell Junior School, Felpham.

Present:

West Sussex County Council: Mr. Coleman, Mrs. Coleman, Mr Blampied, Mr. Wells, Mr. Oppler and Mr. McDougall.

Arun District Council: Councillor Mr English, Councillor Mrs. Maconachie and Councillor Mr Wotherspoon.

Town/Parish Council representatives: Councillor Mrs Phillips (Middleton-on-Sea), Councillor Mr. Knight (Bersted), Councillor Mr Peerman (Felpham), Councillor Dr Polland.

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 Jacqui Maconachie, Mr David Edwards and Mr Adam Cunard. New Members representing Parishes were Councillors Mrs Joan Phillips (Middleton) and Mr Ed Blackburn (Pagham).
2. Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mr Trevor Bence, Mr David Edwards, Mr Adam Cunard, Mr Ed Blackburn and Mr Pat Dillon.

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 Western Arun County Local Committee and this appointed person would attend pre agenda meetings and lead on any County Council items at JWAAC.
4. The vote to appoint a Chairman of the Western Arun County Local Committee for the forthcoming year was three in favour of Mr George Blampied and 3 abstained from voting. It was therefore decided to refer this decision to the Leader of the County Council.
5. **Resolved** that Councillor Mr Paul Wotherspoon be appointed Chairman of JWAAC for the forthcoming year as confirmed at Arun District Council Annual Meeting on 25th May 2011.
6. **Resolved** that Councillor Mr Dennis Peerman 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 with the addition that Councillor Mr Paul English replace Councillor Mrs Gill Brown

on both Sub Groups. Mr Coleman also stated that he was minded to revert to the original Membership of the Highways and Transport sub group with elected Members only. Other interested parties could still be invited as and when required. This would be circulated for agreement at the next sub group meeting.

8. **Resolved** that Mr Simon McDougall be appointed as the County Council representative on the Arun Leisure Centre Management Board.

Declarations of interest

9. None

Minutes

10. **Resolved** that the minutes of the Joint Western Arun Area Committee (JWAAC) held on 23rd March 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

11. The Committee had before it a progress statement (copy appended to the signed minutes) that contained brief updates on matters arising from the last meeting. A number of questions were asked to which responses were given, including those set out below:

- It was hoped that the contract to undertake the removal of Illegal Roadside Vehicles Sales would be signed in the next few weeks. Tracey Webb confirmed that this would be a separate contract to the Sussex police one mentioned in the H&T Sub Group notes.
- Mr Basford confirmed that now the elections had taken place and Membership of the JACs had been confirmed, he would contact Members shortly to arrange the first meeting of the LAA reward grant funding group.

'Talk with Us' Public Question Time

12. The Chairman invited questions from members of the public present at the meeting. A number of questions were asked to which responses were given, including those set out below:

- A Pagham resident asked when Arun District Council would honour its pledge to the people of Pagham to defend sea defences. Mr Basford agreed to take Mr Wrights details and arrange a response from Arun District Council. In addition Mr Mike Coleman asked for JWAAC support against a Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) around Pagham. He explained that this would in effect stop the moving of the shingle and increase flood risk. JWAAC Members all agreed to support the fight against a MCZ.
- Graham Matthews from Felpham Parish Council raised safety concern about the street lighting on the 'southdowns' roundabout not being connected. Tracey Webb agreed to follow this up but did state that the bollards were reflective so driver headlights would pick these up.

- A local resident, Nikki Goodman, said that she was aware that the developers of the Regis School had won an award. She questioned this due to the number of local issues including damage to roads and pavements and asked if this calls into question the planning enforcement. Tracey Webb agreed to provide a written response.
- Hugh Coster asked when Bognor Regis residents would be able to have their say on how the £500,000 Sainsbury's money should be spent. Mr Basford confirmed that the petition in support of using the money for free parking had been submitted to full Council in March and as a result a Working Group was established to consider the proposals. This report would go back to the next full Council for debate and decision on 20th July. Mr Basford agreed to get back to Mr Coster with the details of any wider consultation that has or will take place.

Community Policing 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 JWAAC 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:

- Closer partnership working was Butlins and HMP Ford.
- Sussex is to be in the pilot to introduce the new non emergency number 101.
- No entry onto the High Street. Police were aware of the recent incident and it was confirmed that Officers are in the area on a daily basis and would enforce any witnessed incidents. Chief Inspector Derrick also reminded Members of the Operation Crackdown number and website that they could call and report any traffic offences they witness.

14. Chief Inspector Derrick urged any Councillors or members of the public to report incidents as they occur and to contact her or one of her team with any problems or issues as they arise.

New Homes Bonus

15. The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Director of Planning & Housing Strategy, regarding Arun District Council decision to distribute New Homes Bonus funding (Arun District Council portion) via the Joint Arun Area Committees. The recommendation asked the Parish and Town Councils to determine the governance arrangements for agreeing the expenditure of the £17,000 allocated to the JWAAC area.

16. Following discussion all the Town and Parish representatives present endorsed the suggestion that they form a Sub Committee to consider bids for use of the £17,000. However as some Town and Parish Councillors were absent it was requested that the report be sent to all Town and Parish Clerk and ask them to have the report and its proposals considered by each individual Town & Parish Council to, hopefully, confirm their support for the proposal as set out in paragraph 3 of the report. Mr Basford agreed to action this. It was also suggested that the

Town and Parish Council Clerks or Members liaise with a view to agreeing a lead Council to Chair the Sub Committee and to lead on the setting up of meetings and hosting arrangements for it to operate. It was also confirmed that whilst the District Council would be happy to provide limited support or expertise, it would not take part in the Sub Committee, the administration thereof nor the decision making process.

Community Initiative Funding

17. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes), which sought a decision from the County Council Members of the Committee on the application received under the Community Initiative Funding (CIF) scheme.

18. Mr Paul Wells declare a prejudicial interest in application 1591 Rox Music and Arts and left the room when this application was discussed and decided upon.

19. Resolved – That Community Initiative Funding be allocated as follows:

1591/JWAAC Rox Music & Arts Festival, £8,950 requested towards infrastructure for the 2011 festival. **£1,500 granted.**

1597/JWAAC International Bognor Birdman Festival, £9,000 requested towards scaffolding, safety boats, entertainments and publicity. **£3,000 granted**

1609/JWAAC Bognor Vineyard, £1,000 requested towards petrol costs for the delivery and collection of furniture – Furniture Storehouse project. **£500 granted**

1611/JWAAC Carers Support Service, £395 requested for set-up costs for a new support service. **£395 granted**

1620/JWAAC Big Love Association, £1,750 requested for the purchase of various equipment items. **£1,000 granted**

1625/JWAAC Friends of Marine Park Gardens, £2,500 requested towards replacement railing for a 1930's viewing platform. **£1,000 granted**

1632/JWAAC End of the Pier Film Festival, £2,500 requested for set-up costs, programme and publicity production, also printing costs. **£1,000 granted**

1636/JWAAC Bognor Rugby Football Club, £600 requested for the break-up and removal of concrete remnants and replacement topsoil. **£600 granted**

20. County Council Members also decided not to merge the Parish initiative Fund with the Community initiative Fun at this stage in the year.

Priorities for Traffic Regulation Orders

21. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Communities and Infrastructure (copy appended to signed minutes). The report sought the Committee's input and approval for the list of local TRO priorities. Mr Mike Coleman explained that the Highways and Transport Sub group had gone through the list for the JWAAC area and as a result JWAAC are presented with two lists, the first being those that the sub group suggest could be removed and the second list being those they recommend for progression. A number of issues were discussed:

- Councillor Mr Brian Knight was disappointed that the A29 U Turn ban was being removed and requested it be added back on. Mr Simon McDougall

asked Mr Knight to forward the local concerns about this to him and he would be happy to support it.

- Councillor Mr Paul English raised concern about Canning Road and Vicarage Lane being removed as he thought they had previously been a high priority.
- Mr Paul Wells asked for Belmont Street to be added back on.
- Mr Francis Oppler stated his support for Orchard Way. Tracey Webb confirmed this would increase the score.

22. Resolved that the County Council Members of the Joint Western Arun Area Committee defer the decision on approving the Priority Order for Traffic Regulation Orders. It was requested that the list be revised and rescored based on the discussions and points above and reported back to the next meeting for decision.

Highways and Transport Sub Group

23. The Chairman referred Members to the previously circulated minutes of the last meeting of the Highways and Transport sub group. A number of questions were raised in relation to items on the minutes and also general Highway issues. These included:

- Tracey Webb agreed to forward the Marshall Avenue report to Mr Simon McDougall.
- The A259 Site 6 Cycle Lane is due to be started very soon.
- Longford Road resurfacing had been delayed. It is now scheduled for August but Tracey Webb raised concern that this was during the busy holiday period. Members agreed to let Tracey have there thoughts of whether this should go ahead in August.

Items for Future Meetings

24. The following issues were agreed to be added as future agenda items:

- An update/briefing note on Adult Services
- Health Issues/NHS Update

Date of Next Meeting

25. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Wednesday 21st September 2011 at The Arena Sports Centre. 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.

26. Members were also asked to note the agreed future meeting dates:

23rd November 2011
22nd February 2012

The meeting closed at 8.55pm