

Joint Western Arun Area Committee

22 February 2012– At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 p.m. at The Regis School

Present:

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

Arun District Council: Councillors Mr English, Mr Bence, Mr Edwards, Mr Wotherspoon, Mr Cunard and Mr Patel.

Town/Parish Council representatives: Dr Poland (Aldwick), Mr Peerman (Felpham), Mrs Hall (Pagham), Mr Dillon (Bognor Regis), Mr Knight (Bersted) and Mrs Phillips (Middleton).

Chairman's Welcome

76. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

77. Apologies for absence had been received from Mr. Coleman, Mrs. Coleman and Councillor Mrs. Maconachie.

Declarations of interest

78. None

Minutes

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

Urgent Matters

80. None

Progress Statement

81. 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:

- Roadside Vehicle Sales. The project is now progressing swiftly. Outstanding issues that are currently being addressed include the draft Service Level Agreement (WSSC and Arun DC) and accompanying documents are now with Arun DC legal services for comment and agreement. Final adjustments to the contract with the Contractor (Westbourne Motors) are being resolved. Approval was also being sought to incorporate the Sussex Police logo on the leaflets and notices.

- LAA Reward Grant sub group. Paul English, Trevor Bence and Dennis Peerman tabled a report from the first meeting of the sub group (copy attached to the signed minutes). Resolved that:

- a) JWAAC agreed the overall objective of use of any money shall be for community projects that have tangible and demonstrable benefit.
- b) The name of the fund shall be 'The JWAAC Community Projects Fund'
- c) The criteria to be adopted for the determination of any bids for funding received:
 1. maximum bid amount of £1000;
 2. agreed funding awards to equal no more than 50% of project cost where less than £1000 (to ensure there is sufficient other community group and/or Town and Parish buy in and commitment);
 3. an additional weighting given capital / infrastructure type projects;
 4. pump priming / revenue contributions for new projects can be submitted as long as project shows ongoing sustainability beyond period for which pump priming contribution is sought; and
 5. an additional weighting given to those bids showing benefit to largest community or number of people possible with an encouragement for joint or cross town and parish boundary bids
- d) The JWAAC Community Projects Fund Sub-Group receive bids, evaluate and recommend to JWAAC for approval, at each meeting as appropriate, those which most closely meet the agreed criteria

It was confirmed that there was no time limit on when the money needed to be spent by.

If any Member wished to join the sub group then they are welcome to do so.

The Chairman asked the group to consider an application for funding for £2000 towards supporting the villages/parishes in taking part in the Olympic Torch relay so that a common theme can be achieved. It was agreed that the sub group would consider this alongside any other bids received.

- New Homes Bonus. Councillor Mr Dillon reported back on the recent meeting hosted by Aldwick Parish Council. Councillor Dillon confirmed that the proposal was to investigate if the money could be used for a boarded walkway onto Bognor Regis beach to allow easier access for disabled users and pushchairs. There was some concern from Middleton and Pagham Parish Councils about whether this had a benefit for all within the JWAAC area. It was agreed that some further investigation would be undertaken regarding costings and location and the sub group would meet again when that information is available.
- Street Lighting. Ben Whiffin stated that he had received an update regarding the street lighting progress and the roads not yet completed. It was agreed this would be discussed at the next H&T Sub Group.

'Talk with Us' Public Question Time

82. 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:

- Two residents raised concern about the proposed speed limit for the North Bersted Relief Road. Ben Whiffin directed the Committee to the report that included responses to the objections received during the consultation period. He also explained that the statutory consultation period had now closed and that the County Councillors would be making a decision based on the details within the report at agenda item 11.
- Jim Brooks asked JWAAC to reaffirm the transport issues to be progressed with the Sainsburys S106 funds. Ben Whiffin confirmed that the high street improvements had been included as an Infrastructure Plan (IP) Priority and would therefore be investigated further with feasibility studies and looking to combine this with S106 funds.
- Mike Harvey asked if consideration would be given to the point of the new relief road between Oak Avenue and Chichester Road and the exit/entrance to the retail shopping unit. Ben Whiffin agreed to look into this further. It was stated that this had been discussed at a previous H&T Sub group meeting.
- It was confirmed that the Arun District Council Electoral Review had been approved by the Boundary Commission to reduce the number of Councillors to 53.
- Sandra Daniels asked if Social Care fees and charges were due to be reviewed. It was agreed that a written answer from West Sussex County Council would be provided.
- Representatives from Rox Music asked a question about the Community Initiative Fund application they had submitted. However it was confirmed that no application had been received. It was agreed that Monique Smart would liaise with the applicant outside of the meeting.
- Representatives from Rox also asked if locations could be allocated for advertising. Members agreed that they would like this looked into further and suggested it be an item for a future meeting.

Community Policing Issues

83. The Chairman welcomed Chief Inspector Jane Derrick and Inspector Nick Bowman, who provided an update on current issues in the JWAAC area. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Chief Inspector Jane Derrick agreed that she would circulate to JWAAC the new PCSO powers.
- It was acknowledged that street drinking was still an issue but confirmed that the Police were working in partnership to address the problem.
- Councillor Mr. Bence urged his colleagues to support the organisation Homelink, who look to relocate and support the homeless. It was suggested that Councillor Mr Bence forward them a Community Initiative Funding (CIF) application form.
- It was confirmed that no PCSO's would be working on the Diamond Jubilee bank holiday Monday and Tuesday but Inspector Bowman confirmed that any

events would be risk accessed as usual and Police Officers would be working over the bank holiday.

The Big Society and Localism

84. The Chairman welcomed Duncan Barratt, Community & Economic Development Manager, West Sussex County Council, and Kevin Basford, Head of Environmental Amenities and Community Safety, Arun District Council. Both Duncan and Kevin provided presentations (copies appended to the signed minutes) and verbal updates on the Big Society and Localism in West Sussex.

85. The Chairman thanked Duncan and Kevin for their presentations.

Appointment of Authority School Governors

86. 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.

87. Resolved that the following be appointed as School Governor:

- Mrs J Lelliott to South Bersted Primary School for a 4 year term.

Community Initiative Funding

88. 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

89. Mr Blampied declared a personal interest in CIF application 1760/JWAAC and stated he would not vote on that application.

90. Resolved:

- i) To merge the Parish Initiative Fund with the Community Initiative Fund.
- ii) To approve the following applications for funding:
 - 1737/JWAAC, Friends of Regis School of Music, £350, towards prize money for the 2012 Competition Awards.
 - 1753/JWAAC, International Bognor Birdman Festival, £5,000, towards rescue boats, divers and scaffolding for the 2012 event.
 - 1760/JWAAC, Felpham Allotment & Garden Society, £850, contractor fees for flint boundary repair.
 - 1774/JWAAC, 4SIGHT, £166, towards design and print costs for LEARN4SIGHT packs.
 - 1794/JWAAC, Regis Gymnastics, £865, for the purchase of various items of equipment

- 1795/JWAAC, 5th Paghams and Aldwick Brownies, £528, Coach hire and activity costs for a one-off camping trip.
- iii) To approve the following for allocation from CIF:
- 1807/JWAAC, allocation of £900 to supply '30mph' signage for the JWAAC area

Site 6 Development. Proposed North Bersted Relief Road 50 mph Speed Limit - Traffic Regulation Order.

91. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Communities and Infrastructure (copy appended to signed minutes) which sought a decision from the County Council Members of the Committee to progress Traffic Regulation proposals for the North Bersted Relief Road 50mph speed limit.

92. Mr McDougall stated that the planning application for the site 6 development, which was agreed in 2008, did not state speed limits. Mr McDougall felt that the report did not contain enough evidence for him to agree the recommendation tonight. Ben Whiffin stressed that delaying this decision could result in delays to the relief road. Other Members of the committee agreed that they could not delay this decision or the relief road. Discussions resulted in Mr McDougall voting against the recommendation but all other County Council Members voted in favour.

93. Resolved that: The County Council Members of the Joint Western Arun Area Committee, having considered the objections raised and officer responses authorises the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make the 50 mph Speed Limit Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to give effect to the proposal for the North Bersted Relief Road as it was advertised.

Items to be raised by Town and Parish Council representatives

94. Councillor Mr Dillon asked if the number of 'for sale' and 'to let' boards could be restricted. It was also mentioned that one particular estate agent uses for sale type signs to simply advertise. Kevin Basford agreed to ask the relevant officer at Arun District Council to look into this.

95. It was also asked if anything could be done about the appearance of empty shops and the number of signs on or in empty shops advertising the fact. Again Mr Basford agreed to ask the relevant officer at Arun District Council to look into this.

Items for Future Meetings

96. The suggested items were noted as.

- Health Issues/NHS Update – May
- Arun Priorities - May
- Traffic Regulation Order Priorities for 2013/14 - November

Date of Next Meeting

97. The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Wednesday 30 May at Bishop Tuffnel Junior School. 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.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm