

Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee

5 March 2019 – At a meeting of the Committee at 7.00 pm held at New Millennium Chamber, Church Street, Littlehampton, BN17 5EW.

Present:

WSSC:

Cllrs Buckland, Elkins, Markwell, Purchase and Walsh

ADC:

Cllrs Oldfield and Toney.

Parish and Town Representatives:

Cllrs Mr Cooper, Mr Oliver-Redgate, Mr Oldfield, Mr Toney, Mrs Walker, Mrs Frampton and Mr Bennett

Apologies were received from Cllr Urquhart

33. Welcome

33.1 The Chairman introduced the Committee and welcomed Members, Officers and the public to the meeting.

34. Declarations of Interest

34.1 Arun District Councillor Colin Oliver-Redgate advised a non-pecuniary interest under agenda item 7 as a Member of the Ferring Cricket Club, as they are an applicant for CIF.

35. Minutes

35.1 RESOLVED that the Minutes of the last meeting be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

36. Urgent Matter

36.1 There were none.

37. 'Talk with us' - Public Questions

37.1 There were no questions from members of the public present.

38. Community Police Issues

38.1 The Chairman welcomed Police Inspector Steve Turner to the meeting, who reported on a number of crime issues in the local area, in addition to providing an overview of up to date crime statistics

38.2 It as advised that crimes relating to ASB, domestic abuse and alcohol related & violent crime were higher than average, however this could be attributed to the statistics coming the festive period in December and January.

38.3 It as noted that vehicle crime, particularly vehicle theft was increased. However this could also be attributed to longer nights and more opportunistic thefts taking place.

38.4 It was further advised that Sussex Police were conducting research in specific violent and alcohol related crimes. Such as the time of day/area/root causes, in order to tackle the issue.

38.5 The Chairman thanked PI Turner for the update and invited the committee to ask questions on the statistics. The following information was provided:

- Some statistics had been concerning, however due to continued efforts of the police force and information from the public, a particular group had been identified as the main contributor to elevated levels of vehicular crime, and had been dealt with.
- A higher level of police presence would seek to mitigate some of the higher statistics shown and PCSOs are key in collecting intelligence that leads to prevention of crime. It was advised that online reporting was being underutilised and members of the public were encouraged to contact police in this way.
- Due to feedback from the public, a significant amount of funding was being provided to increase the usefulness of '101' in reporting crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Police officers regularly attending town and parish Council meetings in order to provide updates on local crime statistics, however it was noted by the Chairman that in the last year there had been a police presence at only one full Council meeting.
- The effectiveness of the Police force and police presence in any one area was bolstered by the support and assistance from members of the public. The public were encouraged to use '101', online reporting and speaking directly to PCSOs to report crime and ASB.

39. **Community Initiative Fund (EA06(18/19))**

39.1 The Committee considered a written report from the Director of Law and Assurance and the recommendation to consider grant funding to applications submitted to CIF via the West Sussex Crowd.

39.2 The committee considered each application on its merits and it was

RESOLVED that the following pledges be approved:-

- 236/JEAAC – Ferring Funtime Community Preschool, up to £3,500, toward providing a multifunctional storage space for children with

special educational needs.

- 287/JEAAC – Ferring Cricket Club, up to £1,800 toward purchasing ancillary maintenance equipment.
- 288/JEAAC – Littlehampton Sportsfield Trust, up to £3,500, toward installing an upgraded, computerised irrigation system.
- 322/JEAAC – Littlehampton’s Organisation of Community Arts, up to £2,500, towards publicity and stage marquee costs for the community Love Festival.

The following applications were refused:

- 279/JEAAC – St John the Baptist C of E primary School, Findon Village Summer revels – because the associated costs of the project were to fund unhealthy foods which conflicted with West Sussex County Council corporate priorities on promoting healthy eating and wellbeing.

and

- 304/JEAAC – Ague UK West Sussex, Creating info guides for older people – because the project manager was a national charity rather than a local charity and did not fit in-line with the CIF criteria regarding local impact.

40. **Highways and Transport Sub Group**

40.1 The Committee were asked to note the minutes tabled at the meeting from the last meeting of the Highways and Transport Sub Group, held on 28 February 2019 and consider any recommendations.

40.2 Dr James Walsh, the Chairman for the subgroup provided a brief update on the ongoing works to Lyminster bypass and the A259. A question was asked regarding the widening of the A259, resulting in a loss of barrier trees. The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport was asked to investigate this loss and report back at the next meeting.

40.3 The Committee noted the notes of the meeting.

41. **Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies (EA07(18/19))**

41.1 The Committee considered the written report from the Director of Education and Skill and the recommendation to approve the nomination. It was

RESOLVED that the following nomination for appointment be approved:

- Mrs Sue Meekings, to Summerlea Community Primary School, for a four year term.

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

42.1 There were none.

43. **Items for consideration at future meetings**

43.1 It was requested that an item on GP surgeries be brought to a future meeting to address the concern of poor service levels due to a lack of available surgeries in the area.

44. **Date of next meeting**

44.1 The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee would be held on 11 June at 7pm in the White Swan, Chichester Road, Arundel.

44.2 Any member wishing to add an item to the agenda for future meetings should contact Jack Caine on 0330 222 8941 or via email at jack.caine@westsussex.gov.uk.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.