

North Mid Sussex County Local Committee

26 February 2020 – At a meeting of the Committee at 7.00 pm held at Turners Hill Parish Council, The Ark, The Dove Suite, Mount Lane, Turners Hill, RH10 4RA.

Present:

Mrs Brunsdon (Chairman) (Imberdown;), Mr Lea (Lindfield & High Weald;), Mr Acraman (Worth Forest;), Mrs Bennett (East Grinstead Meridian;) and Mrs Russell (East Grinstead South & Ashurst Wood;)

Also in attendance:

Officers in attendance: Monique Smart (Democratic Services Officer), Gulu Sibanda (Locality Lead Officer) and Richard Speller (Area Highways Manager)

22. Welcome and introductions

22.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members and Officers introduced themselves.

22.2 The Chairman thanked officers from Democratic Services for the displays and information about becoming a County Councillor.

23. Declarations of Interest

23.1 None declared.

24. Minutes

24.1 Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

25. Talk With Us Open Forum

25.1 The Chairman introduced the item and advised that the open forum was an opportunity for comments and questions to be raised on items not already on the agenda, and over which the County Council has a reasonable interest. The following issues were raised, and responses made.

- Mr Barrow from Disability Access-East Grinstead Area requested an update on a request for a pedestrian crossing at Turners Hill Road and Sandy Lane in Crawley Down. *Mr Speller, Area Highways Manager, explained the process for requesting such schemes and stated he would be happy to liaise directly with Mr Barrow to discuss possible options.* Another resident stated that the Clockfield developments planning approval included crossings, but Mr Speller confirmed that these were not

guaranteed until a development was delivered. *It was agreed to include any progress of this item on the Progress Statement for the next meeting.*

- Mr Tullett submitted a question on behalf of East Grinstead and District Cycle Forum noting that transport "infrastructure and service improvements" are being developed by WSCC to mitigate the impacts of the new housing development envisaged in the Mid Sussex Site Allocations DPD. He also understood the final stage of consultation on the DPD starts in April 2020. Will any of these transport plans be in the public domain in time for this final consultation period, to allow residents to judge the impact of these plans, and the overall sustainability of the development proposals?" The following response was provided by a County Council officer: *The County Council's role is to provide advice to local planning authorities on the transport impacts of development to inform their planning decisions. Details of the infrastructure needed to support their preferred development strategy will then be set out by Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC). MSDC have published an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) alongside the Draft Site Allocations Development Plan Document that is available [here](#) and our understanding is that they will publish a revised version of the IDP at the start of the next stage of consultation. In most cases, detailed plans for specific transport schemes will only be available when they are developed for delivery, either as development takes place or through the Capital Programme.*

- Mr and Mrs Steggles from Turners Hill requested traffic lights at the crossing in North Street between the Free Church and Central Stores. *The local County Councillor confirmed he was in support of traffic lights and had recently met with residents and the Area Highway Manager about the issue. Mr Speller, The Area Highway Manager reiterated that it would also have to be prioritised against other schemes across the County. The Area Highways Manager did confirm that such schemes could progress if third party funding was provided and explained that a recent scheme was paid for by a Parish Council.*

- Mr Hartley, a resident of West Hoathly, asked what the County Council thought about the Metrobus No 84. *The local County Councillor said he had made some enquiries and was trying to get the Cabinet Member to speak to the local Parish Council about the service. The Chairman added that in the past Scrutiny Committees had looked into the consultation processes when bus services have been reviewed and also monitored afterwards. Mrs Russell confirmed that about 18 months ago as part of a Scrutiny Committee review a draft strategy suggested community transport partners be bought in to work alongside commercial bus companies. It was agreed an update would be sought on that and provided to Mr Hartley and included in the Progress Statement for the next meeting.*

- A resident raised concern regarding a planning application that would involve 17 lorry loads of materials. *Mrs Russell explained that this was indeed a decision for Planning Committee and that she had submitted her views with regard to the highways concerns. She confirmed that a section 59 agreement will be agreed that will mean any damage to the highway*

will have to be repaired. She also stated that she had asked for a community liaison officer to be appointed by the contractor.

26. **Progress Statement**

26.1 The Committee considered the progress statement on matters arising from previous meetings (copy appended to the signed minutes).

26.2 The Chairman introduced the report which gave updates on issues raised at previous meeting.

26.3 Mr Speller, The Area Highways Manager confirmed that Imberhome Lane traffic calming had been completed and that speeds would be monitored over the next 6 months.

26.4 Resolved – That the Committee notes the progress statement.

27. **Love West Sussex Process**

27.1 Mr Speller, Area Highways Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation (attached to the signed minutes) that explained how residents should report pothole and highways faults.

27.2 It was highlighted that any other method of reporting potholes adds time to the process and details have to be entered into the system. If reported via Love West Sussex they go directly into the system. The public were therefore encouraged to report faults directly rather than via other routes.

28. **Community Highway Schemes**

28.1 The Committee considered the information report (copy appended to the signed minutes).

28.2 Mr Speller introduced the report that highlighted Community Highway Schemes submitted in 2019. Appendix A highlighted a scheme in East Grinstead, A264 Holtye Road to construct a footway near the hospital. Appendix B identified a scheme not approved for progression, but the Mr Speller did state that although it did not meet the criteria for a Community Highways Scheme it may be possible to progress under another process and this would be looked into.

28.3 Resolved – That the Committee notes the information report.

29. **Locality Lead Update**

29.1 Mr Sibanda, The Locality Lead Officer for Mid Sussex, provided a powerpoint presentation (attached to the signed minutes) outlining the work of his team. The main area of focus was around the new community drop-in sessions, part of the Community Led Support (CLS) scheme, run in partnership with the Prevention Assessment Team (PAT). Other partners

such as District and Boroughs, Towns, Parishes and the Voluntary Sector, will also play a key role. He stated that in Mid Sussex the Community drop-in venues currently being tested or considered were in Burgess Hill - Kings Centre, Haywards Heath - Sussex Oakleaf Event (6 Feb), Haywards Heath Age UK Centre and East Grinstead - Glen Vue Centre. Mr Sibanda confirmed that promotion and advertising of these events would be communicated via partners, social media and was due to start next week.

30. North Mid Sussex Community Initiative Funding (NMS07(19/20))

30.1 Mrs Smart, Democratic Services Officer, gave a short powerpoint presentation (attached to the signed minutes) explaining the Community Initiative Fund and the two ways in which to apply.

30.2 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law and Assurance (copy appended to the signed minutes).

30.3 Resolved that the following award be made:

483/NMS – Crawley Town Community Foundation, 'Mount Noddy Kicks' £750.00, towards the cost of delivering weekly football coaching sessions for young people at Mount Noddy Recreation Park, East Grinstead.

30.4 The Committee noted the lack of crowdfunding applications and noted some feedback from those present about the problems associated with the crowdfunding model including the amount of time and resources required to run a campaign, especially for the smaller voluntary groups with limited resources.

30.5 Members agreed to invite Imberhorne School to the next meeting to provide feedback following their successful application for funding towards defibrillator training.

31. Date of Next Meeting

31.1 The Committee noted that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 1 July 2020 at a venue to be confirmed.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 9.23 pm