

Crawley County Local Committee

25 February 2020 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7.00 pm in the Longley Room, Crawley Library, Southgate Avenue, Crawley, RH10 6HG.

Present:

Mrs Smith (Chairman) (Langley Green & Ifield East), Mrs Burgess (Three Bridges), Mr Burrett (Pound Hill), Mr Crow (Tilgate & Furnace Green), Mr Jones (Southgate & Gossops Green), Mr Lanzer (Maidenbower & Worth) (arrived at 7.35pm), Mr Quinn (Broadfield) and Ms Sudan (Northgate & West Green)

Apologies were received from Mr Oxlade (Bewbush & Ifield West)

Officers in attendance: Adam Chisnall (Democratic Services Officer), Brian Lambarth (Area Highway Manager) and Dean Wadey (Northern Area Communities Manager (Horsham, Crawley and Mid Sussex))

27. Welcome and introductions

27.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members and officers introduced themselves.

27.2 The Chairman informed the attendees of the passing of Dr Bloom who was the Member for Southgate and Crawley Central in Crawley from 2009-2013.

27.3 All attendees stood for a one minute silence.

27.4 Mr Jones spoke of Dr Bloom's positive work as a councillor and passed on condolences to Dr Bloom's wife and family, which was supported by all committee members.

28. Declarations of Interest

28.1 Ms Sudan declared a personal interest in relation to the Community Initiative Fund agenda item as her husband was the Chair of Governors at Langley Green Primary School.

29. Minutes

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

30. Urgent Matters

30.1 Mr Chisnall, Democratic Services Officer, asked the Committee if it would agree to include further consideration to two projects that had previously been awarded Community Initiative Funding:

- 372/C – Langley Green Primary School PTA, Outdoor learning shelter/gym. The original project had been taken down and replaced with a similar project with a lower cost.
- 420/C – Nicky’s WorkShop, ‘Where warriors are made’. The applicant had spoken to Mr Burrett, who had chaired the previous CLC meeting at which the application had been considered, to request that the £1,000 grant be made without the added condition of the project’s fundraising total reaching 50% before the pledge was made.

30.2 The Committee agreed to give consideration to the applications during the Community Initiative Fund agenda item.

31. **Talk With Us Open Forum**

31.1 The Chairman introduced the item and advised that the open forum was an opportunity for comments and questions to be raised over areas which the County Council has a reasonable interest. The following issues were raised and responses made.

- A resident queried the time taken to resolve the flooding in the Broadfield underpass. – *Mr Lambarth, Area Highway Manager, explained that the pumps had failed and the delay in repair was due to part availability. Officers were looking at future preventative works.*
- A resident raised concerns with the lack of enforcement for areas such as littering, fly tipping and parking. Concerns were also raised with the lack of strategy to stop these incidents from occurring. – *Members explained that enforcement was a responsibility of the Borough Council and that Community Wardens were in place for enforcement. The County Council’s Highways Department liaised with the Borough Council to monitor highways enforcement. Members highlighted that Community Initiative Funding had been used to support a litter campaign in Broadfield. Mr Jones, Mrs Burgess and Mr Quinn agreed to liaise with the resident to investigate the key areas and highlight key areas of concern to the Borough Council.*
- A resident raised concerns about a local business that was repairing cars on the highway and sought clarity on whether a car on jacks would be considered ‘parked’. – *Members explained that they were aware of the situation and that it had been passed to the Borough Council. Mr Lambarth explained that elements that were breaching the law would be for the Borough Council to enforce, but reported that he was unclear on the legal definition of a car on jacks. Mr Jones agreed to liaise with the resident on this issue and would encourage the Borough Council to take ownership.*
- A resident queried the plans for the Telford Place site and the impact it would have on an oak tree. – *The question had been submitted in advance and so officers were able to provide a detailed response which explained that the development proposals for Telford Place and any changes to the surrounding highway network were currently in development by Crawley Borough Council’s appointed development partner and their consultants. West Sussex*

County Council as Highway Authority would be engaged in the process as a statutory consultee through the planning process. When a planning application was submitted residents would have the opportunity to comment upon the proposals and raise any concerns they may have.

- *A resident raised concerns about rough sleepers blocking fire doors and asked if functionality could be added to Love West Sussex to report these types of concerns. – Members commented that business owners had the responsibility to ensure fire regulations were being upheld. Mr Lambarth resolved to look into the functionality of Love West Sussex for the requested purpose.*
- *A resident raised concerns on the condition of Forge Road. The resident was not happy with the quality of the repairs to potholes and the fragments left on the road after repairs. – Mr Lambarth confirmed that Forge Road was on the list for resurfacing and was waiting on funding. Mrs Burgess agreed to liaise with Mr Lambarth on progress and would look into the issue of road fragments.*
- *A business owner in Spindle Way raised concerns about people parking on the turning circle which was impacting business deliveries. There were also concerns about vehicles in the area that were not taxed; these had been reported to the Police – Members discussed the issue and were aware of requests to extend the current yellow lines. Mr Lambarth explained that the Crawley Parking Plan was being developed and it was currently anticipated that more information would be available in the summer. A request for a Traffic Regulation Order could be another option. Mrs Burgess agreed to liaise with the resident on the issue.*
- *A resident highlighted the dangers at Cheals Roundabout with the lack of streetlights and the current flooding. – Mr Lambarth explained that UK Power Networks had faults in the area that required works to resolve. Road space for this would not be permitted until the Pease Pottage works were completed. The issues with drainage had been logged. Members queried why the bespoke lane works had not been done on both sides of the roundabout. Mr Lambarth explained that the works had been completed by a developer and only the west lane had been included in the brief.*

32. Progress Statement

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

32.2 Mr Lambarth introduced the report and gave updates on the highways elements of the statement.

32.3 Members queried the timescales for the Sandringham Road works. – *Mr Lambarth confirmed that design work would begin after April.*

32.4 A resident praised the current works for the Ifield Avenue Cycle Route.

32.5 Resolved – that the Committee notes the progress statement.

33. **Community Highways Scheme**

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

33.2 Mr Lambarth introduced the report and gave a summary of key elements in the report.

- The Southwater Close footway was to be progressed.
- The Hawth Avenue pedestrian crossing required more data. This could be included within next year's programme.
- There was not enough space for the London Road pedestrian crossing proposal.
- There was a lack of evidence for The Ridings controlled crossing. Other measures could be introduced such as a Community Speed Watch.
- A speeding problem could not be identified for Stephenson Way.

33.3 The public were encouraged to submit applications for future consideration.

33.4 Resolved – that the Committee notes the information report.

34. **Locality Lead Update**

34.1 The Committee received a verbal presentation from Mr Wadey, Northern Area Communities Manager.

34.2 Mr Wadey explained that his team was the conduit between the County Council and the local area (forums, groups, etc). The team also worked with Borough Council colleagues.

34.3 Mr Wadey gave a summary of the recent key points of work which included:

- Supporting the West Sussex Public Health team with targeted local promotion of winter health and wellbeing campaigns.
- Supporting the new adult social care community led support model which looks to reduce waiting lists and improve outcomes for residents.
- Supporting the creation of 'Talk Local' appointments which enabled residents to make appointments to see social care professionals in a local setting (Crawley Library) rather than wait for home visits.
- Developing community drop-ins where the public are supported with finding alternative solutions to problems and organisations which could help them in the local area.

34.4 The Committee welcomed the work and proposed larger printed materials and advertising on local boards.

34.5 Resolved – that the Committee notes the update.

35. **Gatwick Green Space Partnership (C06(19/20))**

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

35.2 Resolved – that the Committee appoints Richard Burrett and Karen Sudan to the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership until the end of the Council term (May 2021).

36. **Crawley Community Initiative Funding (C07(19/20))**

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

36.2 Resolved - that the following awards be made:

- 465/C - Special Support Centre Parents and Friends Association, 'Climbing frame SSC Desmond Anderson', £2,100.00, towards replacing a wooden climbing frame for children with processing disorder.
- 460/C - Arctic Handball Club, 'Handball in professional style', £1,800.00 towards the cost of enrolling staff on coaching and refereeing qualifications. This project was in the preparation stage and the pledge was conditional on it entering the fundraising stage by the end of the financial year.
- 482/C - Treasure Island GB CIC, 'International Folklore Dew Festival', £1,500.00, towards general equipment and branding for the Festival. This project was in the preparation stage and the pledge was conditional on it entering the fundraising stage by the end of the financial year.

36.3 During the Urgent Matters agenda item the Committee also agreed to give further consideration to two previously awarded projects:

- 372/C – Langley Green Primary School PTA, Outdoor learning shelter/gym. The Committee noted that the project's costs had significantly changed since the decision to allocate funding in June (C01(19/20)). The Committee agreed to amend the pledge to £1,652.15 given the new, reduced total cost of the project.
- 420/C – Nicky's WorkShop, 'Where warriors are made'. The Committee decided to remove the pledge restriction made in the decision in November (C04(19/20)). The Committee agreed to award the funding immediately and not wait for the project to reach 50% of its crowdfunding total.

37. **Date of Next Meeting**

37.1 The Committee noted that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 18 June 2020.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.