

Joint Western Arun Area Committee (JWAAC)
Highways and Transport Sub-Group

28 May 2019, Conference Room 1, Durban House, Bognor Regis at 6pm

Present

West Sussex County Council (WSCC): Chairman Ashvin Patel (AP), David Edwards (DE), Hilary Flynn (HF), Jacky Pendleton (JP).

Arun District Council (ADC): Paul English (PE)

Towns: Bognor Regis Town Council – Steve Goodheart (SG)

Parishes: Felpham – Roslyn Kissell (RK), Middleton - Shirley Haywood (SH), Aldwick – Lilian Richardson (LR), Clymping – Colin Humphris (CH),

*Pagham - Peter Atkins (PA) – *left the meeting at 6.15pm

In attendance: Jack Bacon (JB) – WSCC
 Peter Bradley (PB) – WSCC

1. Chairman's welcome and apologies for absence

- 1.1 The following councillors sent their apologies for absence; WSCC Members Derek Whittington and Dawn Hall, John Charles (ADC), Graham Jones (Middleton), Alan Smith (Aldwick). ADC officer Caroline Gosford also sent apologies for non-attendance.

2. Notes from last meeting

- 2.1 PE reminded the group that he was still awaiting a response to a letter received from a resident concerning vehicles parked at blind corners on Flansham Lane, Felpham.

Action: JB to follow-up and forward questions to Ben Whiffin (Area Highways Manager).

- 2.2 LR asked for an update as to whether Willows Edge's developer has since requested a TRO consisting of double yellow lines applied in the lead up to junctions and roundabouts due to inconsiderate parking.

Action: JB to follow-up and request update from Ben Whiffin.

The notes from the meeting on 25 September 2018 were accepted by all in attendance.

3. Sub-Group survey responses

- 3.1 The group acknowledged the document and requested for the survey to be re-issued in light of receiving only four responses (ADC, Bognor TC, Felpham PC and Middleton PC).

Action: JB to circulate survey and report feedback at the next meeting.

4. Progress Statement

- 4.1 JP questioned the proposed location of the bollards to be installed at Yapton Primary School. It is preferred that they are located on the opposite side of the road to the school by the grass verge. - *PB could not comment but offered to consult Highways officer Rob Torrance.*

Action: PB to seek clarification and update JP directly.

The group noted the progress statement.

5. Sub-Group administration 2019/2020

- 5.1 The group questioned if there was an update on the potential reinstatement of Joint Downland Area Committee (JDAC). – *JB was not in a position to comment on the subject.*

Action: JB to consult WSCC officer Nick Burrell and update the group if appropriate.

- 5.2 LR asked if Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee (JEAAC) requires town and parish councils to contribute an administration fee. – *JB confirmed that JEAAC is resourced by town and parish councils and the committee does not receive any clerk support from WSCC Democratic Services.*

- 5.3 The Chairman requested that the group formally consider the alternative proposed options.

- 5.4 The consensus of the group was that Option 1 is not viable as it would significantly extend the length of JWAAC meetings.

- 5.5 The Chairman informed the group that Bognor TC have made it known that its committee are in favour of Option 1. SG confirmed this proposal.

- 5.6 It was suggested that the options should be posed to Bognor TC again as well as local parish councils due to a change in political make-up following May's election.

- 5.7 The Chairman agreed that Bognor TC should be asked to re-consider its options as it is understood the proposal came from the committee and did not represent the view of the council.

- 5.8 The Chairman requested that Bognor TC and JWAAC parish councils are written to, re-iterating the purpose of the Sub-Group for the benefit of newly-elected councillors. The group were in agreement.

Action: JB to draft a letter and share with AP.

5.9 LR suggested that clarification should first be sought regarding JDAC prior to contacting the councils. The Chairman agreed and requested that ADC are written to firstly and asked for an update on the JDAC decision as this would influence the proposed communication with parish councils.

Action: JB to consult Nick Burrell and report back to the group.

5.10 PE re-iterated the group's view that if the decision is to remain as two Joint Area Committees, then all Arun Highways matters should be first raised at the Sub-Groups before they are filtered into JWAAC. PE went on to express his concern that without the Sub-Group, parish councils would have to raise their issues at JWAAC, thereby considerably extending the length of meetings and impact on the time allocated to Any Other Business.

5.11 **The group voted all in favour of Option 2 – subject to JDAC's potential reinstatement.**

Option 2: Requesting administrative support from willing town and parish councils on a rolling basis, as per the existing arrangement.

6. General update from Project Manager, Peter Bradley

6.1 PB announced that Frith Road (Bognor) traffic calming proposals have been advertised; any objections have been resolved and implementation is intended during the school's summer break. However, this may be delayed until September/October 2019 based on current timescales.

6.2 PB updated the group about a TRO recently advertised at Elbridge Avenue (Bognor), a new development off the relief road's western-most roundabout:

- Proposed works include introducing waiting restrictions at two small roundabouts at the newest estate off the main roundabout.
- The advert has received a large number of objections, therefore the Sub-Group will provide a recommendation at its next meeting prior to a decision taken at JWAAC on 27 November 2019.
- The TRO is being progressed by the developer as a condition of WSCC adopting the estate.

6.3 DE asked whether the Frith Road TRO could be run in conjunction with another proposed TRO at nearby Appletree Way by Westloats Lane. – *PB confirmed that the latter is not yet ready to be advertised and warned that the suggestion could delay the TRO implementation at Frith Road.*

- 6.4 The Chairman asked a question submitted in advance on behalf of WSCC Cllr Dawn Hall concerning the delayed re-surfacing works at Pagham Road, Bognor (near to Tesco and Millfarm Estate). – *PB promised to seek an update.*
- Action: PB to source an update and inform Cllr Hall directly.**
- 6.5 DE asked for an update on behalf of a resident regarding the proposed resurfacing of Greencourt Drive, Bognor, and nearby footways. Photo evidence has been submitted to Ben Whiffin.
- Action: PB to liaise with Ben Whiffin and update DE directly.**
- 6.6 JP requested a timeline for the TRO proposal at Elmer Road, Middleton, involving year-round parking restrictions. It's thought that the TRO was agreed for implementation this financial year.
- Action: PB to source an update and inform JP directly.**
- 6.7 JP asked for an update regarding planned works to refresh white lines at Church Lane, Clympling.
- Action: PB to consult Rob Torrance and update JP directly.**

7. Felpham 20mph improvement scheme proposals

- 7.1 The Chairman referred members to the officer report and reminded the group to provide a recommendation to JWAAC on 19 June.
- 7.2 HF introduced the matter and pointed out that a number of the petition's signatories reside on Felpham Way – a route that the proposal does not apply to as a main road.
- 7.3 HF re-iterated her continued personal backing of the scheme, proposed and supported by Felpham PC.
- 7.4 It was explained that the matter was raised by a resident at the previous meeting of JWAAC where the individual was reminded by the committee that the proposal had gone to public consultation and received an overwhelming response to proceed with the scheme's implementation.
- 7.5 The group understood that Arun Police would not have any involvement in enforcing the speed limit and that it was in the interest of residents and regular Felpham visitors to report speeding offences.
- 7.6 A member of the group was of the belief that the majority of road users' compliance with the reduced speed limit would encourage others to do the same.
- 7.7 DE reminded the group that the proposal was initially argued in January 2014 following the original recommendation at a time when the A259 represented the main road. He went on to say that since then the relief

road has significantly reduced the level of traffic passing through Felpham village.

- 7.8 RK drew attention to section 2.4 of the report and spoke of Downview Road's residents' discontent with its speed cushions, explaining how road users have avoided them by driving down the centre of the road. She went on to express her concern that the scheme will not be enforced.
- PB explained that the aim is to reduce the average speed below 24mph with current data recorded at 27mph on Summerley Lane. On this basis, only a minor reduction is required in order to make it a compliant scheme. He went on to confirm that the speed measurement would be repeated at Downview Road should the scheme be implemented.
- 7.9 PB addressed a point made in the petition's covering letter regarding the spelling error of a road name listed in the original TRO. WSCC Legal Services considered it frivolous as it was clear what the intention was, therefore the road in question would still be included in the scheme.
- 7.10 PB informed Members that the reasoning behind advertising the two pairs of speed cushions and short section of double yellow lines separately is due to it being omitted from the original TRO. It was confirmed that no objections had been raised at the time of the meeting. PB assured the group that if any additional objections are submitted, he will add an addendum to the report and communicate with HF prior to JWAAC.
- 7.11 The Sub-Group considered the report and recommendation from the Executive Director for Place and Director of Highways, Transport and Planning. The group supported the recommendation included and requested it be put forward to JWAAC for consideration.
It was therefore **RECOMMENDED** that the county council Members of JWAAC, having considered the responses to the formal consultation and petition, authorise the Director of Highways, Transport and Planning to install the scheme.

8. Any Other Business

- 8.1 HF questioned whether the proposed improvements to the cycle facilities between Felpham Way and Downview School had yet been taken to Felpham PC for consultation. – *RK confirmed it had not and HF said she would raise it at the next meeting of Felpham PC.*
- 8.2 LR requested if an update could be provided on the A29 realignment scheme prior to JWAAC – the group were supportive of this.
Action: PB to source an update and share it with the group.
- 8.3 It was requested that WSCC Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure, Roger Elkins, is invited to attend JWAAC on 19 June – this

was supported by the Chairman. Following the Sub-Group, Members were invited to submit questions in advance.

- 8.4 CH declared that it is critical to introduce new linkage to the A27 in order to reduce industrial traffic passing through Yapton, Ford and Clymping. It was revealed that Clymping PC is campaigning for a road leading north out of the airfield, across the railway and a junction at the A27 as an alternative route. SH concurred with the idea on behalf of Middleton PC.
- 8.5 SG suggested inviting those parishes not part of the Sub-Group's membership to attend the next meeting in an attempt to engage the councils in cross-division local issues. The Chairman was in support.
Action: JB to invite all Western Arun parishes to the next meeting.
- 8.6 PE raised the ongoing issue of motorcyclists speeding through the Blake's Mead development in Felpham. A temporary barrier is currently in place at the entrance of the estate but it was suggested that this is replaced with multiple concrete planters to deter motorcyclists' entry and force them to dismount.
Action: PB to clarify the level of Section 106 funding allocated and inform PE directly.

9. Date of next meeting

- 9.1 The group considered two options and agreed for the next meeting to take place on Tuesday 29 October 2019 at Durban House, Bognor Regis (6pm).

The meeting ended at 7.37pm.