**Reports for the March 2022 Council Meeting**

 **C. Cllr Keir Greenway Report – March**

Firstly, please accept my apologies for missing this evening’s meeting. I will be attending the Arun Locality Forum (the replacement for JWACC). Please see below what I’ve been up to:-

**Communities, Highways and Environment Scrutiny Committee. – 24th February**

This was a special meeting to discuss/scrutinise the proposed WSCC response to the A27 Arundel Bypass consultation. In summary, the proposed recommendation was to support the bypass in principle, subject to more information. This was a tough meeting with Councillors (and the public) with strong views. WSCC produced an extraordinarily brilliant report and highlighted many of the issues I have with the bypass. I did contribute in the meeting regarding the proposed reduced access to the A27 between, Bognor Regis and Littlehampton, the impact on the A29 and A259 (which is currently unknown!) and my support for a Ford Road junction.

Cabinet are to decide on this response on 15th March.

**Launch of Arun District Council’s Tree Planting Strategy – 25th February**

I attended, by invitation, to the launch of ADC’s excellent Tree Planting Strategy, in Bersted Park. The event was supported by the Chairman of the (District) Council and Leader Cllr Shaun Gunner. We planted around 800 whips and 5 mature trees in Bersted Park. Another 10,000 in Bersted to go!

**WSCC Budget – 28th February**

After a delay due to Storm Eunice, the Budget meeting was held on Monday 28th, the first time ever the County Council has had a Full Council meeting on a Monday!

I strongly supported the budget and spoke in favour of it. To summarise, it includes a 4% increase in spending (extra £23m in our services.), monies allocated to capital works, including A259 and A29 realignment. It also includes money for Operation Watershed, funding local flooding projects.

This spending however, does need to be funded, it was agreed to increase the precept by 1.99% + 1% dedicated to Adult Social Care.

**Communities, Highways and Environment Scrutiny Committee. – 2nd March**

One of the items on the agenda was to scrutinise the proposed recommendation for permanent implementation of the booking system at some of our Recycling Centres in West Sussex (Including Bognor Regis.)

The committee saw the results of the public consultation and it was generally in support of keeping the booking system (62% in favour from all respondents).

62% of all respondents also said that the top improvement to the system was same day booking. I was pleased to hear from officers that same day booking is being trialled in Worthing and rolled out to the other sites, if successful. With this crucial improvement on the way, I voted to support the recommendation to implement the booking system. The final decision is to be made by the cabinet member this month.

**Visit to Fordwater School in Chichester – 4th March**

Having met with all the schools in my division, a parent reached out to me to tell me that her children go to a school outside Bersted and would I go and visit that one too. It was a Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) School in Chichester, called Fordwater School.

I was blown away by the positivity, care and support the school give to their pupils and how well they are coping. I say coping, because the school capacity is 90 pupils. They currently have 144. Help is on the way.

The County Council are introducing Special Support Centres in mainstream schools to support more students with more moderate educational needs. This should help alleviate pressure for schools like Fordwater, in the medium/long term. The County Council are looking at other measures to support SEND provision and hopefully, I’ll be able to update members in the future, with details.

**Expression of Interest – Pheonix Centre**

Small update, three expressions of interest have been lodged for the use of the Pheonix Centre, a delay has been put to the process to allow these bidders to talk. I welcome this move. I was update members on this when I can.

**D. Cllr Martin Lury**

Wednesday 23 February was Budget Day at Planet Arun where Cllr Gunner proposed a Council tax rise for Arun . I countered that , given that Arun residents face a hike in National Insurance payments , a doubling of energy bills and inflation pushing towards double figures , we ought to use the windfall of a million pound surplus and a sum of 800,000 from Central Government to help Arun’s residents by freezing Council Tax this year !

Councillor Gunner delighted in pointing out the Bersted Parish Council in percentage terms , but omitted to point out that our Council had received no windfall amounts . The budget was passed , nonetheless !

 Friday the 25 th February presented me with the somewhat invidious choice between attending our beloved Tea and Coffee Club or digging out my trusted blade in the form of a spade to go tree planting at Bersted Park , an event ably run by Arun officers and a sense of satisfaction for all involved in the session !

 Thursday March 3rd was to decide Arun’s response to National Highways grey route proposals with a qualified response cross - party after a Lib Dem amendment was accepted asking for a Ford Road junction with the new A27.

 I have just returned from a chilly and blustery site visit at Ford Airfield !

**Cllr Spencer - Chairman’s Summary**

This month – various visits to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk and attending meetings.

 09/02/22 Chairmans Networking via zoom

18/02/22 Delivered Hampers to schools

22/02/22 visit with the architect and builder regarding extension to the meeting room

03/03/22 attended Air training corps AGM

**Cllr Thompson – Vice Chairman’s Summary**

Visits to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk

1/2/22 Planning Meeting

8/2/22 Full Council Meeting

9/2/22 Chair’s Zoom Meeting

22/2/22 Meeting with Rileys, Architect, concerning new Meeting Room.

25/2/22 Tea and Coffee Club

**Clerk/RFO update- 2022**

Extension arrangements

28/1 Riley’s here to establish costs and options for disabled access to new hall-awaiting quotation and discussion with architect regarding building control.

28/1 Correspondence with Architect to establish costs and options for disabled toilets and kitchenette-awaiting quotation and discussion with architect regarding Building Control.

22/2 site visit-Architect and Builders here for a site visit -meeting with Clerk, and Cllrs Lainchbury, Spencer and Thompson, to establish costs and options for disabled access to new hall- kitchenette and disabled toilet.

7/2 -established works and costs involved to alarm sensors -quotation received at £823.10. (Forward Plan mtg scheduled for 5/4).

Clerks network meeting here –17/2 11am

Attendees: Aldingbourne, Bersted, East Preston, Oving, Singleton, Westhampnett and Wisborough Green.

Topics discussed and info agreed to be shared via email:

• CIL/S106 -Arun and Chichester DC

• Community service from young offenders

• SSE & WSCC Highway contacts

• Operation Watershed

• Hall bookings

• Shared hosting of Clerks networking -due to our building works

Infrastructure-Operation Watershed

Enquiries made with Slindon PC, Oving and Westhampnett regarding their successful application and establish a way forward for an application for Shripney.

Personnel matters – Admin Assistant vacancy -new closing date 20/3/22

Enquiry made with Indeed.com -free to advertise so set up an advert- 37 applications received to date.

Shortlisting scheduled for 22/3

Interviews 29& 31/3

(Personnel mtg scheduled for 5/4).

Job Fayre at Arun Leisure Centre –17/2 12.30-18:00pm

Sue and I attended and had a steady flow of interest in the admin assistant post, we also took the opportunity to give a brief outline of who we are, what we do and 2

what area we cover. We also took the opportunity to network with other businesses there, all in all worthwhile.

Community Resources -arrangements made

I collected from M&S on 11/2

Hampers 17 & 18/2

Community Resources meeting review 18/2

Friday Tea & Coffee club -25/2, Musician at 10am,

Community Resources meeting 15/3

Friday Tea & Coffee club 18/3, Book swap & raffle at **2pm**

Anything to schools for easter **by 8/4**

Litter pick for Bersted Brooks Sunday 10/4 at 11-1 (Sue/JS/WK to oversee).

Friday Tea & Coffee club 22/4, Hoy Bingo at 10am

Queens Jubilee -Tea & Coffee Club-Tuesday 10am, 31/5 Jubilee theme

Sunday 5/6, 11am - Jubilee community action- plant tree saplings here at Jubilee Fields and then clearance at the Spinney/Willow Pond (refreshments will be available at Jubilee Hall). Hotham Park info stand 19/6