

COMMITTEE: FINANCE, POLICY & RESOURCES

DATE: 28 FEBRUARY 2011

PURPOSE: To update the Council on the preliminary work on establishing a Quality Bus Partnership and to agree to continue with the Project.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To agree to continue to establish a Quality Bus Partnership for Hailsham and the Surrounding villages.

1. Background:

- 1.1 A number of informal meetings have taken place over the past year with Cuckmere Community Bus (CCB) and East Sussex County Council to investigate the possibility of extending the Town Bus Service provided by CCB.
- 1.2 It has become clear that a more holistic approach is required to take account of; the limitations that CCB have in providing more services in Hailsham, the effect of the Government's Spending Review, the changes to local services provided by Stagecoach, and the needs of the new developments emerging in and around Hailsham.
- 1.3 A Working Group has been established to investigate this and is in the process of meeting to establish a way forward.
- 1.4 Progress in the long term will need commitment by all parties and the Council will need to consider entering into a partnership arrangement to fulfil this.
- 1.5 The Council may be able to secure Section 106 monies and other funds to help fund any relevant schemes put forward in the future.

2. Financial Implication:

- 2.1 At this stage there is no financial commitment required by the Council, and before any financial commitment is required in the future a report will be submitted to the Council for consideration.

3. Conclusions.

- 3.1 The Working Group will need to continue to meet to be able to produce an Action Plan if required, and the Council needs to confirm its commitment to the project, in principle, at this stage.

Further information in respect of this report can be obtained from Mickey Caira
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