

Planning and Community Development Committee

September 15, 2016 – 10:00 AM

The Planning and Community Development Committee met on the above date at the County Administration Building with the following members in attendance:

Present: Chair Paul McQueen; Councillors Scott Mackey, Sue Paterson, Barb Clumpus, Arlene Wright, Anna-Marie Fosbrooke, Gail Ardiel and Kevin Eccles; and Warden Alan Barfoot

Staff

Present: Kim Wingrove, Chief Administrative Officer; Sharon Vokes, County Clerk/Director of Council Services; Randy Scherzer, Director of Planning; Chris Hachey, Grey County Trails Manager; Sarah Morrison, Intermediate Planner and Tara Warder, Committee Coordinator

Call to Order

Chair McQueen called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Adoption of the Agenda

PCD106-16 Moved by: Councillor Fosbrooke Seconded by: Councillor Eccles

THAT the Planning and Community Development Committee agenda dated September 15, 2016 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There was none.

Minutes of Meetings

Tourism Advisory Committee minutes dated August 9, 2016

The minutes were reviewed.

PCD107-16 Moved by: Councillor Ardiel

Seconded by: Councillor Clumpus

THAT the minutes of the Tourism Advisory Committee meeting dated August 9, 2016 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Planning and Community Development Committee minutes dated September 15, 2016

These minutes are for information only as they were adopted by Grey County Council on September 6, 2016.

Deputations

Jerry Grant – Friends of the Camp Oliver Forest

Mr. Jerry Grant attended the Committee meeting on behalf of the Friends of the Camp Oliver Forest.

Mr. Grant provided an overview of the Friends of the Camp Oliver Forest and proceeded to speak about the issues with noise and ruts that ATVs can produce. Mr. Grant spoke out against ATVs being permitted in the Camp Oliver Forest. He then outlined comments from the club expressing opposition to ATVs in that tract. Further discussion occurred on issues with the ATV Warden system.

Andy Nixon – West Grey ATV Club

Andy Nixon addressed the Committee. He began by thanking Grey County for installing gates, as issues with 4x4 trucks have been dramatically reduced.

Mr. Nixon then spoke to the concerns that were raised by the public and from the staff report, noting that gate damage was likely caused by trucks rather than ATVs and that the surface damage and rutting is likely not to have been caused by ATVs.

Mr. Nixon noted that ATVs have improved emissions, and if drivers drive the speed limit, you cannot hear them in the forest. With regard to concerns about scaring animals, many hunters use ATVs and they likely wouldn't if the machines scared wildlife.

It was further noted that logging will do more damage than ATVs on the trail system and that if ATVs were permitted in the tract, issues could be policed by the Wardens.

Committee inquired as to whether snowmobiles are permitted in all the tracts. Ms. Morrison noted that they are not permitted in all areas. Further inquiry was made as to whether club policies exist on what riders should do if a rider meets a horse. Mr. Nixon noted that policies do exist. Riders are to stop and let horses pass.

It was noted that there are no rules restricting modifications to exhaust.

The remaining deputation was scheduled for later in the meeting.

Reports – Planning

PDR-PCD-31-16 Camp Oliver and Glenelg Klondyke ATV Request

Sarah Morrison presented the above noted report to the Committee, noting that a request has been received from the West Grey ATV Club to use the Camp Oliver and Glenelg Klondyke Forest Tract for ATV use.

Ms. Morrison noted that the Glenelg Klondyke request was not considered, as the trails are not suitable for such a use, and the tract contains areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSI).

Ms. Morrison then outlined the location of the Camp Oliver lands. It was noted that there was significant opposition to the request and the comments received were outlined. The agreement with the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority is at capacity and this proposal would trigger a re-negotiation of the contract.

Staff indicated that all the County Forest tracts prohibit use of ATVs, except for the Harkaway Tract. ATVs were permitted in this tract because there had been minimal improvements to the tract and it was used historically for vehicular traffic and could accommodate ATVs.

Ms. Morrison spoke to the use of side-by-sides and that permitting them would negate the use of gates which opens the possibility of trucks trespassing on the trails.

Staff are recommending that the request for use of the Camp Oliver tract be denied. The trail base cannot accommodate wider vehicles. If the request is accepted however, staff recommend that the cost of the upgrades be borne by the West Grey ATV Club.

Committee inquired as to the state of the trails. It was noted that they have been improved on the west side. The east side is more natural.

Suggestions were made as to how to address the request. Suggestions such as conducting a trial period using the easterly trail only, as well as having staff bring back a report with further information, were given. It was also noted that ATVs are now able to

access more areas to ride, and that there should be some places people can go that ATVs cannot.

PCD108-16 Moved by: Councillor Eccles Seconded by: Warden Barfoot

THAT Report PDR-PCD-31-16 be referred back to staff for further review and investigation regarding access being granted on a trial basis from June 1, 2017 – October 15, 2017 on the east side only of the Camp Oliver Tract.

Lost

PCD109-16 Moved by: Councillor Wright Seconded by: Councillor Paterson

THAT staff be directed to work on a comprehensive Recreational Trails Strategy for the County Forests;

AND THAT the request from the West Grey ATV Club be deferred until the completion of the Recreational Trails Strategy.

Carried

Warden Barfoot then left the meeting.

Deputations (continued)

Saugeen Valley Children's Safety Village

Marilyn Rosner attended the Committee meeting to provide information on the Saugeen Valley Children's Safety Village and request funding from the County. Ms. Rosner outlined the Safety Village's mission and vision, and the main components of the village. The village provides a safe environment for children to learn safety. There is opportunity to learn the rules of the road, as well as fire drills, escape plans, and farm safety, among others.

The focus will be on children from kindergarten to grade six, however it is available to other groups as well.

There is no charge to attend.

The funding request to the County is \$30,000 to be put towards the salary and expenses of a dedicated safety instructor.

Ms. Rosner addressed questions from the Committee. Inquiry was made as to whether there is opportunity to use this as a revenue generating stream when it is not in use. Ms. Rosner noted that it is hoped this can be done.

The Committee expressed concern with providing half the salary on an annual basis and hoped that opportunities to use it as a revenue generator have been explored.

Kim Wingrove noted that she will speak with Bruce County to see what approach it has taken on this.

PCD110-16 Moved by: Councillor Clumpus Seconded by: Councillor Wright

THAT the presentation from the Children's Safety Village be received for information.

Carried

By-law Enforcement Officer Report – August 2016

PCD111-16 Moved by: Councillor Clumpus Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

THAT the By-law Enforcement Officer report dated August 2016 be received for information.

Carried.

Committee Review of Land Use Planning Appeals/Potential Appeals

Grey County Active Ontario Municipal Board Appeals File List

The Committee reviewed the list.

Correspondence

Bruce Power – Establishment of an Advisory Committee to Support the County of Bruce and Bruce Power's Economic Development and Innovation Initiative

PCD112-16 Moved by: Councillor Eccles Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

THAT the Warden and CAO be put forward as the two representatives of the Advisory Committee to support the County of Bruce and Bruce Power's Economic Development and Innovation Initiative.

Carried

Receive for Information – Intercommunity Bussing – Comments from Grey County

The Committee requested the information be provided to the Corporate Services Committee as well.

PCD113-16 Moved by: Councillor Eccles

Seconded by: Councillor Ardiel

THAT the correspondence regarding comments from Grey County on Intercommunity Bussing be received for information.

Carried

Other Business

The dates for upcoming meetings regarding the Niagara Escarpment Commission's proposed expansion were noted: September 26th at the Mulmur Township Office and September 28th at the Royal Canadian Legion in Owen Sound from 5-8 PM.

Next Meeting Dates

Thursday, October 13, 2016 at the Grey County Administration Building

Thursday, November 10, 2016 at the Grey County Administration Building

On motion by Councillor Clumpus, the meeting adjourned at 12:52 PM.

Paul McQueen, Chair