



**Minutes of meeting**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (Surrey Heath)**

**Date:** Thursday 13 October 2011

**Time:** 6.30 PM

**Place:** Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Heath House, Camberley

**Members present:**

**Surrey County Council [6]**

Cllr Bill Chapman (Camberley East – Old Dean, St Paul’s & Town)

Cllr Denis Fuller (Camberley West – Frimley, St Michael’s & Watchetts)

Cllr David Ivison (Heatherside & Parkside)

Cllr Stuart MacLeod (Windlesham, Bagshot & Lighwater)

Cllr Chris Pitt (Frimley Green & Mytchett)

Cllr Lavinia Sealy (Bisley, Chobham & West End)

**Surrey Heath Borough Council [6]**

Cllr Richard Brooks (Town)

Cllr Vivienne Chapman (St. Paul’s)

Cllr Colin Dougan (St. Michael’s)

Cllr Edward Hawkins (Parkside)

Cllr Paul Ilnicki (Heatherside)

Cllr Valerie White (Bagshot)

All references to items refer to the Agenda for the meeting.

***DRAFT MINUTES to be formally agreed at the next meeting***

The meeting was preceded by an Open Public Question Time. The notes are in **Annex A**.

**Part A – In Public (voting by county members on decision items)**

**46/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]**

No apologies were received from County or Borough Councillors. The Committee was notified that Cllr. Vivienne Chapman would be arriving late.

No Borough substitute Members attended the meeting.

**47/11 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 30 June 2011 [Item 2]**

The Chairman noted that the minutes incorrectly recorded the number of County and Borough Councillors in attendance at the meeting. Contrary to the minutes, 3 County Councillors and 5 Borough Councillors were present.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Local Committee (Surrey Heath) held on 30 June 2011 were agreed and signed.

**48/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]**

None were received.

**49/11 PETITIONS [Item 4]**

One petition was received.

The Petition was presented by Mark Phipps and stated: "Petition for Traffic Calming and Speed Reduction of Clews Lane, Bisley".

Mr. Phipps explained that local people are concerned that cars coming from the Flowers Estate tend to speed along Clews Lane, and that someone may be seriously hurt as a result. Mr. Phipps also pointed out that there is a children's play area on Clews Lane. The petition requested that traffic-calming measures be introduced on Clews Lane to reduce speeding and thereby ensure the safety of children.

It was agreed to receive the petition and to bring a response to the next meeting of the Local Committee. Andrew Milne, Surrey County Council Area Manager (NW), responded that before identifying speed reduction possibilities, Surrey County Council would need to carry out a site investigation and speed survey. A report detailing subsequent recommendations, with costings if appropriate, would be brought back to the next Local Committee meeting.

Mrs. Sealy thanked Mr. Phipps for bringing the petition to the Local Committee and recording the support of residents.

**50/11 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]**

One written public question was received. A copy of the question and response is set out at Annex B.

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In a supplementary question, Ruth Hutchinson, Parish Councillor for Bagshot, asked what could be done to encourage Crest Nicholson to rebuild the wall.

Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW), replied that he has visited the site and appreciates the concerns of residents. Surrey County Council is in dialogue with the developer and is applying pressure to have the wall rebuilt, within existing legal constraints.

Cllr. White commented on the response and highlighted the fact that “the County Council has no plans to rebuild this wall”. Cllr. White asked why the County Council did not clarify this position when the situation first arose 6 years ago.

Mr. Milne stated that he could not comment on his County Council predecessors, and pointed out that it would be inappropriate for the County Council to spend money on something that it does not own. Surrey County Council has been acting as intermediary between the developer and the driver’s insurance company in an attempt to find a resolution.

Cllr. White asked if it was true that the insurer has agreed to pay £5,000 to rebuild an ‘ordinary wall’, but problems arise from the fact that Surrey County Council has insisted on a ‘retaining wall’, at a cost of £35,000.

Mr. Milne stated that he is unaware of that.

Mr. MacLeod stated that it is partly an issue of establishing responsibility, and that Surrey County Council has got as far as it can with regard to bringing about a resolution. Mr. MacLeod acknowledged that Mr. Milne has been working to resolve the situation, and agreed to try to pursue the matter as well via letters to the developer.

**51/11 WRITTEN MEMBERS QUESTIONS [Item 6]**

None were received.

Executive Items for Information Only

**52/11 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11 [Item 7]**

The Chairman welcomed the guests in attendance for this item: Insp. James Norbury (Borough Inspector, Surrey Police), Kevin Cantlon (Surrey Heath Borough Council), Moira Gibson (Leader of Surrey Heath Borough Council), James Painter (Surrey County Council).

James Painter introduced the report, highlighting that an amendment had been made to paragraph 4 of the officer report (page 22 of the Committee papers) to acknowledge that, having received Royal Assent, the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Bill is now an Act of Parliament. Mr. Painter also noted that Kay Hammond, Surrey County Council Cabinet Member for Community Safety, had sent her

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apologies for the meeting and commended the partnership and its work.

Insp. Norbury provided the history of the partnership, and stated that the Safer Surrey Heath Partnership now incorporates the Community Safety Partnership. Insp. Norbury stated that he is pleased with the progress that has been made; crime has fallen and Surrey remains one of the safest areas of the country.

Cllr. Hawkins and Mr. Ivison commented that parking is a concern in Parkside; cars are being parked on pavements, apparently by both residents and people employed in the local area.

Mrs. Sealy highlighted the fact that the number of people killed or seriously injured on Surrey Heath's roads increased from 29 in 2009/10 to 35 in 2010/11. Insp. Norbury acknowledged the point, highlighting an overall decrease in the number of people killed or seriously injured in recent years and a commitment to continue addressing this issue.

[Mr Pitt left the meeting]

At 7.00pm the Chairman adjourned the meeting until 7.05pm to enable members of the public and local businesses to ask questions on this item. Details of questions and responses are set out in Annex C.

**Resolved:** to note the contents of the report, the importance of the contribution of all services towards community safety and the progress made in 2010-11

Executive Items for Decision

**53/11 MEMBER ALLOCATIONS 2011/12 [Item 8]**

James Painter, Community Partnership Team Manager, introduced the report, which listed and made recommendations on bids received for Members' Allocations that have been sponsored by at least one Member.

There was a tabled addition to the report, which detailed paragraph 12.2, a bid of £1040.00 from the High Cross Church Toddler Group for the purpose of installing storage and activity units in the toddler play area.

**Resolved:**

- (i) to agree the allocations detailed in paragraphs 11 and 12, and the tabled item 12.2 - High Cross Church Toddler Group, Camberley
- (ii) to note the allocations agreed under delegated powers as set out in paragraph 13 of the report
- (iii) to note the total allocations made during 2011/12 as detailed in Annex A of the officer report

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**54/11 UPDATE ON LOCAL ISSUES [Item 9]**

Alan Clark, Surrey Fire & Rescue Area Manager West, provided an update on the Chobham Community Resilience Action Group, which was presented on page 4 of the agenda.

**Part B – In Public (voting by county and borough members on decision items)**

**Executive Items for Decision**

**55/11 HIGHWAYS UPDATE [Item 10]**

Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW), introduced the report, advising the Local Committee that the Integrated Transport Scheme works due for completion this financial year are on schedule.

There was a tabled paper, which set out for members' information the prioritised Integrated Transport Schemes agreed by Local Committee in February 2011.

**Resolved:**

- (i) to note the progress with the Integrated Transport Schemes (ITS) highways and developer funded schemes
- (ii) to note the Community Pride spend position
- (iii) to note that a further Highways Update report is to be brought back to the next meeting of this Committee

**56/11 A30 LONDON ROAD BUS LANE CASUALTIES AND CONGESTION [Item 11]**

An amended officer report was tabled, which set out two additional recommendations (iv) and (v).

Iain Reeve, Surrey County Council Assistant Director for Strategy, Transport and Planning, presented the report, advising the Local Committee on the reasoning for the provision of the bus lane, its impact on congestion and the likely impact of the different options on congestion and bus services in the area. Mr. Reeve also stated that the County Council is working closely with the Borough Council on plans to improve Camberley as a centre for business and retail.

Background papers were tabled in addition to the report, which, in part, provided a summary of opinions of the bus lane expressed by local residents, organisations and businesses. Cllr. Dougan requested that the minutes record the fact that, in his capacity as Chairman of the St. Michael's Conservative Branch, the comments attributed to the organisation in the background papers did not accurately represent its views.

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[Cllr. Vivienne Chapman arrived at the meeting. Mrs. Sealy left the meeting due to not feeling well.]

Members of the Local Committee discussed this item in some detail and were concerned about the safety record of this site since the introduction of the bus lane. Members were keen to address this, but did not want to agree any major changes to the A30 bus lane, including changing the hours of operation of the bus lane, until the Camberley Town Centre Access Strategy is developed.

Members agreed that the additional tabled recommendations (iv) and (v) were not appropriate and should be deleted and replaced with revised wording.

Cllr. Dougan put forward the following revised recommendation (iv):

that Surrey County Council continue to work with Surrey Heath Borough Council while the Camberley Town Centre Access Strategy is developed.

This was seconded by Cllr. Brooks and the committee agreed it should become the substantive recommendation (iv).

Mr. Chapman put forward the following revised recommendation (v):

to make low cost safety improvements that are legally possible within the funds available.

This was seconded by Cllr. Hawkins and the committee agreed it should become the substantive recommendation (v).

**Resolved:**

The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) DID NOT:

(i) (a) agree the intention of the County Council to make an Order under Sections 1, 2 and Part III & IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to extend the operation of the existing bus lane on A30 London road, Camberley to 7am - 7pm on all days be advertised and that if no objections be maintained, the Order be made

(b) agree where significant objections are received to a made Traffic Regulation Order, the Area Team Manager in consultation with the divisional member and the Local Committee Chairman / Vice Chairman to decide whether the Traffic Regulation Order may be confirmed

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The Local Committee (Surrey Heath):

- (ii) agreed that yellow box markings be implemented on the offside westbound lane of the A30 London Road at the junctions with Grand Avenue, The Avenue and Osnaburgh Hill
- (iii) noted that the estimated costs of implementing these improvements (£10,000) are funded from the county council's central safety scheme budget
- iv) agreed that Surrey County Council continue to work with Surrey Heath Borough Council while the Camberley Town Centre Access Strategy is developed
- v) agreed to make low cost safety improvements that are legally possible within the funds available

**57/11 A331 BLACKWATER VALLEY ROAD – SPEED LIMIT ASSESSMENT [Item 12]**

Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW), introduced the report.

**Resolved:**

- (i) to note the results of the speed limit assessments undertaken
- (ii) to give authority to advertise a notice in accordance with the Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effects of which will be to implement the proposed speed limit changes and revoke any existing traffic orders necessary to implement the changes as shown on Annexe 1 of the officer report and subject to no objections being maintained the Order be made
- (iii) that the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee, and Local Member resolve any objections received in connection with the proposals

**58/11 THE MAULTWAY, CAMBERLEY – PROPOSED CHANGE IN SPEED LIMIT [Item 13]**

Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW), introduced the report. He noted that the officer and Police recommendation was for a reduction to 50mph and not to 40mph. During his introduction members noted the difference in cost between introducing a 50 mph and a 40mph speed limit - £20,000 and £45,000 respectively, which was due to the different lining required at these different speeds. Members noted that all their funding had been committed for this financial year, so if the scheme was agreed, it could not be funded until next financial year.

The Committee noted that it had previously voted for a 40mph speed limit, and that the impending Deepcut development strengthened this case. However, it was also agreed that it was important to take

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immediate action in the interests of community safety in line with Police and officer advice.

**Resolved (by a vote of 8 for and 2 against):**

- (i) to approve the advertising of a Traffic Regulation Order to enable implementation of a 50mph speed limit over the complete length of The Maultway (as shown in Annex 1 of the officer report)
- (ii) to approve the revoking of any existing Traffic Orders necessary to implement the above changes
- (iii) to approve that any objections to the Traffic Regulation Order should be considered and resolved by the Area Team Manager for Highways in consultation with the Divisional Member and Chairman, and that this issue only be returned to Committee if any objections prove insurmountable

Executive Items for Information Only

**59/11 FORWARD PLAN [Item 14]**

The report was for information only.

The meeting finished at 9.05pm.

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Chairman



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**Annex A**

**Open Public Question Time – notes**

**1. Geoff Marston, representing Bagshot Society**

Concerns over access to Fry's Lane – changes to the Earlswood Estate have made it difficult to leave and enter Fry's Lane safely. Would the Local Committee be able to investigate this matter?

**Reply from Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW)**

I am not familiar with the junction, but can arrange for a member of my team to meet residents to discuss the situation.

**2. Cyril Pavey, resident in Camberley**

A consequence of building the Atrium was to remove parts of St. Mary's Road and the parts that remain currently have no signs. Would it be possible to reinstate road names?

**Reply from Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW)**

This is the responsibility of the Borough Council. I will refer the matter to colleagues in the Borough Council.

**3. Stan Kulik, proprietor of Enigma clothes shop, Camberley**

Incidents of graffiti and criminal damage have increased in the Gordon Avenue and Belmont Road area of Camberley – the main front window of the shop has been smashed twice recently. Would it be possible to install deterrents, such as CCTV?

**Bill Chapman, Committee Chairman, invited James Norbury, Surrey Police Borough Inspector, to respond**

Surrey Police are aware of the situation and it is in their plans.

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**Annex B**

**Written Public Questions [Item 5]**

**Q. Written Question from Mrs. Rose Halton, Secretary to Broomsquires Residents Company Ltd.**

"The residents of our road represented by the Directors of Broomsquires Residents Company Ltd would like to ask, if after the impact of a vehicle in August 2005 which damaged a wall between Elizabeth Avenue and the Whitmoor Road, Connaught Park, Bagshot, does the County Council Highways Department have any intention to rebuild this retaining structure in the near future?"

**A. Response from Andrew Milne, Surrey County Council Highways Area Manager (NW), on behalf of the Chairman and the Local Committee:**

The County Council has no plans to rebuild this wall. The reason for this is that the wall does not belong to the County Council, but rather is owned, and is the responsibility of, Crest Nicholson.

Surrey Highways have sought to take a very proactive role in seeking to draw this matter to a conclusion, by engaging with, and drawing together, all relevant parties (these being Crest Nicholson, the insurance company involved, and a surveyors company acting on the insurers behalf).

Whilst Surrey Highways have actively petitioned to see these repairs carried out, it remains the case that the County Council cannot legally force Crest Nicholson to repair their own property. Legal advice has been taken on this matter, and the County Council could only pursue Crest Nicholson formally if, as a result of repairs not being carried out, public property was damaged, i.e. an event occurred such as the footpath support by the retaining wall collapsed.

I can confirm that Surrey Highways remains in dialogue with Crest Nicholson, and continues to exert pressure on Crest Nicholson to effect these repairs, but no other actions are open to us.

**Supplementary Question**

Thank you for the response to our question.

What can we do to encourage Crest Nicholson to rebuild the wall? The pavement is starting to give way, and people are now using it as a short cut.

**Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW)**

I have visited the site and appreciate the concerns of residents. However, certain legal constraints exist. Surrey County Council is in dialogue with the developer and is applying pressure to have the wall rebuilt.

**Annex C**

**Meeting adjournment following presentation of Community Safety Report [Item 7] – notes**

- 1. Rodney Bates, Borough Councillor for Old Dean**  
Bearing in mind the excellent results shown in the report, what will be the impact of the introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioner?

**Reply from James Norbury, Surrey Police Borough Inspector**

The honest answer is I don't know. Surrey Police Authority is due to make a presentation on the potential implications of the Police and Crime Commissioner at the Surrey Heath Partnership Management Group meeting next Friday.

- 2. Murray Rowlands, resident in St Michael's Ward**  
The police have been unable to bring about a prosecution in relation to the incident at the Hungry Horse public house, despite the fact that there is CCTV evidence. People were not prepared to come forward as witnesses. Would the police like to comment on this?

**Reply from James Norbury, Surrey Police Borough Inspector**

I don't think this is relevant to this meeting, but I am happy to provide an answer. The investigation helped to bring about a review of the licence that the Hungry Horse held, and as a result it is now a much better establishment.