

**Minutes of the meeting of Surrey County Council's
Local Committee in Elmbridge held at
4.00pm on Monday 16 June 2008 at the
Elmbridge Civic Centre, Esher**

Members Present – Surrey County Council

Mr Peter Hickman	Mrs Margaret Hicks
Mr Ian Lake	Mr Ernest Mallett
Mrs Dorothy Mitchell (Chairman)	Mr Timothy Oliver
Mr Thomas Phelps-Penry	Mr Roy Taylor

Members Present – Elmbridge Borough Council

Cllr David Archer	Cllr John Bartlett
Cllr John Butcher	Cllr Glenn Dearlove
Cllr Barry Fairbank	Cllr Alan Hopkins
Cllr Chris Sadler	

PART ONE

IN PUBLIC

[all references to items refer to the agenda for the meeting]

**31/
08 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN [Item 1]**

The Local Committee noted the appointment of Mrs Mitchell and Mr Lake as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively for the ensuing municipal year.

**32/
08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 2]**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Bennison, Councillor Fuller and Councillor Randolph. Councillor Bartlett had been nominated to substitute for Councillor Randolph.

**33/
08 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 3]**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2008, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**34/
08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 4]**

The following County and Borough Councillors wished it recorded that they were School Governors:

Councillor Fairbank	Mr Hickman
Mr Lake	Mr Mallett
Mr Phelps-Penry	Councillor Sadler
Mr Taylor	

**35/
08 APPOINTMENT OF ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH MEMBERS [Item 5]**

The Chairman announced that the following Councillors had been appointed to serve on the Elmbridge Local Committee in 2008/09:

Members of the Committee

Cllr David Archer	Cllr John Butcher
Cllr Glenn Dearlove	Cllr Barry Fairbank
Cllr Jan Fuller	Cllr Alan Hopkins
Cllr Karen Randolph	Cllr Chris Sadler
Cllr James Vickers	

Substitutes

Cllr John Bartlett	Cllr Nigel Cooper
Cllr Michael Courtney	Cllr Simon Dodsworth
Cllr Ruth Lyon	Cllr David Tipping

**36/
08 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 6]**

The Chairman requested that all members of the public complete the questionnaires handed to them at the start of the meeting explaining that Surrey is a very diverse place and the questionnaire is designed to ascertain how effectively Surrey County Council is engaging with all residents.

The Chairman also thanked Molesey Youth Club for hosting the Local Committee meeting and encouraged those present to look round the facilities on offer.

**37/
08 PETITIONS [Item 7]**

There was one letter of representation received relating to Rydens Road, Walton. The details of the letter of representation were read out as follows:

We the undersigned residents of Rydens Road are very concerned with the speed and volume of traffic, especially large lorries using Rydens Road. May we please have a lower speed limit or traffic calmers

before there is an accident or somebody is killed. If this is not acceptable, please may we have lorries banned before our houses suffer foundation problems.

38 residents signed the letter of representation. A representative of the petitioner spoke on behalf of residents outlining their concerns.

The Chairman referred the letter of representation to the next meeting of the Local Committee to enable the matter to be investigated.

**38/
08 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME [Item 8]**

There was one public question received as set out, with the response, in Annex A.

**39/
08 MEMBER QUESTION TIME [Item 9]**

There were no Member questions received.

It was confirmed that the question submitted by Councillor Butcher had not been accepted by the Chairman for presentation at the Local Committee. Instead it was referred to the Leader of the Council who had responded informally prior to the meeting.

**40/
08 COMMUNITY SAFETY [Item 10]**

The report from the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership was presented to the Local Committee for information.

It was explained that the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership was a statutory requirement and a multi-agency meeting. The partners include Surrey County Council, Elmbridge Borough Council, Surrey Police, Surrey Police Authority, Surrey Fire and Rescue and Surrey Primary Care Trust.

RESOLVED:

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) agreed that:

- i) The budget of £24,000 devolved to the Local Committee for community safety be delegated to the Area Director.
- ii) To note the activities of the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership in 2007/08 and plans for 2008/09.
- iii) To note that quarterly reports will be represented to the Local Committee throughout 2008/09.

**41/
08 LOCAL PROTOCOL [Item 11]**

The Local Protocol was presented to the Local Committee for 2008/09 for approval. It was explained that section number 6 of the protocol had been amended.

It was confirmed that the decision over whether or not to approve the Local Protocol was for the County Councillors only. This was in accordance with the Constitution, which states Borough Councillors will only have voting rights in relation to transportation, rights of way and highways matters.

The Local Committee adjourned between 4.40pm and 4.45pm.

RESOLVED:

The Local Committee agreed that the Local Protocol set out in Annex A be approved subject to the following amendment to section 6:

Meetings will normally be no longer than two and a half hours, for example, meetings commencing at 4pm and start 6.30pm unless the majority of those present approve a formally seconded proposal that the meeting should be extended to enable the completion of the business on the agenda considered urgent, otherwise the business stands should be referred to the next formal meeting of the Local Committee. It is at the discretion of Chairman to decide if the reason for urgency is appropriate.

**42/
08 TASK GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE [Item 12]**

RESOLVED:

The Local Committee agreed that the terms of reference for the Decriminalised Parking Enforcement Task Group, as set out in Annex A of the report, be approved.

**43/
08 SAFE CROSSING PETITION – MANOR ROAD NORTH, HINCHLEY WOOD [Item 13]**

The Local Committee considered the report and agreed that further investigation should be carried out to resolve the issue in the long term. Members requested that the feasibility of a puffin crossing and 20mph speed zone be investigated.

The Local Highways Manger emphasised that there were issues with budget constraints and any scheme would have to be assessed. In relation to the speeding issue, it was clarified that this was an enforcement issue for the Police.

RESOLVED:

The Local Committee noted the report.

**44/
08** **ALBANY BRIDGE UPDATE [Item 14]**

The update on Albany Bridge was presented to the Local Committee for information. It was requested that the Divisional Members be kept informed of developments in relation to the bridge via email.

The Local Committee was concerned that the feasibility study was not due to start until 2009/10. It was requested that this feasibility study be brought forward and a report presented to the next Local Committee meeting. It was also requested that, whilst waiting for the feasibility study to commence, that the general appearance of Albany Bridge be improved.

RESOLVED:

The Local Committee noted the report.

**45/
08** **TILT ROAD [Item 15]**

RESOLVED:

The Local Committee agreed that:

- i) The proposal shown on Drawing No. 7265/100 be formally advertised.
- ii) Authorisation be given to the East Surrey Highways Group Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Local Members to consider and/or resolve any objections to the proposals advertised and that the related Traffic Regulation Orders be 'made'.

The Chairman announced that the order of business would be changed to allow agenda items 17 and 18 to be taken next.

**46/
08** **MEMBERS' ALLOCATION ANNUAL REPORT [Item 17]**

The Local Committee noted the contents of the report.

**47/
08** **MEMBERS' ALLOCATION REPORT [Item 18]**

RESOLVED:

- i) To approve the Criteria and Guidance Note for the use of Members' Allocations as set out in Annex A and B.
- ii) To note the funding approved under delegated authority
- iii) (paragraphs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 & 2.4).

- iv) To approve an application for funding of £2,500 towards Surrey Locality Team Motor Skills course - to be funded from Mr Bennison's allocation £500, Mr Taylor's allocation £500, Mr Hickman's allocation £500, Mr Mallett's allocation £500 and Mr Phelps-Penry's allocation £500.
- v) To approve an application for funding of £500 towards Weybridge Vandals Cricket Club Young Leaders Project to be funded from Mr Lake's allocation.
- vi) To approve an application for funding of £2,574.50 towards One Elmbridge Partnership – Teenage Tom Tom to be funded from a previous allocation sponsored by Cllr Rachael Lake towards Fieldcommon Road Markings. This allocation is supported by Mr Taylor.
- vii) To approve an application for funding of £900 towards Say It's Friday Youth Club Blackout Blinds and Laptop to be funded from Mrs Mitchell's allocation.
- viii) To approve an application for funding of £900 towards the Youth Café at Costa Coffee, Cobham to be funded from Mrs Mitchell's allocation.
- ix) To approve an application for funding of £3,000 towards Cobham in Bloom Planting of Tubs, Flowerbeds and Shrubs to be funded from Mrs Mitchell's allocation.
- x) To approve an application for funding of £2,000 towards Questionnaires for Envisage Steering Committee to be funded from Mrs Mitchell's allocation.
- xi) To approve an application for funding of £1,950 towards The Barn Theatre – Film Club. £975 to be funded from Mr Oliver's allocation and £975 to be funded from Mr Mallett's allocation.
- xii) To approve an application for funding of £990 towards shelving for the Esher Molesey Garden Society Trading Hut. £255 to be funded from Mr Mallett's allocation, £245 to be funded from Mr Oliver's allocation, £245 to be funded from Mr Bennison's allocation and £245 to be funded from Mr Hickman's allocation.
- xiii) To approve an application for funding of £3,000 towards the resurfacing of Beauchamp Road Allotment Car Park. £1,500 to be funded from Mr Mallett's allocation and £1,500 to be funded from Mr Oliver's allocation.
- xiv) To approve an application for funding of £1,000 towards Molesey Community Church Refresh Centre for Computers & Printer. £500 to be funded from Mr Mallett's allocation and £500 from Mr Oliver's allocation.
- xv) To approve an application for funding of £2,000 towards Neighbourhood Watch (Molesey, Dittons & Hinchley Wood) Newsletters. £500 to be funded from Mr Bennison's allocation, £500 from Mr Hickman's allocation, £500 from Mr Oliver's allocation and £500 from Mr Mallett's allocation.
- xvi) To approve an application for funding of £4,000 towards Window Refurbishment at Methodist Church, East Molesey £2,000 to be funded from Mr Oliver's allocation and £2,000 from Mr Mallett's allocation.

- xvii) To approve an application for funding of £3,520 towards Elmbridge Taxi Voucher Scheme to be funded £1,000 from Mr Taylor's allocation, £770 from Mr Mallett's allocation, £750 from Mr Phelps-Penry's allocation, £500 from Mrs Hicks' allocation and £500 from Mr Hickman's allocation.
- xviii) To approve an application for funding of £334 towards a Gazebo for Neighbourhood Policing Team, Hersham to be funded from Mrs Hicks' allocation.
- xix) To approve an application for funding of £3,000 towards Interactive Speedsigns for Molesey Road, Hersham to be funded from Mrs Hicks' allocation.
- xx) To approve an application for funding of £4,000 towards Resurfacing of Beauchamp Road Allotment Car Park to be funded from the Capital allocation, sponsored by Mr Mallett and Mr Oliver.
- xxi) To approve an application for funding of £741 towards Computers & Printers for Molesey Community Church Refresh Centre to be funded from the Capital allocation, sponsored by Mr Oliver and Mr Mallett.
- xxii) To approve an application for funding of £2,000 towards street signs for Neighbourhood Watch in the Molesey, Dittons & Hinchley Wood areas to be funded from the Capital allocation sponsored by Mr Hickman, Mr Bennison, Mr Mallett and Mr Oliver.
- xxiii) To approve an application for funding of £873 towards window refurbishment at the Methodist Church, East Molesey to be funded from the Capital allocation sponsored by Mr Mallett and Mr Oliver.
- xxiv) To approve an application for funding of £3,000 towards Interactive Speed signs in Molesey Road, Hersham to be funded from the Capital allocation sponsored by Mrs Hicks.
- xxv) To approve an application for funding of £7,345 towards Display Screens at Weybridge Library to be funded from the Capital allocation sponsored by Mr Lake, Mr Taylor, Mr Phelps-Penry and Mr Mallett.
- xxvi) To approve an application for funding of £4,240 towards a replacement boiler at Esher Citizens Advice Bureau. To be funded from the Capital allocation sponsored by Mrs Mitchell, Mr Bennison, Mr Hickman, Mr Oliver and Mr Mallett.

48/08 INTEGRATED TRANSPORT SCHEMES 2008/09 – 1010/11, MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND SURFACE TREATMENTS 2008/09 AND EAST AREA DELIVERY PLAN FOR SURREY HIGHWAYS EAST 2008/09 [Item 16]

The East Area Group Manager presented the report to the Local Committee and explained how the Highways budget was being allocated to the East of Surrey.

It was explained that the proposed recommendations had been subject to minor amendments when being presented to the other Local Committees in the East. The revised recommendations were proposed as set out below:

That the Local Committee agree:

- i) To note the East Area Maintenance Delivery Plan for 2008/09, which includes Elmbridge, and note the anticipated outturn figures for the East Area Maintenance Delivery Plan for 2007/08.
- ii) To approve the programme of integrated transport schemes for Elmbridge progression in 2008/09 and the indicative programme for 2009/10 and 2010/11 funded by Local Transport Plan and Local Allocation as set out within the report.
- iii) That authority be delegated to the East Area Group Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and local elected Member to advertise any necessary traffic regulation order(s); to consider any objections received and, subject to those objections, make the associated order(s) and deliver the schemes in (i) and (ii) above.
- iv) That the East Area Group Manager be authorised to determine any objections received in response to statutory notices in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and the local elected Member.
- v) That authority be delegated to the East Area Group Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, in relation to any amendment to the 2008/09-2010/11 scheme list, as a result of changes in available funding following the closing of the 2007/08 accounts.
- vi) To approve the allocation of £103,000 of Local Schemes Revenue funding as determined by the Local Committee to be spent within Elmbridge.
- vii) To approve the Local Allocation of £100,000 as detailed within the report for integrated transport schemes within Elmbridge.

Several members of the Local Committee expressed concerns about the reduced budget available for the Integrated Transport Schemes. There were also concerns raised about the limited information in the report on certain issues including Walton CPZ, Walton Upping the Street and the proposed transfer of grass cutting to Elmbridge Borough Council. It was also requested by several Members that further clarification be given on the financial information provided in the report.

It was suggested that this item should be deferred until a special meeting of the Local Committee could be arranged to provide the additional information requested. The Chairman expressed her

concern that deferring this item would have serious implications on the Integrated Transportation Schemes. To demonstrate the implications the Chairman read out Annex A of the report detailing all of the Integrated Transportation Schemes that would be delayed as a result of this decision.

It was proposed and seconded that this item be deferred for consideration to a special meeting of the Local Committee to be held within six weeks.

A recorded vote was requested and the following Members voted in favour of the motion:

Councillor Archer
Councillor Bartlett
Councillor Butcher
Councillor Dearlove
Mr Hickman
Councillor Hopkins
Mr Mallett
Mr Phelps-Penry
Councillor Sadler
Mr Taylor

The following Members voted against the motion:

Mr Lake
Mrs Mitchell

RESOLVED:

That this item be deferred to a special meeting of the Local Committee to be held within six weeks.

The meeting closed at 6pm

SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN ELMBRIDGE – 16 JUNE 2008**AGENDA ITEM 8****PUBLIC QUESTIONS****Question 1 – Cllr Macleod****Weybridge North Parking Issues**

Will Surrey County Council take action on some specific urgently needed parking control measures needed in Weybridge North?

Residents are very concerned about two issues:

1. Safety at junctions near schools. The most serious issue is the junction at the end of Grotto Road (where it meets Thames Street) where there is no footway on one side of the road. This is between two schools, and parked vehicles particularly at school drop-off times obstruct visibility and make the junction very hazardous. People are justifiably worried that there will be a serious accident. There are also problems with parking at school drop-off time at other corners along Thames Street. This is a safety issue, which needs urgent attention. Will Surrey County Council take action before someone is hurt?
2. A need for resident parking (CPZ extension) in some roads adjacent to the High Street. The most affected area is Holstein Avenue, Elmgrove Road and Oakdale Road, where all day 'commuter' parking makes life very difficult for residents. Residents of Holstein Avenue have a particularly pressing need, and are making a strong case for early action, in advance of the planned general consultation on the CPZ in Weybridge North. More generally, there is a widespread feeling that the true severity of the parking issues in these roads to the North of the High Street has not been recognized by Surrey County Council. Will Surrey County Council take early action to investigate the level of need in these roads?

Officers Response:

Thank you for your question on these two issues in the North Weybridge area.

As you will be aware, in recent years Surrey County Council has introduced traffic calming measures into this area, in a genuine attempt to reduce, if not eradicate the numbers of personal injury accidents occurring, and also ensures that drivers are discouraged from using the area at speed and as a rat run. A traffic order has also recently been made which will additionally allow the Highway Authority to sign much of area as a 20mph zone. The signs

for this will be erected shortly, and it will allow the Police to prosecute drivers who drive in excess of this posted limit.

The Highway Authority also works closely with schools, the 56 or so in the Elmbridge area, to look at introducing improved safety measures outside schools, together with the introduction of reduced reliance on the private motor vehicle, and using other more sustainable methods of transport for these journeys. Subsequent to the traffic calming introduced outside of the school, amendments were made to the School Keep Clear markings and the location of the crossing patrol to afford all users greater safety in this location. The crossing patrol also places cones on the public highway in a genuine attempt to prevent parents from parking in such a fashion as to create safety implications for drivers, children, pedestrians and other road users. There are also flashing amber lights which operate three times a day, erected on the approaches to the school, together with triangular warning signs, highlighting to drivers the presence of additional danger at these times of day.

Obviously parents, who continue to park inconsiderately and in an unsafe manner, during school pick up and departure, are flaunting the law if they park on or near a junction. The Highway Code states that drivers should not park within 10m of the junction and can be prosecuted by the Police for doing so. At many of these junctions Surrey County Council have introduced white junction protection markings, to remind drivers of their obligation to the Code. However, Surrey County Council are not the enforcement authority and although measures are introduced to dissuade this behaviour, ultimately we are reliant wholly on Surrey Police to enforce the law.

It is always very difficult to strike a balance on the introduction of waiting restrictions near schools, as although it may discourage parental parking during the two short weekday periods of arrival and departure, the residents in the vicinity are then left with the restrictions during the remainder of the time. There is a scheme programmed to investigate parking in this entire area of Weybridge with a view to reviewing all the roads for this need. Controlled Parking Zones, limited waiting restrictions and other measures will be assessed as part of this review with full consultation with residents, businesses and other affected parties. The review is planned to commence early during the next financial year.

I hope the above appraises you of the situation and reassures you of our intentions.