

**Minutes of the meeting of Surrey County Council's
Local Committee in Elmbridge held at
4.00pm on Monday 20th September 2010 at
Elmbridge Civic Centre, Esher, KT10 9SD**

Surrey County Council Members

- ** Mr Michael Bennison
- ** Mr Nigel Cooper
- * Mrs Margaret Hicks (Chairman)
- ** Mr Ernest Mallett
- A Mr Anthony Samuels
- ** Mr John Butcher
- ** Mr Peter Hickman
- * Mr Ian Lake
- ** Mr Thomas Phelps-Penry

Elmbridge Borough Council Members

- ** Cllr David Archer
- ** Cllr John Bartlett
- * Cllr Glen Dearlove
- ** Cllr Barry Fairbank
- ** Cllr Jan Fuller
- ** Cllr Tim Grey
- ** Cllr Alan Hopkins
- * Cllr John O'Reilly
- A Cllr Karen Randolph

- ** Cllr Ruth Lyon
(substitute for Mrs Karen Randolph)

PART ONE

IN PUBLIC

37/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

There were two apologies for absence from Mr Anthony Samuels and Cllr Karen Randolph. Cllr Ruth Lyon substituted for Cllr Karen Randolph.

38/10 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2010 were confirmed subject to the following amendment, and signed as a correct record.

Item 13 – To state that Councillor Butcher requested information regarding a specific driving accident but was informed that he could not have this information due to the Data Protection Act..

39/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

Mr John Butcher declared a personal interest in all the items that referred to Elmbridge Borough Council, as he was an Elmbridge Borough Councillor.

Cllr Chris Sadler declared a prejudicial interest in Item 15 as he was a member of the Walton Heritage Group and stated that he would leave the room if discussion was had on this item.

Mrs Margaret Hicks declared a prejudicial interest in Item 14 as she was a trustee of the Voluntary Action Elmbridge who has submitted a bid under the Small Disadvantaged Area Fund.

40/10 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 4]

The Chairman made the following announcements:

Councillor John Bartlett

With great sadness she informed the Committee of the passing away of Councillor John Bartlett. She mentioned that he was a dear man and a welcome contribution to the Local Committee that the Committee would all miss him greatly and she had sent the Committee's deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Councillor Chris Sadler

She welcomed Councillor Sadler to the Committee

Seven Hills Road

The Seven Hills Road had been opened again after some redevelopment. She thanked all of the residents and Members who worked with her and the operator to ensure that the works were completed on time.

Walton Bridge

All the necessary permissions to build the new Walton Bridge were in place. However, the scheme has yet to receive 'Full Approval' from the Department for Transport, which would release the Government funding for the project. The approval process has been suspended pending the outcome of the Government's comprehensive spending review.

An announcement on the review was expected on 20th October 2010. Only after the review will the Council know when or if the scheme

would progress to the construction stage. If a positive decision was made on 20th October, and the Department for Transport subsequently issues 'Full Approval' in October or November 2010, (thus releasing the funding for the project), construction could start in January 2011.

41/10 PETITIONS & LETTERS OF REPRESENTATION [Item 5]

Two letters of representation were submitted as follows:

C153 Molesey Road, Hersham – Pedestrian Crossing

Mr Simon Lumb spoke at the Committee on behalf of the Walton and Hersham Liberal Democrat Group.

Resolved: To receive a response to the letter of representation at the 6 December Committee meeting.

Island Farm Road, Molesey – Condition of road – 71 signatures

Mr Sean Winter spoke at the Committee on behalf of the residents of Island Farm Road.

Resolved: To receive a response to the letter of representation at the 6 December Committee meeting.

42/10 PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 6]

There were two public questions received as set out in Annex A with the answers. A supplementary question was asked and answered on question 1.

43/10 MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 7]

There was one Member question received as set out in Annex B with the answer. A supplementary statement was asked.

44/10 PARKING UPDATE [Item 8]

The Parking Projects Manager introduced the item stating that this was a follow up report on new parking controls, which the Committee had received at the last two meetings. The report also requested approval for a relocation of the disabled parking bays in Walton High Street and a change in the pay and display parking charges in Station Avenue and Mayfield Road, Walton.

He reminded Members that a decision on part of the proposed parking controls relating to pay and display parking was being deferred until the county council's policy on on-street charging had been established following the current public consultation on the new Parking Strategy.

In response to a question on the implementation of amendments to the parking controls along Windmill Lane and Prospect Place that had been agreed at the last Committee, the Parking Projects Manager advised that these changes were about to be advertised and work would start on implementation at the completion of the objection period. It was agreed that the timescales for implementation would be circulated electronically to Councillor Barry Fairbank.

In addition, the Parking Projects Manager undertook to re-examine whether the Council owned the land in Hurst Road that had been identified within the proposals.

Several of the Borough Councillors commended the proposal to bring the parking charges along Station Avenue and Mayfield Road, Walton into parity with the Borough Council parking charges in the area.

Resolved:

- (i) That the existing East Molesey controlled parking zone (CPZ) is divided into two smaller zones as recommended in Annex B to the June report to this Committee and also described in this report;
- (ii) That within the new smaller CPZ covering Feltham Avenue, Hurst Road and Riverbank the operational hours should be changed to 8am to 8pm on every day of the week, the permit bays should be extended where possible in front of vehicle crossovers and a restriction on waiting at any time should replace the restriction on waiting during operational hours on the inside of the internal corners of Feltham Avenue;
- (iii) That the charges for the pay and display bays in Station Avenue and Mayfield Road in the Walton CPZ are increased to £5 for four hours;
- (iv) That the disabled bays on the west side of Walton High Street are relocated as described in this report;
- (v) That the parking restriction in Wey Road, Weybridge shown in Annex A is introduced;
- (vi) That the necessary legal procedure is undertaken to make amendments to existing traffic regulation orders or make new orders as necessary in order to implement the recommended changes in (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) above, and that the changes are then implemented;

- (vii) That a decision on changes to the other part of the East Molesey CPZ (covering Bridge Road, Creek Road, and Hampton Court Parade) and on the introduction of controls in the High Street and Church Street in Cobham is deferred for further consideration after the County Council's policy on on-street charging has been clarified following the consultation on the new Parking Strategy.
- (viii) That the remaining Members' allocation of £30,350 is spent on the implementation of new and amended parking controls in Elmbridge.

45/10 £101,000 CAPITAL HIGHWAYS BUDGET FOR 2010/11 [Item 9]

The Local Highways Manager introduced the item stating that in July 2010, the Leader of Surrey County Council announced £1m of additional funding for the Council's roads to be used within the 2010/11 year which would be divided amongst the local committees based on a formula of road length and population. The Committee considered a proposal for the use of the £101,000 allocated to the Local Committee.

He stated that with so many competing demands it was difficult to determine a recommendation based on previously agreed priorities, especially as many of the schemes would take longer to complete than the timescales provided, and more funding than allocated.

Members queried whether all activities carried out by the Council's contractor were subject to a 35% on cost. It was confirmed that the contractor currently had a cost-plus contract, but that the new contract would be more straightforward with penalty clauses.

Mr Hickman stated he did not believe that there was a need to re-slurry the footway along Basingfield Road, and questioned whether this funding could be used to widen the footway instead. It was advised that it would not be possible to widen the footway along Basingfield Road, therefore Mr Hickman agreed that this activity did not need to be carried out and was removed from the list of works. The Committee agreed that £12,150 funds should be allocated to a different project within the borough.

Resolved:

- (i) That the £101k Capital Highways Funding be used to fund the following projects:
 - Egerton Road, Weybridge – Footway Slurry
 - Vaughan Road, Thames Ditton – Footway Slurry
 - Bridge Street, Walton - Footway Slurry
 - Felix Road, Molesey - Footway Slurry
 - Windsor Avenue, Molesey - Footway Slurry
 - Terrace Road, Walton – Speed Limit
 - Hampton Court Way, Esher – Cycle lane removal

- Church Street, Esher – Safety Audit
- (ii) That the decision on the spend of remaining monies be delegated to the Local Highways Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and the relevant Divisional Members.

46/10 A309 KINGSTON BY-PASS, HINCHLEY WOOD – UPDATE ON TOUCAN CROSSING [Item 10]

The Committee considered a report requesting permission for regulatory signs to diagram numbers 955, 956 and 957 in accordance with the Traffic Signs and General Directions 2002 in relation to a new toucan crossing along the A309 Kingston By-Pass.

It was reported that the toucan crossing would provide a safe crossing for all types of pedestrians and cyclists wishing to cross at the location, and the signs were required to ensure compliance with the Traffic Signs and General Directions 2002.

The Principal Transport Development Control Officer was thanked for her work in providing information to and reassuring residents about the scheme.

Resolved:

That the erection and use of regulatory signs to diagram numbers, 955, 956 & 957, in accordance with the Traffic Signs and General Directions 2002 be approved.

47/10 WORLD CLASS WASTE SOLUTIONS UPDATE [Item 12]

The Chairman welcomed the Acting Head of Environment who gave a presentation on the development of the Council's World Class Waste Solutions.

He started by highlighting the Council's commitment to reduce, recycle and treat waste materials in this order in Surrey and provided a description of the Eco Park, its locational relationship with the current Community Recycling Centre on the site and the proposed Visitor Centre.

Then set out the three main local issues for Elmbridge relating to the processing of waste. The main issue in the area was the level of heavy vehicles using road in Elmbridge. He explained that the development of the Eco Park would reduce the number of traffic movements to the Charlton Lane site, as a large portion of the processing of the waste would take place on the site.

He informed the Committee that the agreement for how the eleven borough and district councils as Waste Collection Authorities in Surrey

and the County Council as the Waste Disposal Authority were going to work to meet the objectives within the World Class Waste Solutions was set out within the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy. The current aim was for all authorities to adopt this Strategy by October 2010. Following this the planning application for the Eco Park would be submitted for consideration and determination.

It was reported that the Surrey Waste Partnership was currently looking at the most appropriate way of recycling mixed plastics. Cllr Dearlove informed the Committee that Elmbridge Borough Council would be collecting household plastics by the end of the year.

In response to a question on the need for a Community Recycling Centre in the borough to increase recycling levels to the 70% target, the Acting Head of Environment advised that the target was for both household collections and recycling at Community Recycling Centres across the county and therefore it was not necessary to have a Community Recycling Centre in each of the borough and district areas.

Members were supportive of the reduction in the number of vehicles accessing the site as they had seen HGV vehicles using unauthorised roads in Elmbridge to access the Charlton Lane site. The Head of the Environment agreed to circulate the agreed routes for these vehicles to the Members and provide the contact details for anyone who notices these vehicles using alternative routes.

The Acting Head of Environment agreed to circulate to the Committee detailed analysis on the way that Surrey Waste Management aimed to control the emission of dioxins into the environment at the Eco Park.

Resolved: To note the report as part of the consultation process and agree that further presentations would be provided when required

48/10 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT [Item 13]

The Chairman welcomed the Elmbridge Fire and Rescue Area Manager who gave an update on the activities of the Fire and Rescue Service in 2009/10.

He advised Members that the aim of the Surrey Chief Fire Officer was that every household in Surrey had a working fire alarm fitted. He stated that although Surrey was a safe county, there were pockets of incidents. When an incident occurred, the team conducted leaflet drops (named Hot Strike) in the surrounding area and offer help to residents to improve their safety. The teams had found that residents engaged well with the officers carrying out this activity and there was a good take up of the support provided.

He directed the Committee to page 90 of the agenda, which set out the community activities carried out by the Service. There were a large number of community activities that the local teams were involved with which were well received and attended by Elmbridge residents. However he advised that the Service was currently undergoing a review and this could impact on the number of partnership activities that could be carried out in the future. The Committee was very supportive of the work of the Service and agreed that the officers were a vital part of the multi-agency network helping to support the local communities.

The Service was working with the Council's Emergency Planning team to minimise any risk to the work of the teams when responding to an emergency.

One Member requested clarification on where the water bowsers were located. The Area Manager advised that they were located at Leatherhead, Godstone, Haslemere and Camberley.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the performance of Surrey Fire and Rescue Service within Elmbridge.
- (ii) Support the achievement of personnel at Walton, Esher and Cobham Fire Stations.
- (iii) Support the commitment by Surrey Fire and Rescue Service to embrace new technology and improved initiatives, to reduce risk further and make Elmbridge safer.
- (iv) Endorse Surrey Fire and Rescue Service to continue working with partners to influence behaviour in the community.
- (v) Recognise that following evaluation of initiatives funding may be requested in order for them to be implemented, maintained or continued.

49/10 SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL FUNDING OF VOLUNTARY SECTOR GROUPS IN ELMBRIDGE [Item 14]

The Corporate Policy Senior Manager introduced the item stating that this report was being brought to the Committee to raise awareness of the funding currently being provided to voluntary sector groups in Surrey and more specifically in Elmbridge.

She advised the Committee that the voluntary sector were an important partner of public authorities, and were integral to the ability of the County Council to carry out its functions. She reported that the County Council had placed significant weight to the work of the voluntary sector, and how the Council could work with the voluntary sector to support the county's residents during this period of austerity.

In this vein, the Leader, Chief Executive and Portfolio Holder of the County Council had been meeting regularly with key figures in the voluntary sector to discuss the savings the Council needs to make and how to mitigate the impact this would have on the voluntary sector.

To evidence the importance of the work of the sector, each of the organisations which received funding was being asked to provide evidence of the outputs from the funding spend.

Members were very supportive of the approach taken by the County Council, and this was mirrored in the support for the sector from the Borough Council.

Resolved:

To note the report and welcomed future reports on the Voluntary Sector.

50/10 MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS REPORT [Item15]

The Committee considered a report on the criteria and guidance relating to Members' Allocations, and funding proposals for approval.

Members discussed the types of projects to which funding should be provided. The Area Director informed the Committee that officers were currently conducting a review of the Members Allocations system. All Members had been given the opportunity to input into this process, and would have the opportunity to discuss the findings at the completion of the review.

Resolved:

- (i) Note the Criteria and Guidance Note for the use of Members' Allocations as set out in Annex A and B.
- (ii) Note the allocations approved under delegated authority by the Area Director in consultation with the Chairman (paragraph 2.1).
- (iii) Note returned funding of £5,000 (approved at LC on 6 November 2006) towards Walton CCTV to Mr Bennison's allocation.
- (iv) Note returned funding of £7,000 (approved at LC on 6 November 2006) towards Walton CCTV to the Capital funding.
- (v) Approve an application for funding of £1,000 towards the production of Medea My Dear by Fast & Loose Theatre Company to be funded from Mr Phelps-Penry's allocation.
- (vi) Approve an application for funding of £2,828 towards the Rydens Orchestral Society to be funded from Mrs Hicks' allocation.
- (vii) Approve an application for funding of £1,500 towards the Victim Support Young Witness Service to be funded £500 each from Mr Hickman, Mr Butcher and Mr Bennison's allocation.

- (viii) Approve an application for funding of £924 towards the Elmbridge Taxi Voucher scheme for Taxi vouchers in the Hersham area to be funded from Mrs Hicks' allocation.
- (ix) Approve an application for funding of £924 towards the Elmbridge Taxi Voucher scheme for taxi vouchers in the Walton-on-Thames area to be funded from Mr Phelps-Penry's allocation.
- (x) Approve an application for funding of £750 from Girlguiding Esher Division towards refreshments for the Centenary Celebration to be funded from Mr Hickman's allocation.
- (xi) Approve an application for funding of £755 from Walton Heritage Day Committee towards the Walton Heritage Day to be funded from Mr Phelps-Penry's allocation.
- (xii) Approve an application for funding of £1,550 from St Barnabus D of E Group towards Duke of Edinburgh expeditions Bronze, Silver & Gold levels to be funded from Mr Mallett's allocation.
- (xiii) Approve an application for funding of £1,000 from Hotbuckle Productions towards the production of two plays Joshua and Ballad of a Bird to be funded from Mr Mallett's allocation.
- (xiv) Approve an application for funding of £1,000 from East Molesey Methodist Church towards the refurbishment of the church kitchen to be funded £1,000 from Mr Mallett's allocation.
- (xv) Approve an application for funding of £2,025 towards Elmbridge Community Music Society 'Enable' project to be funded £775 from Mr Mallett's allocation, £525 from Mr Phelps-Penry's allocation, £525 from Mr Hickman's allocation and £200 from Mr Bennison's allocation.
- (xvi) Approve an application for funding of £2,000 towards NSCCP to be funded £500 each from Mr Mallett, Mr Hickman, Mrs Hicks and Mr Phelps-Penry's allocation.
- (xvii) Approve an application for £4,000 Capital funding from Claygate Recreation Ground Trust/Claygate Cricket Club towards a new Clubhouse at Claygate Recreation Ground sponsored by Mr Bennison.
- (xviii) Approve an application for £2,000 Capital funding for flooring at Downside & Hatchford Village Hall sponsored by Mr Butcher.
- (xix) Approve an application for £2,000 Capital funding for the refurbishment of the kitchen at East Molesey Methodist Church sponsored by Mr Mallett.
- (xx) Approve an application for £2,000 Capital funding towards the cost of hiring and purchasing equipment for the Elmbridge Community Music Society 'Enable' project sponsored by Mr Mallett.

51/10 SMALL DISADVANTAGED AREAS FUND 2010/11 [Item 11]

The Area Director introduced the report stating that in May 2010; the Leader of the County Council announced Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund. This was money that local organisations could bid for funding for projects that would enable communities to develop economically, socially in a way that was sustainable.

The Committee was asked to consider and comment on each of the applications, and submit those that fit the criteria to the Small Disadvantaged Bids Panel for consideration.

Some Members expressed their concerns regarding the process and the complexity of the application form, stating that this had made it difficult for some small local organisations to compile a bid for submission within the timeframes. The Area Director commented that he and the Local Committee and Partnerships Officer had provided advice and guidance to organisations that had contacted them with the application form and the process.

Members were supportive of the principles behind each of the bids, but requested that each of the organisations provide information of any funding it was currently getting from the County Council for transparency. Members considered that of the three bids, the most sustainable was the bid from the Walton, Weybridge & Hersham CAB / North Domestic Abuse Outreach.

Resolved:

- (i) Recommend all three of the bids to the Small Disadvantaged Bids Panel for consideration, subject to the completion of the sections on additional funding being provided to the organisations (for transparency)
- (ii) These applications be prioritised in the order set out below:
 1. Walton, Weybridge & Hersham CAB / North Domestic Abuse Outreach bid
 2. Voluntary Action Elmbridge and the Surrey Youth Justice Service bids (on a par)

The meeting closed at 6.30pm

SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN ELMBRIDGE – 20 September 2010

AGENDA ITEM 6

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Question 1 : Ian Nelson - Stoke Road

I am Chairman of the Stoke D'Abernon & District Residents' Association and was present at the Elmbridge Local Committee meeting on 7 December 2009 held in Cobham.

I write in relation to the petition presented to the Committee on 21 September 2009. In relation to that petition that sought a reduced speed limit on the A245 Stoke Road from Cobham to Stoke D'Abernon that was presented to the Elmbridge Local Committee of Surrey County Council at its meeting on 21 September 2009; and that, at its meeting on 7 December 2009, that Committee agreed to refer back for further investigation.

Please could you explain why there has been no progress, and why has the petition organizer, Stepanie Barton, not been informed of the reason for that?

Mr. Frank Apicella will give the following response:

At the meeting on 7 December 2009, the Committee was informed that following a recent Cabinet meeting, it had been announced that the Speed Management Policy of Surrey County Council would be revised. The Committee therefore resolved that consideration of the speed limit on Stoke Road should be deferred until the Cabinet had reconsidered the Policy. Although it was hoped that a revised Speed Management Policy would have been effected earlier in the year, this is still awaited, and hence this item has not been reassessed.

As the new Policy is yet to be approved, then any assessment would have to reflect the current policy, the outcome of which, was covered in the report given at the December meeting. An exchange of e-mails occurred on the 14th May 2010 between Cllr Butcher and the Local Highways Manager (LHM), where the LHM advises of the above, but additionally that due to the current financial pressures any further speed checks cannot be justified under the current policy, as it does not permit short sections of varying speed limits. Once the revised policy is agreed then the limit on the A245 can be reassessed, to ascertain if it complies with a reduced limit, although the Committee will need to find revenue funds to finance this.

Question 2: Norman Shouler – Ashley Road School

What on earth is happening to Ashley Road School and the Remedial School alongside? To which school will the children be transferred in September? Is there to be a re-build or is the site to be sold off, including the playing field?

Ms. Liz Hanrahan has given the following response:

Ashley Church of England School is being expanded to admit, ultimately, an additional 210 children, aged 4-11. This is due to the strong rise in births and the school age population in Walton.

A building project is being carried out, lead by the school with assistance from the Diocese and Surrey County Council, to provide 8 additional classrooms in two blocks plus expand the hall and kitchen and make other smaller modifications to the existing building and its entrances. The project is expected to be completed by September 2011. The school has already, over the last 3 years taken in 90 additional children, using adapted space within the existing building and latterly, mobile accommodation. No children will be transferred - other than of course children aged 11 who will go on to various secondary schools in the borough.

There is no 'remedial' school on the Ashley site, or anywhere near, as far as I am aware. There is no proposal to sell off any of the Ashley site.

SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN ELMBRIDGE – 20 September 2010

AGENDA ITEM 7

MEMBER QUESTIONS

Question 1 : Cllr John Butcher - Stoke Road

Given the decision, at the Elmbridge Local Committee meeting on 7 December 2009, to refer back for further investigation the report, presented to that meeting, of the officers on the petition, that sought a reduced speed limit on the A245 Stoke Road between Cobham and Stoke d'Abernon, and that had been presented to the Committee's meeting on 21 September 2009,

1. Why has there been no progress on this petition;
2. What consultation on this matter has there been by any responsible member or officer of the County Council with me, as the member for the Cobham division; and
3. If the pledge to tackle speeding, that was given by Dr Andrew Povey, when he became Leader of the Council in 2009, still applies, will a 'minimum speed limit' be set for the County Council to respond to public petitions on this subject?

Mr. Frank Apicella will give the following response:

1. The relevant paragraph of the minutes of the Local Committee meeting held on the 7th December 2009 in response to the petition at the earlier meeting are reproduced below. Although a revised Speed Management Policy was hoped to be effected earlier in the year, this is still awaited, and hence this item has not been reassessed.
 - Following a recent Cabinet meeting, it has been announced that the Speed Management Policy of Surrey County Council will be revised. A decision on Stoke Road should be deferred to take account of this.
2. As the new Policy is yet to be approved, then any assessment would have to reflect the current policy, the outcome of which, was covered in the report given at the December meeting. An exchange of Emails occurred on the 14th May 2010 between Cllr Butcher and the Local Highways Manager (LHM), where the LHM advises of the above, but additionally that due to the current financial pressures any further speed checks cannot be justified under the current policy, as it does not permit short sections of varying speed limits. Once the revised policy is agreed

then the limit on the A245 can be reassessed, to ascertain if it complies with a reduced limit, although the Committee will need to find revenue funds to finance this.

The Local Committee does not make Policy decisions as this is a function of its parent Committee the Cabinet. If a 'minimum speed limit' is to be set by the County Council then this will be established by Cabinet, as part of the Speed Management Policy review.

