Minutes of meeting

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL’S LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE AREA)

Date: Tuesday, 4 November 2003
Time: 4.00pm
Place: Lecture Hall, Weybridge Library

Members present:

Surrey County Council
  Mr Ian Lake (Weybridge) – In the Chair
  Mrs Rachael Lake (Walton)
  Mrs Maggie Martin (The Dittons)
  Mrs Dorothy Mitchell (Cobham and Oxshott)
  Mr Anthony Pegler (Esher & Molesey East)
  Mr John Pincham (Claygate and Hinchley Wood)

Elmbridge Borough Council (for transportation matters)
  Mr Geoffrey Banks (Oatlands Park)
  Mr Gordon Chubb (Walton Central)
  Mr Peter Heaney (Esher)
  Mr Alan Hopkins (Molesey North)
  Mr Norman Kaphan (Oxshott and Stoke D’Abernon)
  Mr Bob Mott (Hersham North)
  Mr Torquil Stewart (Long Ditton)
  Mrs Janet Turner (Hinchley Wood)

Also present:
  Councillor David Archer (Esher)
  Councillor Hugh Ashton (Claygate)
  Alison Bennett, Local Support Officer
  Richard Bolton, Principal Engineer
  Janet Cooke, Local Director
  Dave Curry, Assistant Chief Fire Officer
  Anthony Durno, Area Manager, Mid Surrey Youth Development Service
  Janet Forster, Area Manager, Mid Surrey Children’s Services
  Patricia Gurney, Senior Engineer
  Howard Jones, Youth Development Officer, Elmbridge
  Ruth Lyon, Councillor for Thames Ditton
  Linda Melham, Youth Development Officer, Schools
  Steve Myers, Chief Fire Officer
  Chris Paisley, Senior Principal Engineer
  Karen Randolph, Friends of Thames Ditton Hospital
  Sue Todd, Rights of Way Manager, SCC
  Richard Whetton, Reassurance Manager
All references to items refer to the agenda for the meeting.

PART A: County and Borough Members

IN PUBLIC

59/03  APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE  (Item 1)
Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Crisp, Mrs Hicks and Mr Morris and from borough councillors Mr Dearlove, Mr Green, Mr Winton and Mr Wolstenholme. Cllr Mott and Cllr Stewart attended the meeting as substitutes for Cllr Green and Cllr Winton. Local Transportation Director Chris Smith had also submitted his apologies.

60/03  MINUTES OF LAST MEETING  (Item 2)
RESOLVED
That the minutes of the meeting of the Surrey County Council Local Committee (Elmbridge Area) held on 22 September 2003 be approved and signed as a correct record.

61/03  DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST  (Item 3)
In accordance with Standing Order 58, Mrs Lake, Mr Lake, Mrs Martin and Mr Pincham declared an interest in view of their roles as governors of maintained educational establishments in Elmbridge. Mr Pincham also declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 9 concerning an alleged public footpath through the grounds of Kingston Grammar School.

62/03  PUBLIC QUESTIONS (Item 5)
Karen Randolph, on behalf of the Friends of Thames Ditton Hospital, addressed the Committee with regard to Item 12, Emberbrook Care Centre. Ms Randolph explained that the East Elmbridge and Mid Surrey PCT was due to terminate its contract for intermediate care beds at the Centre and highlighted to members the importance of ensuring that these local facilities remain. The Chairman thanked Ms Randolph for putting across her case and noted this would be taken into consideration when the item was discussed later on the agenda.

RESOLVED
That the points made by Ms Randolph on behalf of the Friends of Thames Ditton Hospital be noted.

63/03  MEMBERS’ QUESTIONS  (Item 6)
Four questions had been received from Councillor Peter Heaney in accordance with Standing Order 45. Copies of the questions and responses from the Local Transportation Director were before the Committee and are appended to these minutes. Cllr Heaney was given the opportunity to ask supplementary questions and it was,

RESOLVED
That the questions and responses from the Local Transportation Director be noted.
PART B: County Members

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

64/03 INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLANNING – A PRESENTATION FROM SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (Item 7)

Members welcomed Steve Myers and Dave Curry to the meeting. The purpose of their presentation was to inform members of the details of Surrey Fire and Rescue Service’s draft Integrated Risk Management Plan, which proposed a number of changes to the way the Service carried out its business.

Mr Myers noted that Surrey Fire and Rescue (SFR) was very successful in its quick and effective response to fire emergencies. However, the statutory remit of Fire Services across the country was now due to broaden. SFR wanted to build on the experience it already had as well as carrying out more prevention and protection work, for example with young people with an unhealthy interest in fire and vulnerable elderly people.

Surrey’s reprioritising of its workload would be set out in the draft Integrated Risk Management Plan which was out for public consultation from this week until January 2004.

The Committee was given details of changes to the way that Fire Stations in Walton, Chertsey and Haslemere would be crewed. Mr Myers stressed that, contrary to some recent press reports, this was a way of making best use of resources and funding as opposed to a cost savings exercise, and would not compromise public safety.

Following an opportunity for the Committee to ask questions, the Chairman noted that the draft plan would be on the Surrey County Council website (www.surreycc.gov.uk) for public inspection and that comments would be welcomed during the consultation period.

RESOLVED

That the presentation on Integrated Risk Management Planning be supported.

65/03 ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATH LEADING FROM YORK ROAD TO SOUTH ROAD, WEYBRIDGE (Item 8)

Members received a report which had been prepared following a number of requests to investigate the public status of a path leading from York Road to South Road in Weybridge. Sue Todd attended the meeting to answer questions from members and also noted that an amended bar chart showing usage of the path had been circulated since the dispatch of the agenda. The report explained that there was insufficient evidence to establish public footpath rights over this route and it was therefore,
RESOLVED
That no public footpath rights be recognised over the route shown A-B-C in drawing no. 3/1/78H7 and the request for a Map Modification Order under Section 53 and 57 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to modify the Definitive Map and Statement be not approved and the claimants be so informed.

66/03 ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATH LEADING FROM SUMMER ROAD TO THE RIVER EMBER REACHES VIA KINGSTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL GROUNDS, THAMES DITTON (Item 9)

This report set out details of a proposal to modify the Definitive Map and Statement to include a footpath from Summer Road to the River Ember Reaches in Thames Ditton. Mrs Martin particularly thanked those who had worked hard to put together the evidence.

RESOLVED that
i) A Map Modification Order be made under Sections 53 and 57 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to modify the Definitive Map and Statement to include the route shown ‘A’-‘B’-‘C’ on drawing no. 3/1/77H11. The route to be known as Public Footpath No. 91, Esher.

ii) If objections are maintained, the Order to be submitted to the Secretary of State for Environment Food and Rural Affairs for confirmation.

67/03 PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY NO. 74, ESher – Proposed Diversion (Item 10)

The report before members set out details of an application to divert public bridleway No. 74 in Esher and the objection to this received from the Ramblers Association. Having considered the report Members,

RESOLVED
That an Order under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 be made to divert Public Bridleway No. 74, Esher, as shown on Drawing no. 3/1/77/H12, and either confirmed as an unopposed order or, if objections are received, submitted to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for determination.

68/03 PROPOSED SURPLUS DECLARATION – LAND AT HAMPTON COURT WAY, THAMES DITTON (Item 11)

The Committee received a report setting out details of a proposed surplus declaration of part of the land fronting Hampton Court Way, which was surplus to highway requirements.

RESOLVED that
The area of land shown at Appendix A to the report, forming part of the land fronting Hampton Court Way adjacent to Summer Road, be declared permanently surplus to service requirements on the basis that its original purpose to build Hampton Court Way has been carried out and there is no requirement for further road improvement or widening.
EMBERBROOK CARE CENTRE, THAMES DITTON  (Item 12)

This report was an opportunity for Members to advise and influence opinions concerning the loss of community beds at the Emberbrook Care Centre in Thames Ditton. The report set out the concerns expressed by the Friends of Thames Ditton Hospital which had also been summarised earlier in the meeting by Ms Randolph. It also included a briefing from the East Elmbridge and Mid Surrey (EE&MS) PCT setting out its reasons for terminating the contract for the four beds in the George Tickler wing of the Care Centre.

Divisional member Mrs Martin confirmed the need for intermediate beds of this kind, particularly in an area such as Thames Ditton that was poorly served by public transport. Mrs Martin asked the Committee to support the Friends of Thames Ditton Hospital in their campaign by writing to the EE&MS PCT. It was further suggested that the Surrey County Council Health Select Committee should be also be advised of the Local Committee’s view.

Councillor Ruth Lyon expressed her thanks to County Members for their support of the Friends and also highlighted the local need for intermediate care.

In considering the report, Anthony Pegler was of the view that the Friends of Thames Ditton Hospital would be better advised to petition Bettercare, the private company that runs the Emberbrook Centre over their costs. As the PCT had highlighted in its briefing note, Bettercare’s costs were considerably more expensive when compared to NHS provision.

The majority of the Committee felt however, that the Friends should be supported in their efforts to ask EE&MS PCT to retain the beds.

RESOLVED

(i) That a letter be sent to East Elmbridge and Mid Surrey Primary Care Trust stating the Local Committee’s support of the Friends of Thames Ditton Hospital in retaining the community beds at the Emberbrook Care Centre; and

(ii) That the County Council’s Health Select Committee be asked to note the concerns of the Local Committee.

NOTE:- In accordance with Standing Order 57.2, Mr Anthony Pegler requested that his vote against the above decision be recorded.

REASSURANCE PROJECT – A PRESENTATION  (Item 13)

Richard Whetton gave a presentation to the Committee setting out details of the Reassurance Project in Elmbridge which had focussed on three contrasting areas of the borough last year as a pilot project. Mr Whetton explained that the Project focussed on the impact of signal crimes and signal incidents that affected people’s fear of crime. These included crimes such as violence against the person and domestic violence as well as matters that were of concern to communities such as abandoned
vehicles, fly-tipping, traffic offences and anti-social behaviour. New ways of work had been developed to address these issues that were now being applied more widely.

The first year of the project had seen a one third reduction in signal crimes. The successes of the first year had been reflected in the additional funding received from the Home Office for Reassurance and the identification of North Walton as one of the national pilot areas for year two. Measures were being put into place to deal with issues such as anti-social behaviour that had previously been difficult to address. Mr Whetton also set out future challenges for the project including improving police response times, sustaining the project beyond two years, eviction of tenants causing problems to the community, publicity, including Reassurance in service planning and ensuring that there was a better judicial understanding of anti-social behaviour legislation.

In response to a question, it was noted that the Home Office had not been forthcoming with performance indicators. However, the Elmbridge Reassurance Project was leading from the front and developing these.

The Chairman stated that he was pleased that the Project was moving in the right direction and it was,

RESOLVED
That the presentation on the Reassurance Project be noted.

71/03 CHILDREN’S SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT (Item 14)

Janet Forster attended the meeting to set out the work of Children’s Services in the borough over the past year and to highlight those issues that were of particular relevance to Elmbridge.

During debate, Members raised the issue of re-offending figures and expressed particular concern that 75% of youths who had received custodial penalties were reoffending within 12 months. Members questioned the levels of outreach support for such young people.

Another matter of great concern was the significant increase in numbers of children on the Child Protection Register which appeared to be a situation specific to the Elmbridge area. Mrs Forster explained that the problem appeared to be focussed in the Walton area and linked to domestic violence and the abuse of drugs and alcohol. The Police had confirmed this trend.

Mrs Forster also asked that members use their contacts to assist with the recruitment of both foster carers and social workers for the borough, as it had been noticed that word of mouth was a very effective form of recruitment. Considerable funding had been put into improving the package available to carers and Children’s Services was now able to fund social work courses for new trainees.

The Chairman expressed the Committee’s support to Children’s Services in its work and it was,
**RESOLVED** that

i) The report be noted;

ii) The performance of the service countywide, by area and locally be noted; and

iii) Local initiatives to recruit more foster carers and social workers be supported.

**72/03 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SERVICE PERFORMANCE REPORT (Item 15)**

Anthony Durno presented a report setting out details of the Youth Development Service’s annual planning process as well as those activities that had been happening in Elmbridge.

Members raised the issue of whether some of the targets that the Youth Service was obliged to meet were actually realistic and helpful to its work. It was also noted that Connexions’ focus on deprived young people could result in insufficient resources being focused on those who were not seen as disadvantaged.

With regard to the recommendation that the Committee consults with young people, Mr Durno noted that there was a need for members to take on board young people’s agendas and improve lines of communication. Work had already been done in some areas during Local Democracy Week and local projects were also planned. Following discussions it was,

**RESOLVED** that

i) The Local Committee considers how best to contribute to the local plan and works with the local manager on developing priorities for the forthcoming year:

ii) Local Committee Members set up a process in consultation with the local manager to effectively consult with young people; and

iii) The Local Committee works with others to develop facilities for the creation of an integrated multi-agency strategy for young people within Elmbridge.

**73/03 PROPOSALS FOR EXPENDITURE OF LOCAL REVENUE BUDGET (Item 16)**

The Committee had before it a report setting out five proposals for expenditure from the Local Revenue Budget. Janet Cooke gave an overview of each of the proposals and confirmed that none of the Members had an interest in the projects, save those already declared.

In addition, Members received an additional report setting out a further three proposals for consideration under Urgent Matters and in accordance with Standing Order 2.2. The report also asked for approval in principle for proposals from Mrs Lake, Mr Morris and Mr Pincham, subject to further details being brought to a future meeting.
The Committee noted all the proposals, however Members were minded to defer Mr Morris’ proposal to donate £10,000 towards a war memorial for Molesey, asking that more detail be brought to a future meeting. It was,

**RESOLVED**

i) That the proposals for expenditure from the Local Revenue Budget be agreed as follows:

- a. £360 from Ian Lake’s allocation to purchase a dishwasher for the staff room at St James Primary School, Weybridge;
- b. £2,147.80 from Maggie Martin’s allocation to fund an interactive whiteboard and projector for Long Ditton Infant and Nursery School;
- c. £1,176 from Maggie Martin’s allocation to buy two television/videos for Long Ditton Junior School;
- d. Up to £6,000 from Maggie Martin’s allocation to fund security equipment for Thames Ditton Youth Centre;
- e. £2,000 from Dorothy Mitchell’s allocation to contribute towards Christmas lights for Oxshott;
- f. £1,500 each from Andrew Crisp and Rachael Lake to fund additional Christmas lighting for Walton on Thames;
- g. £1,000 each from Andrew Crisp and Rachael Lake towards temporary signage for Walton town centre;
- h. Up to £500 from Ian Lake to fund the closure of Baker Street in Weybridge during a Christmas event.

ii) That approval in principle for the following proposals be agreed, subject to further details being brought to the meeting on 27 January 2004:

- a. Up to £2,000 from John Pincham’s allocation towards a water supply for The Firs in Claygate;
- b. £3,500 from David Morris’ allocation to fund the redesign of the grassed area in Spurfield, West Molesey;
- c. Up to £1,000 from Rachael Lake’s allocation to purchase trophies, a trophy cabinet and other items to celebrate the achievements of children at Grovelands school in Walton on Thames.

iii) The proposal from David Morris to donate £10,000 towards the building of a war memorial for Molesey be deferred with further details to be brought to the meeting on 27 January 2004.
74/04  **ELMBRIDGE EDUCATION WORKSHOP**  (Item 17)
Members received a report setting out details of the Education Workshop that had been held on 13 October. This had been the first of a number of planned workshops to enable Members to examine issues in more detail than was possible at Committee meetings. Mr Lake noted that the next workshop, which would focus on issues relating to health and social care, would be held on 12 December at 2pm in Burview Hall, Queens Road in Walton on Thames.

**RESOLVED**
That the report be noted.

**PART C: County and Borough Members**

75/03  **SOUTH WEYBRIDGE FEASIBILITY STUDY**  (Item 18)
Chris Paisley explained that an area study had been carried out that formed a comprehensive assessment of conditions and problems in the Weybridge area. The report before Members set out the results of this study together with a series of conclusions and recommendations and a list of those who had been initially consulted on the study. The total cost of the proposals detailed amounted to around £470,000 and it was explained that the next steps would be to consult on the proposals in order to prioritise the various elements.

As the relevant divisional member, Mr Lake stated that he was pleased that the study was progressing and thanked the officers for their hard work.

**RESOLVED** that
i) The conclusions in the report and identified schemes be approved;
ii) Officers prioritise the various elements of the project in accordance with LTP assessment criteria for inclusion in the 3 year LTP programme and that consultation takes place on the study findings and proposals with Local Members, Residents Associations, Emergency Services and other interested groups at suitable times as the project is developed;
iii) The funding for carrying out the assessment, prioritising the elements of the project and undertaking scheme specific consultations (estimated at £5,000) be met from the currently unallocated LTP Budget for this financial year.

76/03  **ELMBRIDGE LOCAL AREA TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMME BID FOR 2004/05 TO 2006/07**  (Item 19)
This report set out details of the updated three year programme of transportation schemes that had been developed to assist in achieving the County Council’s Local Transport Plan targets. Mr Paisley informed Members that work was still being carried out on this document, which needed to be completed by 28 November. The Committee viewed a number of slides, which showed how the Elmbridge programme would link with the seven themes that were particularly pertinent to the
They were also informed of those local factors that would influence the submitted document and programme.

Mr Paisley emphasised to Members that the responsibility for funding of LTP schemes rests with the Local Committee. Following submission of the bid, the Committee would consider the details of next year’s programme at its meeting in March 2004.

**RESOLVED**

i) That the report forms the basis of a bid for the transportation programme in Elmbridge for the period 2004/05 until 2006/07, and reflects the LTP priorities appropriate to Elmbridge within the wider County LTP objectives and targets.

ii) That the Local Transportation Director be authorised to submit the completed bid document, after consultation with the Chairman.

**77/03 EUROPEAN YEAR OF DISABLED – PROPOSED ON–STREET STATUTORY DISABLED PERSON’S PARKING BAYS (Item 20)**

Richard Bolton explained that £25,000 had previously been approved for the European Year of the Disabled Project in Elmbridge. One part of that project was a complete review of existing bays and the provision of new statutory on-street parking bays at various locations in the borough. Details of the review to identify existing bays and new locations were before Members, together with proposals to assess the feasibility of apparently under-used taxi ranks in Walton and Weybridge. A Traffic Regulation Order designating the bays was due to be made, although officers noted that those minor comments that had been received since the publication of the agenda would be considered for incorporation into the scheme.

Some discussion took place regarding the best position of the bay at Church Road in East Molesey. Following a motion from Mrs Mitchell, the majority of the Committee agreed that the location set out in the report was the most preferable.

Councillor Hugh Ashton also attended the meeting on behalf of the Elmbridge Access Group and offered particular thanks to officers for their support in progressing these matters.

**RESOLVED** that

i) A Traffic Regulation Order designating disabled parking bays in the locations described in the report be advertised and, if no objections are received, the Order be made;

ii) If the usage of the existing taxi ranks in Walton and Weybridge cannot be justified, a Traffic Regulation Order for their withdrawal be advertised and, if no objections are received, the Order be made;

iii) The Local Transportation Director be authorised, following consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and the appropriate Divisional Members to consider and, if possible, resolve any objections received.
78/03 PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS – CHURCH ROAD / KENT ROAD / VINE ROAD, EAST MOLESEY  (Item 21)

Members received a report detailing proposals to implement waiting restrictions to improve traffic and road safety at the junction of Church Road, Kent Road and Vine Road in East Molesey. The Committee was also shown video footage, which highlighted the current problems in this area.

RESOLVED

i) That the advertising of a Traffic Regulation Order imposing waiting restrictions as set out in the report be approved and that, in the absence of any objections being received during the statutory consultation period, the Order be made.

ii) That the Local Transportation Director be authorised, following consultation with the Chairman of the Committee to consider and, if possible, resolve any objections received.

iii) That the funding of the cost of advertising and making of the Traffic Regulation Order, together with associated road markings, at an estimated cost of £2,500, be funded from the unallocated LTP Budget for the current year.

79/03 ELMBRIDGE CYCLE FORUM  (Item 22)

The Committee was informed that the Elmbridge Cycle Forum had recently held its first meeting, details of which were set out in the report.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm

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The following questions have been received from Councillor Peter Heaney (Esher) in accordance with Standing Order 45. The questions, together with responses from the Local Transportation Director are set out below.

1. **Introduction of Car Parking Charging in Esher**

   “Elmbridge Borough Council is proposing the introduction of charging in the Esher Town Centre car parks.

   In order to protect High Street traders and the existing residential parking in Wolsey and Park Roads, can a more comprehensive parking control scheme be introduced by instituting the following on-street controls at the same time:

   (i) ‘One hour no return’ in the High Street slip road?
   (ii) A similar scheme for Wolsey and Park Roads, but with parking permits for residents?”

**Officer Response**

In principle the County Council agrees that there may be merit in introducing parking charges within Esher. However if charges are to be introduced, we would like to see them included as part of a Borough-wide parking plan, not simply to address one local problem without careful consideration of all other related issues. We first invited the Borough Council to bring forward a report on their intended parking regime for Esher to this joint Local Committee in March 2003. County Members would welcome the opportunity to publicly debate and fully explore all of the issues with their Borough colleagues, which may affect local residents and businesses.

At this time the County Council is developing proposals for the introduction of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) within the County. This involves a full review of parking restrictions throughout the entire Borough. The High Street slip roads, along with Wolsey and Park Roads will be assessed as part of this process. There is a significant cost implication for the introduction of measures such as those proposed by Cllr Heaney. Subject to a proper local agreed framework for the introduction of DPE and a Borough Parking Management Plan, the County Council would welcome a firm commitment from the Borough Council to cover any costs incurred for correcting potential problems instigated by their decision to impose charges in their off-street car parks.
2. **West End Lane Esher, from the Prince of Wales to the Hospice**

“This road has traffic calming humps which extend the whole width of the carriageway. For some years in rainy weather, lakes form between humps causing spectacular problems for local residents. To cure this problem, Elmbridge Borough Council introduced small bore pipes into the humps at the edge of the road. The diameter of these pipes is so small that one leaf can cause a blockage.

Can these humps be cut back half a metre from the edge of the road, as has been done in other parts of Surrey, to enable the original drain to operate?”

**Officer Response:**

The traffic calming in West End Lane was one of a number of similar schemes implemented by Elmbridge Borough Council between 1996 and 1999. These schemes aimed to introduce traffic calming into locations which would not otherwise receive funding through the Surrey County Council assessment procedures.

The plan was to provide low cost measures in as many locations as possible to maximise the effect of the limited budget available. Gullies could have been provided but the cost would have been prohibitive at that time.

Surrey County Council policy on the construction of flat top humps, such as those in West End Lane, had only recently been established and permitted only measures of a kerb-to-kerb variety. This ensured that the concerns of cyclists and pedestrians were addressed in the design. The option to modify the current tables to create a gap in the channel does therefore not exist.

Surrey County Council did in fact contribute £15,000 to the Elmbridge scheme in West End Lane for improvements to the street lighting system.

Over a number of years Surrey County Council has made modifications to these measures and installed gullies at key problem locations, however funding remains an important issue. We would welcome any offer by Elmbridge Borough Council to fund additional gullies for West End Lane.

Since these initial schemes were implemented, all major traffic calming projects introduced in the Elmbridge Borough area, funded by the County Council, make use of specifically manufactured steel bypass channels which replace kerb lengths or traditional gullies. A periodic maintenance regime exists for the clearance of all channels, gullies and ducts.

3. **Littleworth Road from Milbourne Lane to the Littleworth Lane Bend**

“This road, being at a low point near the River Rythe, is always liable to surface water flooding. Can the road drains be cleared to ensure flooding is kept to a minimum this winter?”
Officer Response:

All road gullies that the Highway Authority is responsible for are cleansed on a cyclic basis. Officers are aware of the problems with Littleworth Road and will ensure that they are prioritised, along with other known high-risk sites. On occasions the level of the river rises to such a level that it blocks the outfall for the gullies. In these situations it is impossible for the gullies to flow freely.

4. West End of Esher Park Avenue, near The Bear Pub

“Can a new tarmac pavement be made (to replace the existing gravel and sunken slab) at least from Victoria flats to the cross over point between the Littleton surgery and the Bear Pub (32 metres)?

This will enable electric disable chairs and wheel chairs from the adjacent flats to access the surgery and the High Street.”

Officer Response:

From the description given, officers believe that this section of pavement is private and not the responsibility of the Highway Authority. This Committee approved a programme of footway reconstruction works at its June 2003 meeting and these are currently being constructed in priority order. Officers will speak to Cllr Heaney outside of this meeting for further clarification and, if appropriate, it will be assessed for inclusion within our footway rolling programme.