

**Minutes of the meeting of Surrey County Council's
Local Committee in Epsom and Ewell held at
19.00 on Monday 12 February 2007 at the
Ebbisham Centre, Epsom**

Members Present – Surrey County Council

Chris Frost [Epsom & Ewell South East]	Jean Smith [Epsom & Ewell North] [Chairman]
Jan Mason [Epsom & Ewell West]	Colin Taylor [Epsom & Ewell South West] [Vice Chairman]
NRM Petrie Esq MBE [Epsom & Ewell North East]	

Members Present – Epsom and Ewell Borough Council

Cllr Brian Angus [Ewell]	Cllr Graham Dudley [Cuddington]
Cllr Pamela Bradley [Ewell]	Cllr Nigel Pavey [Stamford]
Cllr Michael Richardson [Woodcote]	

PART ONE

IN PUBLIC

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

01/ APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

07

Local Committee & Partnership Officer, Lynda Tarling advised that Cllr Richardson would be arriving late.

02/ MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING [Item 2]

07

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2006 were agreed

03/ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

07

No declarations of interest were made

04/ PETITIONS [Item 4]

07

No petitions were received

**05/
07** **WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTION TIME [Item 5]**

Written public questions were received from Mr A Webb, Chairman of the Ewell Court Residents Association and Mr Barrie Taylor. The questions and answers were circulated at the meeting [attached as Annexe A], and a copy will be sent to Mr Webb and Mr Taylor.

**06/
07** **MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME [Item 6]**

There were no members' questions

**07/
07** **ADJOURNMENT [Item 7]**

The Committee agreed to adjourn for up to half an hour for questions from the public. A record of questions received from members of the public and the answers are attached as an annexe to these minutes.

**08/
07** **IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HIGHWAYS CONTRACT [item 8]**

The Strategic Director for Communities, Andy Roberts, provided the Local Committee with an update on the Improvements to the Highways Contract. He recognised that the recent county council restructure had reduced resources at a local level, and measures are being taken to address this. He advised that his department are working with the contractors to secure sustained improvements in their performance, where they fall short of the standards Surrey County Council expect. Also being reviewed is the nature of the contract and the way in which Surrey County Council work with Carillion and Ringway.

From 1 April 2007 the Transportation Service will become two new services –

1] Surrey Highways dealing solely with matters relating to the Highways; to have a strong customer focus and a visible presence; ie Community Highway Officers, and increasing the number of highway stewards, with a view to piloting at the end of February 2007.

2] Transport for Surrey will be responsible for integrated transport across the county.

He acknowledged the backlog of ITS schemes waiting to be delivered.

Mr. Petrie expressed his concerns regarding starting new work when there is a backlog of maintenance, and the Officer assured him that they would be focusing on maintenance.

As global warming this has lessened the need for winter gritting/salting of roads, and some funds would be transferred to deal with flooding caused by blocked gulleys.

Cllr Graham Dudley reported that an illuminated steep hill warning and road hump sign had been out for over a year. The Officer, East Area Transportation Group Manager, Roger Archer-Reeves, agreed to look into the matter and report back to Cllr Dudley.

Cllr Pavey reported that the general public would welcome feedback, for example, when they report a light being out. Several other Borough Councillors endorsed the street lighting problem, particularly on footpaths. Many members agreed that feedback to the general public on progress is important. The Officer advised that an audit of street lighting across the county is currently being undertaken and he agreed to provide the Local Committee with details of street lighting that is the responsibility of Surrey County Council.

It was agreed that an Officer will provide an update report to the June meeting of the Local Committee on the progress made on problems reported on roads and street lights..

It was **RESOLVED** that the Strategic Director's report was noted.

**09/
07** **KILN LANE LINK [Item 9]**

The Chairman advised that the Executive Member for Transport [Helyn Clack] had sent her apologies to this meeting, and advised that she had not written to the Secretary of State. The Committee Members expressed their dissatisfaction, as it was reported at the Executive Meeting in January, that Helyn Clack would write to the Secretary of State. She had however raised the matter with the Regional Transport Board, who advised they would consider this plan early in the 2011-2016 prioritisation programme.

The Chairman asked for the views of the Committee in taking this matter forward. It was agreed that the Local Committee would write to the Secretary of State, copied to the Regional Transport Board and GOSE to emphasize that the need for this Link is high priority due to road safety, pollution and congestion in the immediate area. The support of the Executive Member for Transport and the local MP, Chris Grayling, would also be sought.

The Local Committee also discussed other options, and it was agreed that the Local Committee and the Highways Department would consider alternative ways of funding this scheme with partners and other interim measures.

The Officer, Senior Local Transportation Team Manager Epsom & Ewell, Martyn Williams, confirmed that a bid has been lodged with the Local Transport Plans settlement from Government for funds for this Link.

It was then **RESOLVED** that the Committee noted the report.

**10/
07** **SURREY SAFETY CAMERA PARTNERSHIP [Item 10]**

The Officer, Duncan Knox, introduced the report and gave a short presentation on the work of the Surrey Safety Camera Partnership and advised that the cameras are introduced at collision locations. He reported that Surrey County Council are the lead partner in this project, and are co-located in offices in Shalford with Surrey Police. The Chairman, County and Borough Councillors were invited to visit Shalford and the mobile camera unit.

Cllr Richardson expressed his concern regarding vandalism of the cameras, and the Officer confirmed that Surrey Police are looking into this matter.

The Casualty Reduction Officer from Surrey Police, John Fruen, advised that he will be working with the Metropolitan Police in March to cover the Ewell area and its boundaries with the London Borough, for speed checks, and asked Members and Borough Councillors to advise him of particular roads to be covered.

It was then **RESOLVED** that the Committee noted the report

**11/
07** **REVIEW OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS [Item 11]**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee noted the report.

**12/
07** **REVIEW OF CROSSOVERS [Item 12]**

The Officer, Roger Archer-Reeves, introduced the report. He advised that approval would be sought from the Executive Committee in March to increase the fees for this service, in order to provide the additional resources necessary to clear the backlog.

It was then **RESOLVED** that the Committee noted the report

13/07 MINOR HIGHWAYS/LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT [Item 13]

The Officer, Martyn Williams, introduced the report. Mr Petrie asked the Officer about future schemes, and Roger Archer-Reeves, responded that consultation with County Councillors would take place in late March on the Local Transportation Plan for 2007-2008. A report on the Plan will be presented at the June meeting of the Local Committee for decision.

It was then **RESOLVED** that the Committee noted the report

13A PETITIONS RECEIVED [Item 13A]

07 The Petitions report refers to item 11 – Review of Waiting Restrictions.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee noted the report.

14/07 SELF RELIANCE [Item 14]

The Officer, Area Director, Julia Penfound, introduced the report and also introduced Keri Marshall, who will be the Community Co-ordinator on the project from mid February. Cllr Pavey asked why Danetree School was not included in the Self Reliance area. The Officer responded that when the project was set up Danetree School was outside the area. Cllr Pavey agreed to advise Keri Marshall of the number of children in Danetree School as around 50% of the children from the schools in the Self Reliance area transfer to Danetree School.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee noted the report.

15/07 MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS [Item 15]

The Officer, Lynda Tarling, introduced the report.

It was then **RESOLVED** that the Committee agree the following:

Funding from the Members' Allocation budget:

- i] £500 towards the Environmental Wildlife Area – Auriol Junior School, and for Auriol School to provide a breakdown of the total expenditure. [Jean Smith]
- ii] £1,200 towards the Energy Group publicity Funding [Chris Frost]
- lii] £3,000 towards installing bollards in West Hill Avenue alongside Kingswood House School [Colin Taylor]

**16/
07 FORWARD PROGRAMME**

The Officer, Lynda Tarling, introduced the report.

The following changes were proposed and agreed for the next meeting in March 2007

- The new Families Directorate report will be deferred
- Children Centres report will be added
- Update on Rosebery Housing /Groundwork in Court Ward will be added
- Chairman's Report

The following extra items were proposed for the June meeting:

- Amis Avenue Closure Review
- Priority 4 waiting restrictions
- Local Transportation Plan
- Town Centre paramics
- Report on the progress made on roads and street lighting

The Officer, Lynda Tarling, agreed to reissue the Forward Programme to include the above items.

Meeting Ended: 10.00pm.

ANNEXE A

SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN EPSOM & EWELL – 12 FEBRUARY 2007

AGENDA ITEM 5

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Question 1 – Mr A L Webb, of the Ewell Court Residents' Association

Junction of Elm Way/Pams Way

It has been brought to the attention of this Association, on a number of occasions that cars are being parked on all sides of the triangular island at the junction of Elm Way and Pams Way, creating a dangerous situation for other road users. Posts were sited around this piece of land in an effort to deter parking around the island, but to no avail.

May we respectfully suggest that the island be converted to a mini-roundabout, thereby eliminating any possibility of illegal parking occurring in this area.

Officer Response:

The request from the association to convert the triangular verge area at the junction of Pams Way and Elm Way, as with all requests, can be considered. However, it is not usual practice to tackle a parking problem with such a change to the road layout.

Mini roundabouts are a traffic management feature and work best when there is equal traffic flows on each approach, and there is sufficient deflection on the approaches to reduce speeds. They would not be considered appropriate to deter parking at a junction. However, the issue of parking can be looked into to see if a more suitable method of managing the parking can be found, possibly in the form of waiting restrictions.

Question 2 - Mr Barrie Taylor

Installation Of Lights In Snakey Alley

- (a) What is the total final cost of this project (which was started in March 2006 and 'switched on' and apparently completed by August 2006)?
- (b) How much of any increase over the original £10,000 estimate was caused by the need to rectify the incorrect (and illegal) installation on private land of essential equipment and two of the nine lamp standards, one of which, incidentally, still remains — unconnected — in its original position close to the Hesse Grove junction.
- (c) What is the estimated annual cost of the electricity required to light this 'Safer Route to School' lane from dusk to dawn, every night of the year, when, it would seem, very few children are about, either going to or coming away from Glyn School?

Officer response:

- a) The final costs for installing the scheme were £8,435.
- b) The cost of removing one column and re-siting another was £219. The location of the two columns in question was not illegal. However the County Council has respected the views of the local residents concerned, and has complied with their wishes to remove the columns.
- c) The annual energy cost for the scheme is approximately £171.

Annexe B

Informal Minutes of Public Question Time at Surrey County Council's Local Committee in Epsom & Ewell 12 February 2007

Mr Bill Slaughter, Chairman of Stoneleigh and Auriol Ward Residents Association, The non appearance of 'no entry' signs in Chessington Road.

Mr Slaughter advised he had received an e-mail from Borough Councillor, Derek Phillips, on 28 March 2006 that this sign had been ordered for the west bound carriageway of the Chessington Road.

Councillor Response

C. Cllr Jan Mason responded that she had been advised the sign was going to be installed.

Officer Response

The Officer, Martyn Williams, responded that he would take the matter up and endeavour to get the sign installed at the earliest opportunity. .