



**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL  
LOCAL COMMITTEE IN EPSOM & EWELL  
2 March 2009  
INFORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

**Question 1 Mr Bill Slaughter, Chessington Close Resident**

As you and members of the Local Committee may recall, I have been battling for more than nine months since last May, with the support of our local members, Councillor Jan Mason, to get the dangerous white lines remarked in Chessington Road at the junction with Chessington Close.

Despite frequent written assurances ranging from '...should be done in the next few months' [14 May 2008] to 'I'm still waiting for my colleagues in Transport Development Control to let me know' [28 November 2008], no progress had been made – other than the incorrect marking being repainted a short while ago.

An email from me on 17 February 2009 to our local members and copied to Mrs Lynda Tarling, elicited a very kind personal response from Mr James Painter, the Area Director, who telephoned me the very next morning, and 48 hours later, the work was indeed commenced.

Unfortunately, the work also stopped, only half completed, on the very same day, and has still not been restarted, some 10 days later. The confusion caused by only half the work being done has actually increased the level of danger residents experience when exiting Chessington Close.

May I, through you, Mr Chairman, send a sincere half thank you to the Area Director for the first half of the work carried out and ask when the remaining half of the unfinished work will be completed, so that I can send him the second half of my sincere thanks?

Mr Slaughter also provided photographs to the committee.

The Officer advised that he was not aware it had not been completed, and he will endeavour to chase this up.

**Question 2 Cllr Alison Kelly**

As a result of the recent snowfall I have been contacted by a number of residents. I therefore have a four-part question.

A] Do roads such as A24 get priority for gritting, and who is responsible?

B] is any consideration given to pavement clearing for vulnerable groups such as blind homes into town.

C] Now gritting bins are empty does the Council have a refill strategy or do they have to be reported individually?

D] will the plan for snow be revised as a result?

.The Officer responded that the weather had been exceptional, and priority had been given to gritting footways around schools at first and then in the Town Centre, and around the station. The Officer advised that they were reviewing their winter maintenance policy and this will shortly be publicised on the website. He also advised that the salt bins are being refilled.

**Question 3 Diana Coman**

Given the damage to the many roads in the district, are there going to be any additional road inspections to ensure work is carried out more swiftly.

The Officer advised that additional resources for repairing potholes had been provided.

**Question 4 Diana Coman**

Mrs Coman asked how many times Woodcote Road and Woodcote Green had been inspected.

The Officer agreed to investigate and report back.

**Question 5 Diana Coman**

Mrs Coman asked about plastic 1 and 2 grade recycling, and was Surrey County Council able to make any progress in retrieving grade 1 plastic.

The Chairman believed this was a borough issue, and Cllr Mike Richardson advised that the Borough had started collecting plastic and cardboard, but they were limited to plastic bottles only, as the contractors will not dispose of the other types of plastic.

**Question 6 Cllr Stephen Pontin, Conservative Borough Councillor**

Mr Pontin, advised he had presented a petition to this Committee over a year ago in regard to the poor design of the traffic lights at Ruxley Lane/Chessington Road and requested a review of the design of this junction. He asked why the local residents have to wait over a year to agree the allocation of funds for this review.

The Chairman, C Cllr Chris Frost, advised that there are a list of projects that are put forward across the whole borough for decision by the C Council Members and the Local Highways Manager. With limited resources they have to decide to prioritise on the list of projects/roads that will have work undertaken in 2009/10.

**Question 7 Cllr William Keen**

Mr Keen advised he is a member of the British Legion, and concerned about the parking for disabled people in his road [Poplar Crescent] and nearby? Is it possible that Surrey County Council can look into providing a disabled bay?

The Officer agreed to investigate this and report back.

**Question 8 Mr Roy Green**

He requested a vehicle speed monitor for Church Street in both directions, as both

Downs Road and Burgh Heath Road have traffic calming schemes. The traffic from Burgh Heath Road feeds into Church Street at speeds of 40/50 mph.

The Chairman, C Cllr Chris Frost, advised that this matter had not been brought to his attention or to his colleague, C Cllr Colin Taylor. The Highways Officer agreed to look into this.

**Question 9 Mr Les Duplock, on behalf of residents of Highfield Drive**

Mr Duplock advised that the recommendations in the report item 9 state that the yellow lines would stop at no. 13, leaving people to park on the bend. He wanted assurance that the yellow lines will be put to the end of Highfield Drive.

The Officer advised that he will look into this.

**Question 10 Hamele Duvallbee and residents of Providence Place**

The residents requested clarification as regards the proposed parking restrictions in Providence Place [item 9] as they felt some residents would be penalised. Also to identify what is classed as the south side.

Following some discussion as regards the amount of vehicles parking during the day and in the evening, it was agreed that the Officer would review the site during the day and in the evening. The proposal had been put forward as it is difficult for emergency vehicles to get through the road at present. The Officer advised that the south side is the even numbers.

**Question 11 – C. Cllr Jean Smith on behalf of Mrs Carol Miller, Highfield Drive**

C Cllr Jean Smith wished to confirm that the residents in Highfield Drive did not necessarily want yellow lines, but did want to restrict the lorries parking in the area. The lorries have been stopped recently thanks to the help of the local police. However she wanted a response as to what measure can be undertaken in the future.

The Officer agreed to look into this issue, which is aligned to item 9 – waiting restrictions.

**Question 12 Rosemary Najim**

I am writing as am unable to attend. I live at no. 31, i.e. near bend into Dirdene Gardens, and agree with your comments re single yellow line and also your note that it will be difficult for residents as no off street parking. The situation at present is there were 17 cars at 8pm today- presumably residents and presumably some people are out (late night shopping) However, to balance against parking needs are needs of pedestrians when we have to park on pavement as asked by emergency services- it is often difficult for people with pushchairs. Something more pressing regarding safety is the bend- at present drivers have to slow down as the parking on both sides means only one car can access at a time. I often advise people to get off the road ( when walking) as some drivers take the blind bend too swiftly  
If you do put a yellow line on one side I would suggest road hump or similar to slow traffic before the bend on both sides, or those who use our road, as swift cut through to East Street will drive too fast and there will be accidents

**Officer's Response:**

Thank you for raising this issue, which will be investigated when we look at potential parking restrictions in Providence Place. A road table can be very expensive to install

and it is not advisable to use them in locations very close to residential property because of the potential problem of ground borne vibrations created when vehicles drive over them.

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