

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL COMMITTEE IN EPSOM & EWELL
27 June 2011**

MEMBER QUESTIONS

**Question 1 Cllr Chris Frost
Re: Blenheim Road CRC**

How many times have the ferry lanes been put into operation in the last year?

On a visit on 31st May two green windows were closed, thus causing residents to queue unnecessarily. When will all the windows for disposing of green waste be made available for use?

Officer Response:

At the Epsom CRC facility, we have four double windows open at all times for green waste, obviously if we are back blading the green waste in the transfer station, we will close all the windows, and two additional windows that we have the option of utilising in extremely busy conditions. The two windows are closed due to the limitations of the transfer station and the requirement to have a product behind those windows. In extreme situations we can clear the product and store it, usually at the weekends, enabling us to open up those additional two windows for green waste. I believe the issue may have been identified as we have moved the site around to provide additional parking spots in front of these windows in order to get more people in the green area.

In regards to the ferry lane system in place we are currently looking to incorporate the system in to the new site layout following confirmation of the Blenheim Road, Roy Richmond Way split. It is anticipated that two of the ferry lanes will be permanently manned along with a specific van stop area preventing unnecessary queuing onto the site. The current ferry lanes themselves have not been fully utilised in the past due to the additional man power required to monitor the system and keep the traffic flowing. SITA are reviewing the staffing arrangements at the Epsom site with a view to incorporate the additional site operative posted at the gate to be able to remotely access the ferry lanes and manage the gate to enable additional cars to be present on the site and off Blenheim Road to reduce the queuing and effects associated with the local businesses.

**Question 2 Cllr Michael Arthur
Re: Stones Road crossing**

At a former local committee meeting it was stated that the work of constructing a tunnel to provide a new crossing of the railway line would commence early in the 2011/12 financial year.

Now, three months into that year there is no sign of commencement.

Can a start date be given?

Officer Response:

Works are currently scheduled to commence in September.

**Question 3 Cllr Michael Arthur
Re: Cycle route facility East Street**

The proposals were presented and approved at the September 2010 meeting of this committee with an anticipation construction could have been in the last quarter of 2010/11 year, but later amended to early in the current year. No progress noted on site yet.

Could I have a situation update please?

Officer Response

This project is part of a package of measures which SCC is seeking funding for from Sainsburys instead of Kiln Lane. We are currently awaiting a formal response from Sainsburys.

**Question 4 Cllr Michael Arthur
Re: Ewell by Pass j.w Kingston Road**

Last year the committee with aplomb supported the construction of a much needed crossing to aid pedestrians cross an extremely busy road and for some, a school walking route.

Now, four months after completion of site works the crossing has not been commissioned with hooded signal heads and covered buttons, despite displayed driver information boards of "New Traffic Signals Ahead".

Why this state of affairs?

Officer Response

There has been a delay in the fitting of a key component and tie up to power supply. We are continuing to push for this work to be completed ASAP and apologise for the delay.

**Question 5 Cllr Michael Arthur
Re: Amis Avenue**

Immediately outside the boundary of Nos. 95/97 where fixed posts were erected as part of the road closure agreed by this committee a few years ago, the horizontal gap between the front fence and the first post is 2.085m. This gap is wide enough for a vehicle to pass through. Adjoining residents have completed to me that vehicles do mount the pavement and negotiate the gap and in doing so have damaged the fence. In this way the committee's intentions are being negated.

Can an additional post be installed to narrow the gap and prevent the nuisance occurring?

Officer Response

Yes.

Question 6 Cllr Michael Arthur**Re: Randolph Road**

A ward resident has raised with me a road safety issue, with which I concur, in that on driving out of Randolph Road into College Road the vision is very impaired due to parked vehicles on both sides close to the junction and recently on one occasion the driver had a very near serious collision.

Could this site please be inspected to see if the situation may be improved, which I assume it could be by the installation of "at any time" waiting restrictions?

Officer Response

We have already been made aware of this issue, unfortunately the request for markings came in too late for us to include in this years Phase 6 Epsom and Ewell parking review.

This has been added to next years review, which is due to start in February / March 2012

Question 7 Cllr Michael Arthur**Re: Mini Roundabout Cheam Road/High Street Junction**

Over the past few years there have been complaints about the hazard to pedestrians crossing to/from the shops in Cheam Road to the "Star" pub. This is due to the raised centre of the road presumably placed to make traffic circumvent the mini-roundabout.

Recently there were reported injuries to pedestrians at this location in the local "Guardian" . The official SCC response that to avoid this situation a pedestrian should walk to the market parade crossing, cross, return up the High Street to the grove crossing and the return on the east side of the High Street (or vice-versa) - is quite un-sustainable.

Can any amendments be made to the layout to avoid this hazard?

Officer Response

No amendments are proposed at this time to the existing junction, the current arrangement is in place to guide vehicles through the junction. There is no funding allocated to review this junction arrangement in the current financial year. To reiterate the point made publicly before this is not an appropriate location for pedestrians to cross.

Question 8 Cllr Neil Dallen**Re: Salt Bins**

I have previously raised the fact that the salt bin at the Ashley Road end of The Parade, Epsom has not been filled for a long time (years) despite assurances that it has/will be filled. This bin has now disappeared! Is it going to be replaced and filled?

Recently I noticed that the salt bin at the Chessington Road end of Meadowview Road in Ewell has also not been filled for some considerable time. If I ask for this to be filled will it also disappear?

Officer Response

I can confirm that the grit bin in The Parade has been identified as missing and will be replaced as part of the summer refurbishment programme.

The grit bin in Meadow View Road is also on the register and will be filled as part of the pre winter season preparations. Both of the locations meet with the criteria and will not be removed.

In respect to the removal of grit bins following assessment none have so far been removed. In the report to cabinet one of the proposed recommendations is "That Cabinet agrees the following criteria for removal and re-use of grit bins and that members should identify locations that meet the criteria within their communities and discuss these with their local Community Highway Officer in order to gain approval for retention and relocation."

Question 9 Cllr Neil Dallen
Re: Stones Road footbridge/tunnel across railway

Last year the footbridge was removed and the project ran out of money before it could complete the tunnel access under the railway. I was told that it would be top priority in the new financial year and work would restart in April. I have also been told that the footpath can only be closed for 1 year (ending this August). Why was work not restarted? When is the tunnel going to be reopened? What communication is going to be given to residents, and how, regarding the situation?

Officer Response

Works are programmed to start in September with a view to complete the work by the end of the year, detail of the communication strategy will follow shortly.

Question 10 Cllr Neil Dallen
Re: Horsley Close road sign

I believe that many years ago a request was made, and agreement given, for a "No Through Road" sign to be erected (replaced?) on Horsley Close at the junction with Hazon Way. Is this still on the list to do, if not, can it be added as there is no sign indicating that Horsley Close is a Dead End.

Officer Response

The relevant officer is out of the office at the time of writing the response therefore the Area Team will contact the Member following the Committee to provide an update.