

**Minutes of the meeting of Surrey County Council's
Local Committee in Epsom and Ewell
Held at 19.00 on
Monday 12 September 2011 at
Ewell Court House,
Lakehurst Road, Ewell**

Members Present – Surrey County Council

Eber Kington	[Epsom & Ewell North] [Chairman]
Jan Mason	[Epsom & Ewell West] [Vice Chairman]
Chris Frost	[Epsom & Ewell South East]
David Wood	[Epsom & Ewell North East]

Members Present – Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

Cllr Michael Arthur	[Ewell]
Cllr Mr Neil Dallen	[Town]
Cllr Julie Morris	[College]
Cllr Paul Arden-Jones	[Stamford]
Cllr Jean Smith	[Ewell Court]

22/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item1]

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Colin Taylor.

23/11 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTION TIME [Item 2]

Three public questions were received. Details of the questions and the responses from Officers are set out in Annex A. As a supplementary question Mr Robertson asked whether the scoring had been completed. In reply the officer stated that scoring was still taking place and that it was hoped that a programme of works from April 2012 would be agreed by the end of October 2011. The Local Committee would be kept informed of the progress with the programme.

24/11 ADJOURNMENT [Item 3]

Several members of the public attended, and 1 informal question was put to the meeting and it was agreed to address the matter under agenda item 8 (Taxi Issues).

25/11 PETITIONS [Item 4]

There were two petitions received for this meeting. Details of the petitions and responses from the Officers are out in Annex B

In relation to petition 1 it was requested that vehicle data should be brought to the site visit meeting. The Highways Area Team Manager agreed to liaise with the Headteacher to agree and appropriate time for a site visit.

In relation to petition 2 it was noted that there has previously been a lack of applicants for the job of school crossing patrol person. As part of the permission for the nearby housing development it had been agreed that a

safety audit should be carried out once the properties were completed. It was not known if this had been done. Noted that a pedestrian island and raised table will be installed on Vale Road, but not outside the school. It was noted that there is not sufficient space for an island to be installed by the school.

The Committee noted the responses and agreed that the proposed site meetings should take place.

26/11 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING [Item 5]

Confirmed as a correct record.

27/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 6]

There were 2 declarations of interest.

Cllr Mason declared a personal interest in relation to the proposed taxi rank on Downs Road in Item 8 being a Downs Conservator and Cllr Smith declared an interest on the same grounds as Chairman of the Downs Conservators. Both members have been appointed by the Borough Council to the Downs Conservators.

28/11 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME [Item 7]

4 Questions were received from 3 Members. The questions and responses are set out in Annex C.

In relation to question 1 it was reported that the key issue was the different construction of the speed cushions not whether individually they met the legal specification. Drivers should reasonably expect humps in the same stretch of road to respond in a similar way. The Officer agreed that speed cushions should be constructed to the agreed plans and therefore be of the same design and construction.

In relation to question 2 at the request of members the Highways Area Team Manager agreed to provide them with copies of the jetting programme.

In relation to question 3 members requested that the work to replace the street lights should be scheduled to avoid the rush hours and if possible the redundant poles be removed in advance of the work. A member reported that there was also an issue with the lights in Park View. Officers agreed to investigate.

In relation to question 4 the Highways Area Team Manager was asked to bring a report to the next meeting indicating how much it would cost to provide/evaluate a possible solution.

29/11 TAXI ISSUES IN EPSOM [Item 8]

Cllrs Mason and Smith declared a personal interest in relation to this item. See minute 27/11.

Members were informed that it would cost approximately £7,000 for the Traffic Regulation Order and signs necessary to provide a taxi rank at the bus stops near the Clocktower. It was noted that currently no buses use these

stops during the times proposed for a rank and that permission would be required from the Department for Transport.

It was suggested that if the current taxi rank opposite the station were to be retained additional spaces could be accommodated by realigning the pavement. Officers were requested to discuss with Borough Planning Officers whether it was possible at this stage to amend the scheme agreed by the Planning Committee to enable these changes to take place. Local members asked to be involved in these discussions and representatives of taxi drivers would also like to be consulted.

Resolved:

- i] To note the contents of the report
- ii] To agreed the approach outlined in Section 2 of the report with a view to discussing improvements further with the Borough and other stakeholders subject to the following:

High street near Clocktower – that the decision of 7 March be confirmed namely that an additional late night taxi rank [9pm to 4am] for licensed hackney carriages be established in the area occupied by bus stops B and C [outside Kingfish and Café Rouge]

Downs Road, Epsom – that the Conservators be asked to give consideration to the proposed site including the use of appropriate materials to reduce any visual impact and mitigate concerns.

Station Approach – that consideration be given to retaining the current temporary rank opposite the station in addition to the new rank being built as part of the station redevelopment.

30/11 LONGMEAD/BLENHEIM ROAD, EPSOM – CROSSING IMPROVEMENT
[Item 9]

The Local Member reported that following a recent site visit it seemed that the installation of a traffic island would be the best solution as pedestrians were unlikely to deviate from their route to use a zebra crossing. Further modelling of this solution would be required to determine whether there was sufficient space available for the large lorries using this road to negotiate an island and the solution would require the removal of a number of parking spaces for which a Traffic Regulation order would be required. Members expressed the hope that it would be possible to fund this from s106 money.

Resolved:

- i] To note the results of the feasibility assessment.
- ii] That subject to further analysis of the feasibility of this option a pedestrian island be installed and the Highways Area Team Manager be given authority to carry out any legal notification that may be necessary and to resolve any objections resulting from the consultation in consultation with the Chairman and the Local Member.

31/11 HIGHWAY SCHEMES PROGRESS REPORT [Item 10]

The Local Committee noted the report for information.

Noted that in relation to the parking restrictions, agreed for consultation and advertisement at the last meeting, county members would need to review the results of the informal consultation on residents parking zones and that those proposed for implementation would then be advertised with the proposals for yellow lines in October. The results of these consultations would then be brought back to the Local Committee in December.

The Committee asked that the draft proposals for improving air quality in Ewell Village be brought to the informal meeting in October if an officer was available on that day.

Members requested as a matter of urgency an updated list of highway schemes with exact start dates as currently too many notified start dates are not being met.

The Highways Area Team Manager undertook to provide members with details of the road markings refresh that was scheduled to take place across the county.

There was concern that when coming from the Chessington Road past the Spring Pub in Ewell some drivers did not realise that this section of road was two way and several had driven round the corner on the wrong side of the road. The Highways Area Team Manager agreed to investigate.

32/11 FLEXIBLE FORWARD PROGRAMME [Item 11]

Noted the forward plan.

33/11 MEMBERS ALLOCATIONS [Item 20]

Noted the funds approved under delegated agreement and the returned funding.

Members requested that organisations receiving funding for events should be asked to invite the funding member to the event and notify Members of the outcomes of the activity. They also requested that the spreadsheet should in future be in larger print.

34/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [Item 13]

Monday 5 December 2011, 2.00pm, Epsom Town Hall.

Meeting Ended: 9.00pm

Chairman