



SURREY

COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting

GUILDFORD LOCAL COMMITTEE

Date: THURSDAY 21 JULY 2005

Time: 7.00 pm (The formal Committee began at 7.25pm.)

Place: EMMANUEL CHURCH HALL, SHEPHERDS LANE, STOUGHTON,
GUILDFORD GU2 9SJ

Members present:

Surrey County Council

Mr John Ades (Ash)
Mr Bill Barker (Horsleys)
Mr David Davis (Shere)
Ms Sarah Di Caprio (Guildford South-East)
Mr David Goodwin (Guildford South-West)
Mr Mike Nevins (Worplesdon)
Mr Edward Owen (Guildford East)
Mr Tony Rooth (Shalford)
Ms Pauline Searle (Guildford North)
Ms Fiona White (Guildford West)

Guildford Borough Council (for Transportation matters)

Mr Keith Chesterton (Stoke)
Ms Vivienne Johnson (Christchurch)
Ms Liz Hogger (Effingham)
Ms Merylyn Spier (Merrow)
Mr Sheridan Westlake (Merrow)
Mr Tony Phillips (Onslow)
Mr Nigel Manning (Ash Vale)
Ms Jenny Wicks (Clandon & Horsley)
Ms Diana Lockyer-Nibbs (Normandy)
Mr John Garrett (Lovelace)*

* Substitute

The following issues were raised during the informal public questions session:

- Traffic turning right from Aldershot Road into Fairlands estate (Mrs S A Morgan, Fairlands, Liddington Hall and Gravetts Lane Community Association)
- BOATs in Ash (Item 7) (Bob Milton, Open Space Society) [The issue was not discussed as it was ruled out of order.]
- Parking outside Stoughton Infants School (Dr John Hobrough)

All references to Items refer to the Agenda for the meeting.

IN PUBLIC

48/05 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

Apologies for absence were received from Terence Patrick (substituted by John Garrett).

49/05 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (26 May 2005) [Item 2]

Agreed and signed by the Chairman.

50/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

David Goodwin declared a personal interest in relation to Item 9 as he has a parking permit.

51/05 PETITIONS [Item 4]

No petitions were received.

52/05 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]

No written public questions were received.

53/05 WRITTEN MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 6]

A question had been received from Sheridan Westlake. (Both question and answer are appended to these minutes.)

TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

NON-EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

FOR DECISION

54/05 BYWAYS OPEN TO ALL TRAFFIC NOS 518 AND 520, ASH [Item 7]

Tony Rooth argued that the conditions for making the order are met as the surface is clay and there is danger to users of the route. He favoured the introduction of a TRO but felt that horse-drawn vehicles should be permitted. John Ades, Fiona White and Keith Chesterton also spoke in favour of a TRO. Diana Lockyer-Nibbs said it would be a mistake to restrict horse-drawn vehicles.

Members agreed that a TRO prohibiting the use of all traffic (except horse-drawn vehicles) should be made.

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

FOR DECISION

55/05 TRAFFIC RELATED ISSUES WITHIN STOUGHTON [Item 8]

Phil Knapp from Stoughton Community Association addressed the Committee and hoped that the Transportation Task Group would give consideration to including Stoughton Traffic issues in the traffic improvements programme.

Members agreed the officer recommendations

[Jenny Wicks arrived at the meeting.]

56/05 CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE EASTWARD EXTENSION [Item 9]

Members commended officers for their work in consulting local people and bringing this report.

Members asked questions and officers responded on the following points:

- Parking controls on Saturdays
- Further consultation with residents of Tormead Road
- Yellow lines in Avonmore Road
- Parking permits for residents of Ivor Close
- Reviewing the operation of the controls in 12 months.

Members agreed the officer recommendations with the amendment to recommendation (iii) that following consideration, and where possible, resolution of any objections received, in consultation with local Members, the Orders be made.

57/05 GUILDFORD PARK & RIDE PASSENGER SURVEYS AND USAGE [Item 10]

Sheridan Westlake suggested that the reason for the proposed fare increase was to offset the deficit expected to be incurred from the future Park and Ride operation at Merrow. The Local Transportation Director explained that the park and ride fares had not increased for two and a half years and that the increase was only a little above inflation for the period. Guildford's park and ride fares still compare favourably with many other towns with similar facilities.

Members commented on the following issues:

- The impact of proposed government changes to OAP fares
- The increased patronage of Guildford Park and Ride
- Inappropriate use of Park and Ride car parks
- The need to survey non-users of Park and Ride
- The level of the proposed fare increase

Members agreed the officer recommendations

58/05 MAINTENANCE PLAN [Item 11]

Members asked questions and officers responded on the following points:

- Kerbing on Longacre, Ash
- Repairs on Ockham Road North
- Joint working between SCC and GBC e.g. in operation Locus
- The number of grass cuts for village centres
- The need to improve footways

Jenny Wicks proposed and Nigel Manning seconded an additional recommendation relating to the joint working between SCC and GBC.

Members agreed:

- (i) that the Annual Highway Management Plan for the Guildford Local Transportation Service for 2005-2006 be approved.**
- (ii) that the SCC Executive Member for Transport and the Chairman of the SCC Transportation Select Committee be asked to examine the scope for further funding of joint working between GBC and SCC.**

59/05 WODELAND AVENUE [Item 12]

Robert Goode, from the Wodeland Avenue Action Group, addressed the Committee, commenting on the wide support among residents for the measures proposed in their report.

Members agreed the officer recommendations.

60/05 JACOBS WELL PETITION [Item 13]

Mike Nevins commended the officers for their work on this issue, urging the Committee to be proactive in anticipating future needs for highways improvements.

Members agreed the officer recommendations.

61/05 TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FRIARY DEVELOPMENT [Item 14]

Members asked questions and officers responded on the following points:

- conversion of the York Road / Woodbridge Road roundabout to traffic signals
- changes to parking facilities for disabled people
- traffic flows in the Haydon Place area

Members agreed the officer recommendations.

62/05 A25 MERROW GAP CLOSURE [Item 15]

Members agreed the officer recommendations.

63/05 WOODBRIDGE ROAD (SOUTH) BUS LANE [Item 16]

Members agreed the officer recommendations.

64/05 TRANSPORTATION TASK GROUP [Item 17]

Vivienne Johnson proposed that Tony Phillips serve on the Task Group rather than herself, although she would wish to substitute for Tony Phillips if necessary.

Members confirmed that SCC Cllrs Barker, White and Goodwin, and GBC Cllrs Wicks, Phillips and Chesterton should serve on the Task Group.

[Nigel Manning left the meeting.]

65/05 LTP PROGRAMME 2005/06 [Item 18]

Some Members commented on the place of certain schemes in the programme; with regard to particular schemes not in the programme for this financial year, Members urged that these schemes be given priority when considered by the Transportation Task Group.

The Local Transportation Director explained the constraints on the number of schemes in the programme.

Members agreed the officer recommendations.

GENERAL MATTERS

[LIGHT GREEN]

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

FOR DECISION

66/05 UTILISATION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN THE BOROUGH [Item 19]

Pauline Searle, as chair of the GBC Study Group, made a number of comments on the findings of the group. The Area Director made a number of comments in response.

Members agreed the officer recommendations.

67/05 DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE FROM HOSPITAL [Item 20]

GBC Cllr Keith Childs, as chairman of the GBC Housing, Health and Safety Scrutiny Committee, addressed the Committee.

Members commended the work of SCC's Adults Services, in conjunction with partners, for bringing the levels of delayed discharges down to the current negligible level.

Members agreed the officer recommendations.

68/05 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT [Item 21]

Members asked questions and officers responded on the following points:

- central government plans for the Connexions service
- the age range of young people that the service engages with
- the current and planned operations of the new town centre Youth Centre in Guildford
- recruitment and retention of youth workers
- the distribution of the service's budget between the 11 boroughs and districts

Members agreed the officer recommendations.

69/05 FORWARD PROGRAMME [Item 22]

Members noted the Forward Programme

[Meeting ended 9.50 p.m.]

.....(Mr Bill Barker - Chairman)

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Item 6: Written Members' Questions

**CLLR. SHERIDAN WESTLAKE
GBC MEMBER FOR MERROW**

Q1 What progress have Guildford Borough Council (GBC) and Surrey County Council (SCC) made on increasing taxi rank and stand provision, inside and outside Guildford town centre, since the delimitation of Hackney Carriage licences in the Borough, and what is the timetable for such work?

A GBC like all licensing authorities does not have sufficient Hackney Carriage (Taxi) ranks for all the licensed vehicles. That said, the provision of spaces in Guildford has remained fairly constant for a number of years. The usage of the ranks is variable. The principal rank in the town is the Friary rank. Located at the bottom of North Street, it provides space for around 12 taxis (the number varies because of the differing size of vehicles). However at the busiest of times, such as Friday and Saturday late night, the taxis do queue on the main road waiting for space to become available. There are many other times however, when the rank is empty with potential customers waiting at the stand.

Other ranks provided by GBC in the town are:

- High Street outside Holy Trinity Church (3 spaces)
- Guildford Park Road by the back entrance to the station (The Passameter) (3 spaces)
- North Street at the Junction of Swan Lane (3 spaces)

Additionally ranks are provided by South West Trains at:

- Guildford Main Station (20 spaces)
- Guildford London Road Station (3 spaces)

Out of the town centre, GBC does not provide any rank space, but South West Trains provide a rank at Ash Vale station (3 spaces)

During the period of the 'night time economy' many of the licensed hackney carriages create unofficial stands in areas of need. These include the top of North Street close to North Square (previously an official rank, but closed because of potential development) and the Upper High Street.

GBC took the decision in 2004 to de-limit the number of hackney carriages that were allowed to be licensed in the Borough. Previously at 99 the number has now risen to 128, which has increased, at certain times, the pressure on rank space.

Discussions have been held with SCC to see how additional spaces can be provided. At the present time no definite decisions have been taken but we are progressing the following:

- Provision of a night time rank in the Upper High Street close to Pizza Express / Café Uno to service the needs of the night time economy in that area.
- Formalising the arrangement around North Square (this forms part of the North Street improvements alongside the Friary development)

There will be are problems with the North Street/Swan Lane rank during the period of the Friary development. The North Street development group is discussing how best to provide rank space during this period.

At this time, we have not found any suitable areas of the Town to place additional rank spaces for daytime use. However the subject is under constant review. It is not possible to give any specific time frame for these additional spaces at this time.