



SURREY

COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)

Date: THURSDAY 14 JUNE 2007

Time: 7.00 pm

Place: KING GEORGE V HALL, BROWNS LANE,
EFFINGHAM KT24 5ND

Members present:

Surrey County Council

Mr David Davis (Shere)
Mr David Goodwin (Guildford South-West)
Mrs Marsha Moseley (Ash)
Mr Edward Owen (Guildford East)
Mr Tony Rooth (Shalford)
Ms Pauline Searle (Guildford North)
Ms Fiona White (Guildford West) (Acting Chairman)

Guildford Borough Council (for Transportation matters)

Ms Liz Hogger (Effingham)
Mr David Carpenter (Marrow)
Ms Diana Lockyer-Nibbs (Normandy)
Mr Nigel Manning (Ash Vale)
Mr Terence Patrick (Send)
Mr Tony Phillips (Onslow)
Ms Jenny Wicks (Clandon & Horsley)
Mr John Garrett (Lovelace)
Ms Melanie Wilberforce (Stoke)
Ms Caroline Reeves (Friary & St Nicolas)

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

- Progress of the Merrow Park and Ride Scheme, access to Park and Ride car parks (Peter Hattersley, Jill Holt)
 - Proposal to remove scheme 7/325 (Item 12) A246/The Street junction, Effingham from the list of possible future schemes (Dave King - Effingham Residents and Rate-payers Association, Jill Holt)
 - Venues for Local Committee meetings, maintenance of signage on Ash Hill Road (Peter Monk)
 - Highways Maintenance in Albury, changes to SCC Transportation service (Cllr David Davis)
 - 20mph speed limit introduced in Portsmouth (Cllr Eddie Owen)
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All references to Items refer to the Agenda for the meeting.

[Vice Chairman Cllr Fiona White took the chair for the meeting in the absence of the Chairman Cllr Bill Barker.]

IN PUBLIC

18/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bill Barker, Mike Nevins, and Sarah DiCaprio, and from GBC Cllr Anne Meredith who was substituted by Cllr Caroline Reeves.

19/07 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (14 DECEMBER 2006) [Item 2]

Agreed and signed by the Chairman.

20/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

Cllr David Goodwin declared a personal interest in Item 14, being a holder of a CPZ parking permit.

21/07 PETITIONS [Item 4]

No petitions were received.

22/07 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]

There were 2 written public questions which are appended, with the answers, to these minutes.

Officers agreed to ask colleagues for a response to the supplementary questions concerning school admissions for 2008 for children in Horsley and Shere.

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23/07 WRITTEN MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 6]

There was 1 written member's question which is appended, with the answer, to these minutes.

Officers agreed to ask colleagues for a response to the supplementary questions concerning school transport and admissions for 2008.

24/07 LOCAL COMMITTEE CAPITAL & REVENUE SPENDING 2005-6 [Item 7]

Members thanked the report writer and noted the report.

Reason for decisions:

To acknowledge the outcomes from Members' allocations in 2005/06.

25/07 PROPOSALS FOR THE COMMITTEE'S REVENUE AND CAPITAL ALLOCATIONS for 2007-8 [Item 8]

- a. Members noted the allocations agreed under delegated authority from the 2006/7 and 2007/8 budgets since the last meeting (paragraph 4 of the report)
- b. Members approved the proposed expenditure from the Members' Revenue Allocation budget 2007-2008 listed in paragraph 5 of the report (and detailed in Appendix A) and Capital Allocation budget 2007-2008 listed in paragraph 7 of the report (and detailed in Appendix B).
- c. Members proposed the following themes for the remaining capital and revenue allocations for 2007/8: community safety, children's play areas, facilities for older people.
- d. Members agreed to delegate the responsibility for expenditure of the County Council's local crime and disorder reduction funds in Guildford to the Area Director (Guildford and Waverley) (paragraphs 8 and 9 of the report).
- e. Members agreed to use the Local Committee Capital allocation of £100,000 as described in paragraph 3 of the report for Highways purposes.

Reason for decisions:

To enhance the well-being of Guildford residents.

26/07 YOUTH FACILITIES & SERVICES – UPDATE ON PROGRESS [Item 9]

Members noted the report. The Chairman invited Members to contribute ideas and to participate in activities during Local Democracy Week. Cllr Eddie Owen reported that he would attend a future meeting of the Guildford Youth Council.

Members agreed that:

- there should be a report back to the young people and agencies who attended the original event in November 2006.
- representatives of the Guildford Youth Council should be invited to the next Local Committee meeting.

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the Chairman should make representations to the SCC Executive, to ask for increased capacity in SCC's Youth Development Service in Guildford borough.

Reason for decisions:

To complete one phase of engagement and explore further opportunities for improving services and facilities for young people.

**27/07 SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL AND SURREY'S VOLUNTARY AND
COMMUNITY SECTOR IN GUILDFORD [Item 10]**

The report for this item was not ready in time for this meeting. The item was deferred to the next meeting (September 27th), unless Members need to consider any issues informally before September.

28/07 FORWARD PROGRAMME [Item 11]

Some Members suggested a review of the balance of informal and formal meetings of the Committee particularly in view of the weight of business in Guildford borough e.g. Controlled Parking Zone and Park and Ride projects.

Members agreed the Forward Programme with an additional item on 'Enhanced two-tier working'.

29/07 MINOR IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAMME REVIEW [Item 12]

Sue Morris (Effingham Parish Council) asked that scheme 7/325 be kept on the list of future improvements schemes as many parents use this busy junction and while the number of recorded accidents may have decreased, there are many unrecorded scary moments as drivers attempt to turn right into Beech Avenue.

Roy Davey from Shere Parish Council asked that scheme 7/347 remain on the list, arguing that residents, the parish council and local Member had already made significant contributions to developing the safety scheme, and questioning the reasons for the proposed deletion from the list. Mike Dodd of Upper Street, Shere suggested that schemes were being recommended for deletion purely for financial reasons.

Cllr Liz Hogger proposed that scheme 7/325 be kept on the list and asked for a report to explain the criteria that the Task Group uses for prioritisation of schemes.

Cllr David Davis suggested that all the schemes (in ANNEXE A, TABLE 3 of the report) remain on the list and parish councils be consulted about their deletion. Members made various comments, some for, others against, the deletion of schemes.

Cllr Davis formally proposed, Cllr Hogger seconded, and Members agreed an amendment to recommendation (i): that the recommendations of the Transportation Task Group regarding the deletion of schemes as set out in ANNEXE A TABLE 3 be approved, **with the exceptions of scheme 7/325**

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(Effingham), 7/347 (Shere) and 7/349, A25 Midleton Road, Guildford cycle facilities (Dennis Roundabout to Ladymead junction); and that **these 3 schemes** be reinstated in the list shown in ANNEXE A, TABLE 6.

Members agreed recommendations (ii) and (iii) of the report unamended:

(ii) that the additional £37,000 of Local Transport Plan funds referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the report be used to cover the predicted increased cost of the Shawfield Road scheme, subject to the decision of the Committee regarding Item 15 on this agenda.

(iii) that in the event that the Committee resolves at Item 8 on this agenda to reserve the £100,000 Local Capital Allocation for highway purposes, that the funds be deployed as set out in paragraph 12-19 of the report.

Reason for decisions:

To rationalise the Minor Improvements list and allocate additional funds to a number of schemes.

30/07 PARKING IN ASH & ASH VALE [Item 13]

Peter Monk addressed the committee, arguing that the proposals were not well-founded and asking for the proposals to be revisited.

Cllr Nigel Manning recommended the proposal to the Committee in order to address problems of inconsiderate parking, saying that there had been adequate consultation, and many representations made to local Members. Cllr Marsha Moseley thanked officers for their work and supported the recommendations on behalf of residents who had waited a long time for these improvements.

Members agreed

(i) that the objections received to the proposed parking restrictions be overruled.

(ii) that the proposed restrictions be confirmed and that the Traffic Regulation Order be made as advertised.

Reason for decisions:

To proceed with a parking scheme in Ash and Ash Vale.

**31/07 GUILDFORD CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE, REVIEW GUILDFORD
CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE, REVIEW [Item 14]**

Amanda Mullarkey from the Tyting Society asked the Committee to consider amendments to recommendation (vii) and asked that consultations be conducted beyond the area in which controls were proposed. She also opposed the extension of the CPZ as it may shift problems into new residential areas.

John Twining of Downsedge Residents Association supported the consultation but suggested that residents in Tangier Road may not want an extension of the CPZ. He asked that there be flexibility in any future controls.

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GBC Cllr Andrew Hodges addressed the Committee, supporting the officer recommendations in the report.

Cllr Caroline Reeves suggested the cost of visitor scratchcards could be raised from £1 per day, and that scratchcards could be issued for shorter time periods.

Members made various comments on:

- Maintenance and visibility of white lining
- Half-day permits
- Consultation of residents in roads adjoining the CPZ
- Parking in Park Barn and on pavements in Stoughton
- The need for more funding for enforcement
- Discounted permits for environmentally-friendly vehicles

The GBC Parking Manager confirmed that proposals on visitors' scratchcards would be included in the report on the consultation on parking controls on Sundays

The Committee agreed:

(i) that the changes made to the CPZ Traffic Order are consolidated and that the order is clarified,

(ii) that all addresses in catchment areas A,B,C & D are consulted on the potential for creating an inner controlled parking zone with controls on Sunday between 11.00am and 5.00 pm,

(iii) that the permit charge is increased to £40 for the first and £80 for the second from the annual renewal on 1st October 2007,

(iv) that from the annual renewal a 20% discount is introduced for vehicles under 1200cc or those using alternative fuels,

(v) that the proposals in (iii) and (iv) are advertised under the terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to give them effect,

(vi) that the minor changes to restrictions listed in ANNEXE 3 of the report are advertised under the relevant parts of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 with a view to Surrey County Council making an order. Furthermore any objections received to these changes which cannot be resolved are reported back to the Committee,

(vii) that addresses in St Omer Road, Tangier Road and the part of Warren Road between its junction with Downside Road and the current CPZ boundary be consulted on extending the Controlled Parking Zone,

(viii) that a consultant is employed to assess the effectiveness of solutions to the parking issues outside the CPZ.

Reason for decisions:

To make various improvements to the implementation of parking controls in Guildford and to enable the CPZ review to proceed.

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**32/07 SHAWFIELD ROAD, ASH PEDESTRIAN FACILITY & TRAFFIC CALMING
[Item 15]**

The Committee agreed:

(i) that the scheme to provide traffic calming facilities on Shawfield Road and a zebra crossing outside Japonica Court as described in the report and shown on plan nos. 6343/30A and 31 attached as ANNEXES B and C be approved for detailed design and implementation.

(ii) that the intentions of the County Council (a) to introduce the traffic calming measures and (b) to construct a zebra crossing as described in the report be advertised by notice in accordance with the appropriate sections of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

(iii) that the Local Highways Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee and local Members (both County and Borough) be authorised to consider any minor modifications arising from the detailed design or advertising of the proposals, and if deemed appropriate include them within the scheme. Any major modifications would require the Committee's approval under a separate report.

(iv) that following consideration and, where possible, resolution of any objections, the traffic calming facilities be constructed.

Reason for decisions:

To improve highway safety, especially for elderly and vulnerable pedestrians in Shawfield Road.

**33/07 GUILDFORD PARK ROAD, GUILDFORD PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN
REFUGE [Item 16]**

The Committee agreed:

(i) that the pedestrian refuge as shown in drawing number 7818/1A in ANNEXE A of the report be approved for implementation.

Reason for decisions:

To improve pedestrian safety and convenience, and reduce speeds on Guildford Park Road.

**34/07 CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED SPEED LIMITS IN
VARIOUS LOCATIONS [Item 17]**

Mr French from Tannery Lane and Paper Court Traffic Action Group gave a description of the route and argued that the speed limit should be 30 or even 20 mph. 5 Members spoke in favour of a 30 mph limit for Tannery Lane and Paper Court Lane.

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The Committee agreed:

(i) that the objection to the proposed speed limit on New Pond Road, Compton be overruled and that the intention of the County Council to make a Speed Limit Order under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to lower the existing speed limit of 60mph to 40mph on the B3000 New Pond Road, Compton, be published, the Order be made and the scheme implemented.

(ii) that, given the strong views of the Committee in favour of a 30 mph speed limit on Tannery Lane, Send and Paper Court Lane, Ripley, the matter be referred back to officers to determine whether or not the desired 30 mph limit may be implemented within the existing County Council Speed Limit policy.

Reason for decisions:

- (i) To enable the new speed limit to be implemented on New Pond Road, Compton
- (ii) To reflect the views of many Members of the Committee i.e. that there should be a speed limit of 30 mph along Tannery Lane, Send and Paper Court Lane, Ripley.

35/07 THE TRANSPORTATION TASK GROUP [Item 18]

The Committee confirmed the following nominations of Members to sit on the Transportation Task Group:

- SCC Cllrs. Barker, White and Goodwin.
- GBC Cllrs. Wicks, Phillips and Patrick.

Reason for decisions:

To establish the membership of the Task Group.

[Meeting ended 10.30 p.m.]

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

Contact:

Dave Johnson (Area Director)

01483 517301
dave.johnson@surreycc.gov.uk

Diccon Bright (Local Committee & Partnership Officer)

01483 517336
diccon.bright@surreycc.gov.uk

The next meeting of the Committee will be on Thursday 27th September at 7pm at Christ's College, Larch Avenue, Guildford, GU1 1JY.

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WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS

ITEM 5

PETER HATTERSLEY, EPSOM RD, WEST HORSLEY

Q1 My understanding of the purpose in the setting up of Local Committees was to bring the decision making closer to the client base.

Initially this, in my view, worked with representatives from County and Borough and regular monthly meetings at different venues.

Following the Business Reviews, perhaps for taking up too much of the Officers' time, the number of meetings were cut by half. This change reduced the number of opportunities for residents to have direct input and they now need to rely on indirect contact through their County or Borough councillors. The amount of business conducted in public has also been drastically reduced (although the meetings do last longer).

Does the Local Committee think that it is achieving the purpose for which it is set up, particularly when a decision recently taken by the Committee, almost unanimously, has been completely rejected by the County Council?

Your answer should take into account the existing bureaucracy of Parish, Borough and County Councils, the SE Regional (planning/transport), the Government Office of the South East, the Regional Development Agency, various other Trusts and Quangos AND Central Government. Where are the decisions really being made?

A Local Committees make decisions in a public setting that is accessible and transparent to local people; however that is not to say that members of the public should expect to share directly in decision-making. The role of Members is to make the actual decisions, with the public enabled to influence Members within certain required constraints. Local Committees have decision-making powers on local transportation schemes and rights of way issues, but only an advisory or advocacy role in relation to other issues.

Although Local Committees are formal committees of the County Council, in Guildford the Local Committee allows greater access to the formal meetings for members of the public. This includes:

- Meetings held in a variety of locations in local communities
- Informal question-time at the start of meetings with no notice needed for questions
- Less notice needed to bring petitions
- Less restriction on the sort of formal written questions allowed
- Opportunities for speaking on agenda items

Following the Council's Policy and Productivity Review in 2005, and the reduction in the capacity of the Local Partnerships Team and other services, notably Transportation, the number of *formal* Committee meetings was reduced from 7 or 8, to 4 per year. The Business Delivery Review has led to further changes in services, requiring even more that an appropriate balance is struck between service managers' report-writing for Committees, and delivering services 'on the ground'.

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ITEM 5

It is to be expected that views of *local* people and *local* Members will sometimes conflict with a county-wide view which has to balance the needs of *all* the communities in Surrey. The Local Committee played an important part recently (in relation to the proposed Eashing Farm minerals extraction site) in allowing the views of local Members and some local residents to be formally articulated, although it was never in the authority of the Local Committee in Guildford to make a decision on the issue; this decision remains with the SCC's full Council, on the recommendation of its Executive. The Local Committee has expressed its own view very clearly and it will be for the SCC Executive (and full Council) to take that view into consideration when it makes its next decision on the issue in January 2008.

The decisions that affect people are taken at different levels of European, national, regional and local government. The level and location of decision-making will depend on the issue to be decided. Members of the public have access to Parish, Borough and County Councils through their elected Members. The Local Committee is just one of the ways that SCC tries to make its decisions more transparent to the public. The Local Committee will continue to discuss local issues and fight for local people.

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ITEM 5

**STEPHEN BEAUMONT, CHAIRMAN,
KEEP HORSLEY IN THE HOWARD ACTION GROUP 2008**

Q2 You may be aware of the effects of SCC's 2007 Secondary Schools Admissions policy on the children of Horsley. Exceptional measures were required by SCC to mitigate the effects. Notwithstanding, a repeat of the problems now appears likely in 2008.

(1) Why was the Executive apparently unable at its meeting on 5th June to accept either of the options proposed in paragraph 24.4 of the Schools Admissions Review paper of designating the Horsleys division as a priority area?

(2) Why has SCC refused to take into account the "next nearest school" principle to ensure fair treatment of children in rural areas, as enshrined in the DFES 2008 Code of Practice paragraph 2.33 - and adopted by countless other local authorities?

(3) What further consultation is planned with local stakeholders and the Schools Adjudicator to prevent continuing discrimination against rural children?

A (1) The Executive was not able to agree to the Horsleys being given priority admission to The Howard of Effingham School as this would have been divisive as representatives from other localities had not had the opportunity to put forward their views. However it was agreed that officers would undertake some modelling work around the possible inclusion in the criteria for the school of partnership schools for the September 2008 admissions round.

(2) There will be an opportunity to put forward any major changes to the admissions criteria for Surrey's Community and VC schools in the Autumn Term when consultation for the September 2009 admissions round begins.

(3) Following the modelling work described in (1) above it is expected that a request for a variation to the admission arrangements will be sent to the Schools Adjudicator.

It should be noted that 84% of parents received their first ranked preference and 94% of parents received one of their preferences.

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WRITTEN MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

ITEM 6

CLLR JENNY WICKS, GBC CLLR FOR CLANDON & HORSLEY

Q1 I'm very pleased that Surrey County Council has responded to the concerns of residents of the Horsleys by agreeing to admit all this year's affected children to the Howard of Effingham School. I would like clarification on two points:

1. School transport. In order to prevent unnecessary car journeys, will school transport be available to all the Horsley children as I understand was the case in the past? If all are not eligible for free school transport will paying places be available?
2. What arrangements will be made next year for the admission of children from the Horsleys to secondary school? Nobody wants a repeat of this year's difficulties.

A

1. Free transport will be provided to those pupils living more than the statutory three miles from the school, providing it is their nearest school. Those not entitled because they live less than the statutory distance can apply for paying places on a school coach. These are offered on a first come first served basis by Surrey's Transportation Co-ordination Centre.
2. The Executive agreed last week that officers should undertake a modelling exercise with a view to introducing a partnership school criterion for The Howard of Effingham School for September 2008 admissions. This would require the Local Authority to seek agreement from the Schools Adjudicator for a variation to the admission arrangements already confirmed for this admissions round.