



SURREY

COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)

Date: WEDNESDAY 23 APRIL 2008

Time: 7.00 pm

Place: Surrey County Council offices, Cross Lanes, Guildford, GU1 1FA

Members present:

Surrey County Council

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

Guildford Borough Council (for Transportation matters)

Mr David Carpenter (Merrow)
Ms Liz Hogger (Effingham)
Mr John Garrett (Lovelace)
Mr Nigel Manning (Ash Vale)
Mr Terence Patrick (Send)
Mr Tony Phillips (Onslow)
Dr Anne Meredith (Friary & St Nicolas)
Ms Jenny Wicks (Clandon & Horsley)
Ms Caroline Reeves (Friary & St Nicolas) (substitute)

**FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON 18 JUNE
2008**

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

IN PUBLIC

15/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Diana Lockyer-Nibbs, and Melanie Wilberforce (substituted by Caroline Reeves).

16/08 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (12 FEBRUARY 2008) [Item 2]

Agreed and signed by the Chairman.

17/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

None.

18/08 PETITIONS [Item 4]

A petition of 43 signatures was received from Cllr Pauline Searle on behalf of residents of Byrefield Road, Stoughton relating to parking arrangements in the road. Cllr Searle expressed concerns about congestion and safety as buses attempt to pass each other in opposite directions and Surrey Police have banned parking on the pavement. A response will be prepared for the first appropriate meeting.

[Cllr Mike Nevins also handed 2 petitions to the Chairman relating to the proposed Aldershot Road crossing, and a Right of Way in Pirbright.]

19/08 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]

None

20/08 WRITTEN MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 6]

None

21/08 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN SETTLEMENT AND 2008/9 PROGRAMME OF MINOR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS [Item 7]

GBC Cllr Wendy May addressed the Committee, recalling that several Members of the Committee supported a scheme for Stoughton at the previous meeting. She urged the Committee to consider wider traffic issues than just those in Grange Road, and sought clarification on the estimated cost of a pan-Stoughton traffic survey.

**FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON 18 JUNE
2008**

Ginny Willis (Chair of Governors, Worplesdon Primary School) urged the Committee to implement a pedestrian crossing of the A323 Aldershot Road (scheme 7/345): to promote healthy living and walking to school, to prevent accidents and create a safe place to cross the road, preserve good relations with the Fairlands estate residents, and because this crossing has been sought for a long time.

Keith Chesterton urged the Committee not to delete scheme 7/330 (Artington to Town Centre cycle facilities – feasibility and design) from the list for implementation in 08/09 because: it is part of the GBC/SCC Guildford Cycling Strategy, it fills a significant gap in a major cycling route, safe cycling facilities are needed on this heavily trafficked road, and the route is needed to promote journey's by bicycle. He asked that if the scheme could not be funded in 2008/09 it be retained on the list for 2009/10.

Kate Woodhouse (Head, St Nicolas CofE Infant School) expressed grave concerns on behalf of the whole school community about the safety of people needing to cross Portsmouth Road to access the school site. She described existing crossing facilities as inadequate and was confident that pedestrians would use the correct place to cross if a crossing were to be implemented (scheme 7/359 A3100 Portsmouth Road pedestrian crossing).

Richard Deighton (Clerk, East Horsley Parish Council) asked the Committee to retain scheme 7/352 (East Horsley Village Safety Scheme) for implementation in 2008/09 because: local residents and the Parish Council have made a significant contribution to the scheme so far, there are significant safety issues to be resolved, the scheme scores relatively highly for accidents and benefit/costs, the scheme would have been implemented already (in 2007/08) were it not for SCC staff shortages.

The Chairman thanked all the speakers for their contributions.

Cllr Goodwin proposed and Cllr Di Caprio seconded the amendment to insert the following at the end of recommendation (i) of the report (page 2):

“That the Committee agrees that the Scheme 7/359 A3100 Portsmouth Road Pedestrian Crossing also be included in the list of schemes for implementation in 2008/2009 and that the crossing be installed as soon as possible.”

Cllr Davis queried how the Committee could agree a programme of schemes with an estimated value above the budget for the year. The Local Highways Manager explained that some schemes once started may not be feasible to continue, and some may not be completed (and need funding from) within the financial year.

Cllrs Wicks, Rooth and Manning proposed an approach to the issue of prioritising schemes which was discussed at the Members' informal meeting in March i.e. that objective criteria relating to known accidents and value for money be used. Some Members felt that child safety should be the priority for the Committee.

**FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON 18 JUNE
2008**

The Chairman indicated that he had had discussions with SCC's Executive Member for Transport and there was a possibility that some funds could be transferred from major roads maintenance schemes to fund minor improvements schemes. The Chairman undertook to approach the Executive for more funding for Guildford borough. Some Members expressed reluctance at making decisions without knowing the limits of the budget, and at using much needed maintenance funding for improvement schemes.

Cllr Goodwin urged that if the Portsmouth Road crossing scheme could not be fully funded in 08/09, the scheme be implemented as soon as possible.

The Committee voted 9 for, 8 against the amendment.

Cllr Searle proposed and Cllr White seconded an amendment to the second bullet point of paragraph 15 of the report (page 4) to read:

"That a new scheme for Grange Road, Stoughton – feasibility and design, be substituted. This represents the first phase in a pan Stoughton approach and the Pan Stoughton Area Traffic survey will remain in the list of approved schemes for consideration in future years."

The Local Highways Manager suggested an alternative wording: "That a new scheme for Grange Road, Stoughton – feasibility and design, be substituted. *The Grange Road scheme forms the first part of investigations into a range of measures to tackle the traffic problems in the Stoughton area, which will be included in the list of schemes for consideration in future years.*"

The Committee agreed this amendment, by a clear majority.

Cllr Nevins argued for including the Aldershot Road crossing scheme (7/345) on the list of schemes for 08/09, seeking £10,000 initially to address difficulties identified by the feasibility study.

The Local Highways Manager clarified that an estimate of £10,000 for detailed design of the Portsmouth Road crossing scheme could possibly be tolerated within the overall budget for 08/09, but that agreement to full funding for construction of this and the Aldershot Road scheme may leave very little funding in the 2009/10 budget for other schemes. He also corrected the report to indicate that the Artington cycle scheme was not proposed to be 'deleted from the programme' entirely but 'deleted from the programme **of implementation in 2008/09**', and that this would leave partial funding for **two** schemes - Aldershot Road and Grange Road - (matched with funding from the revenue allocations of Cllrs Nevins and Searle respectively – see Item 8).

**FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON 18 JUNE
2008**

Cllr White felt that the Committee should decide which major maintenance schemes were to be cancelled to fund improvements schemes. Cllr Davis felt that identifying any maintenance scheme for cancellation should be straightforward based on the objective data. However he warned that funding is needed for highway maintenance and the budget allocation for Guildford borough is already being challenged.

The Committee agreed:

(i) that the officer recommendations set out in paragraph 8, as amended by the Member proposals in paragraph 15, form the basis of the minor schemes programme for 2008/09, **and that the Scheme 7/359 A3100 Portsmouth Road Pedestrian Crossing also be included in the list of schemes for implementation to in 2008/2009 and that the crossing be installed as soon as possible.**

(The wording of the first bullet point of paragraph 15 was amended as follows:-

➤ That scheme 7/330 (Artington to Town Centre cycle facilities – feasibility and design) should be deleted from the programme **of implementation in 2008/09.**

The wording of the second bullet point of paragraph 15 was amended as follows:-

➤ That **further investigations into the scheme for a pedestrian crossing of the A323 Aldershot Road, and** a new scheme for Grange Road, Stoughton – feasibility and design, be substituted. **The Grange Road scheme forms the first part of investigations into a range of measures to tackle the traffic problems in the Stoughton area, which will be included in the list of schemes for consideration in future years.)**

(ii) that officers be authorised to proceed with any necessary actions including traffic orders, advertisements and notices of intent in order to deliver these projects as soon as 2008/09 budgets are known.

Reason for decision:

To agree a programme of minor schemes for 2008/09, to meet the needs of as many residents, highway users and communities that the budget will allow.

**FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON 18 JUNE
2008**

**22/08 PROPOSALS FOR THE COMMITTEE'S REVENUE ALLOCATIONS [Item
8]**

The Committee agreed:

to approve the proposed expenditure of Members' Revenue Allocation budget listed in paragraph 2 (and detailed in Appendix A) of the report i.e.

- a. £5,000 for further feasibility into a pedestrian facility on Aldershot Road (Mike Nevins)
- b. £5,000 for feasibility into a range of Highways measures on Grange Road, Stoughton (Pauline Searle)

Reason for decision:

To enhance the wellbeing of Guildford residents.

[Meeting ended 8.45pm]

.....(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 WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE 2008 at 7pm. The venue is Jacobs Well Village Hall.