

Surrey County Council Local Committee (Guildford) 12 September 2012

Petitions [Item 4]

Principal petitioner/organisation	Shalford Parish Council, on behalf of 631 signatories (speaker: Cllr Bill Birkett, Chairman)
SCC Division / GBC Ward	Shalford
Summary of concerns and requests	The Parish Council would like to see a facility for safe crossing of pedestrians over the Kings Road to make it easier for residents of both sides of the road and the surrounding area to cross more safely between the Common and the centre of Shalford. Please sign below if you would like to support this initiative
Response	Members are reminded a pedestrian crossing (zebra) in Kings Road near the junction with Chinthurst Lane is included in the running list of improvement schemes for Guildford – see Item 12 ‘Highway Minor Improvement Review’ Annex B scheme ref 7/313, Local Committee meeting of 21 March 2012. The estimated cost is given as £170,000 but this is for a pelican crossing - a zebra would cost less than £50,000. To date the Local Committee has not prioritised this scheme for construction. Officers have checked available S106 funding and unfortunately none is available that could be directed to a crossing here.

Written public questions [Item 5a]

1. Submitted by: DENNIS HURKETT, ONSLOW VILLAGE

Can we formally be advised of the outcome of the survey on Onslow Village parking and what are your proposals, with possible timescales?

Answer

The outcome of the Onslow Village consultation on whether to extend parking controls and if so on what form they should take was formally reported to the Guildford Local Committee on the 13 June 2012. It was item 9 on the agenda and

paragraphs 2.1 to 2.11 contain an explanation of the findings. Annex 4 of the report is attached and shows the results. A full copy of the report is on Surrey County Council's website.

The results were inconclusive for the area consulted. Only 42 per cent of respondents agreed there was a parking problem and 36 per cent wanted some form of parking controls. The results showed that in the roads closest to the existing controlled parking zone there was more of a problem and respondents were more in favour of controls. The Committee agreed to re-consult in a reduced area and only on the option of extending the controlled parking zone.

In terms of time-scales this work is one element of a wide ranging review of the controlled parking zone. This is the largest review we have undertaken. The consultation and potential design for each element of the review needs to be completed and then an amendment to the order will be advertised and any objections need to be considered by the Committee. We are working through all the elements of the review. The time-scales are affected by the responses to consultations, in some cases a consultation can highlight that no changes are required and in others the consultation itself can highlight the need for further consultation. The ability to complete the work is also affected by staff resources and any absences and other demands.

Our plan is to bring reports on the remaining elements, consultation and design, to the Committees in November and March and possibly June with any objections being considered either in June or September and implementation to follow this.

Written members' questions [Item 5b]

1. Submitted by: COUNTY COUNCILLOR KEITH WITHAM (WORPLESDON)

Would the Chairman of the Guildford Local Committee acknowledge the tragic loss of life that has occurred at the junction of Aldershot Road and Gravetts Lane, near Fairlands, and give an assurance that SCC Highways will bring a full report to this Committee for discussion setting out in detail:

- the history of road traffic accidents at this location, including the details of deaths and serious injuries over the past 25 years
- what previous attention SCC Highways have given to this location, and any actions taken, or consideration given but not implemented
- the impact on the dangers faced, as this location is used regularly by children and parents of the Worplesdon Primary School
- the speed of traffic, and any other contributory factors
- and what measures can be considered to now try to do our best to ensure that no further fatalities occur at this spot, including consideration of funding and "Section 106" planning gain funds via Guildford Borough Council for road safety / traffic improvement measures.

Answer

While every death on the road is tragic, individual fatal accidents are not reported to Local Committees. Surrey Police's Collision Site Investigation Unit carry out an immediate investigation of every fatal accident, keeping the road closed until this is completed. Any possible contributory factors associated with the highway (condition of road surface, white lines, signs etc) are immediately fed back to SCC Highways with suggested actions, which of course are immediately acted upon. In this accident no such factors were identified by the Police.

In addition, all fatal accidents are individually reviewed by the Road Safety Working Group for Waverley (RSWG), who may also make recommendations. This group comprises SCC and Police Road Safety Officers and meets every three months – the next meeting in October will review this accident.

SCC monitors accidents reported to the Police and any locations where three or more accidents occur within an eighteen month period will be subject to investigation by the RSWG, who will review the circumstances of each accident in order to identify possible common factors and which may lead to measures intended to reduce the likelihood of further accidents being recommended to the local team. Three accidents have been recorded near the Gravetts Lane junction in the past five years, so the site has not triggered investigation by the RSWG, although it now will follow the fatal accident.

The speed limit on this section of the Aldershot Road was reduced from 60mph to 40mph in 2000, and members are reminded a pelican crossing near the access to Hunts Farm is included in the running list of improvement schemes for Guildford – see Item 12 'Highway Minor Improvement Review' Annex B schemes ref 7/345 Local Committee meeting of 21 March 2012.

Officers have checked, and confirm there is no S106 funding in place that could be directed to this location.

2. Submitted by: COUNTY COUNCILLOR KEITH WITHAM (WORPLESDON)

Would the Chairman ask the Surrey Highways Manager to provide the Committee with an update report on action taken since the last meeting on 13th June and timescales for implementation regarding road safety measures at the junction of School Lane and the Aldershot Road (A323) in Normandy, which is used by parents and children of the Wyke Primary School, specifically:-

- the installation of wig-wag signs
- foliage to be trimmed back to signs throughout the area, and where it overhangs footways.
- slow markings to be refreshed, together with other road markings.
- at the western entry to the village, coloured surface and '30' markings to be provided.
- hatched area to pedestrian area to have coloured surfacing to highlight the area.

- anti-skid surfacing to approaches to crossings point (in addition to the anti-skid on the eastbound approach.)
- Consideration of works to the Westwood Lane junction to provide a refuge island and pedestrian protection to the footway
- Consideration to the provision of a School Cross Patrol

And would the Highways Department also investigate the availability of any development funds and any other sources of funding that could be used to improve road safety at this busy junction for the benefit of parents and children of the Wyke Primary School.

Answer

At the meeting of 13 June the Local Committee considered the response to a petition requesting a number of pedestrian amenity and safety improvements in the vicinity of Wyke Primary School, Normandy. The response identified a number of relatively simple improvements that could be made, as outlined in this question. However, the Local Committee has allocated no budget towards this work and officers undertook to identify possible funding sources, allowing items of work to be implemented. Section 106 funds have been reviewed, but none are in place in the surrounding area that could be directed towards these improvements. The local member has indicated he is prepared to contribute from his Community Pride fund. The Parish Council have not been approached as yet, but may have funds available.

Progress on the specific points is as follows:-

- Wig-wags. The wig-wags are being centrally funded by the Safety Team as part of a County-wide programme. The local team understood this would include the entire installations, so poles and trenched connections to street lighting power supplies. This is not the case, the head units only would be provided centrally. Installation and connection has been priced at £3,800.
- Vegetation obstructing signs and encroaching on footways has been cut back by the Community Gang.
- This year white lines and markings on all 'A' roads and most 'B' roads throughout Surrey will be refreshed, and hopefully people have already noticed this happening. The A232 should be re-marked within the next two months.
- Western entry to the village, coloured surface and '30' markings. Estimated cost £3,000.
- Existing white line hatching around pedestrian refuge infilled with coloured surfacing and anti-skid surfacing on the westbound approach to the refuge. Estimated cost £5,000.

- Consideration of works to the Westwood Lane junction to provide a refuge island and pedestrian protection to the footway. Such modifications would need to be worked up as an ITS scheme, and costs would be tens of thousands of pounds.
- School Crossing Patrol. Very few children and parents cross the A323 Guildford Road, with most pupils arriving and departing by car. The Safer Travel officer for Waverley has visited the site, and feels that the low numbers do not justify a crossing patrol.