

MINUTES: of the meeting of the Mole Valley Local Committee (Transportation) held at 2.00pm on Thursday 10 April 2002 at Mole Valley District Council Offices (Pippbrook)

County Council Members

- * David Gollin - Chairman
- * Mrs Helyn Clack - Vice-Chairman

- * Bob McKinley
- * Mr James E Smith OBE
- * Mr David K Timms
- * Mrs Hazel V A Watson

District Council Members

- * Mr Michael Anderson
- * Valerie Homewood
- * Mrs Janet Marsh
- * Mrs Jean Pearson
- * Mr Peter Seabrook
- * Mr Ben Tatham

* = Present

Also in Attendance

Mr Norman Berry, Mr Hubert Carr, Mrs Rosemary Dickson, Mrs Mary MacKinnon and Mr David Sharland were in attendance in accordance with Article 2.03(b)(i) of the Council's Constitution.

PART ONE

IN PUBLIC

[All references to Items refer to the Agenda for the meeting]

[Chief Executive's representative in the Chair for Items 1 and 2 only]

01/02 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** [Item 1]

No apologies for absence were received from County Council Members.

02/02 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE 2001/02** [Item 2]

RESOLVED

That Mr David Gollin be elected as Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the Council Year 2001/02.

(Mr David Gollin in the Chair)

03/02 **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE 2001/02** [Item 3]

RESOLVED

That Mrs Helyn Clack be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the Council Year 2001/02.

04/02 **TERMS OF REFERENCE AND SCHEME OF DELEGATION** [Item 4]

Noted by County Members.

05/02 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** [Item 5]

There were no declarations of interest from County Members.

06/02 **DELEGATED CAPITAL FUNDING** [Item 6]

RESOLVED

That up to 100% of the delegated capital funding be made available for transportation purposes.

[Note: District Council Member participation from Item 7 on the agenda onwards]

07/02 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS** [Item 7]

No apologies for absence were received from District Council Members.

08/02 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the former Mole Valley Partnership Area Transportation Committee meeting held on 13 February 2002 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

09/02 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** [Item 8]

There were no declarations of interest from District Members.

10/02 **TERMS OF REFERENCE AND SCHEME OF DELEGATION** [Item 9]

Noted by District Members.

11/02 **PETITIONS** [Item 10]

No petitions were received in accordance with Standing Order 62.

12/02 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** [Item 11]

No questions were received.

13/02 **MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME** [Item 12]

A question was received from Mr Michael Anderson under Standing Order 45 as follows:-

“With reference to the petition reported in Agenda Item No.20 concerning the work to be undertaken in Leatherhead High Street.

Recognising that the decision regarding the carrying out of this work was taken by PATS over two years ago, and also the changing Membership of the Committee,

1. What work is scheduled to be included in Phase 2 of the Leatherhead Environmental Enhancement Scheme; and
2. what is the timing of the construction programme for the various components of this, including the water feature.”

A written reply was circulated in the following terms:-

“1. Work Scheduled to be included in Phase 2

- Repaving with high quality materials
- Improved surface water drainage and new gullies
- Improved street lighting
- In ground lighting
- New street furniture, cycle stands, seating and litter bins
- Replacement trees
- Water feature with regraded access ramps for improved accessibility

2. The construction programme is by nature extremely complex in its phasing, however, the estimated key dates and activities are as follows:-

Contract Start Date – 25th March 2002

Duration 26 Weeks

Work Components/Activities	Programme Week Numbers
Site Establishment/Demolition Site Clearance	1-3
New Underground Drainage	2-8
Repaving (including base repairs) in ten phases within the site	9-26
Lighting (various aspects throughout)	8-12
Commission lighting	23-26
Water feature	6-26
Clear Site	25-26

It should be noted that there are time overlaps with a number of activities and the programme may be subject to change as a result of site conditions.”

14/02 **BARNETT WOOD LANE/WOODFIELD LANE, ASHTEAD** [Item 13]

The Committee welcomed the accident and speed reductions that had occurred as a result of the introduction of traffic calming measures on these roads. However there was some concern that the points raised by Mrs Sharland in presenting the petition had not been fully addressed. In response to some of those issues, it was reported that the scheme met all relevant criteria at the time of construction. Since that time, slight modifications to the access approach on some ramps had been made. The officers undertook to respond to Mrs Sharland on the other questions raised within her petition.

While the officers agreed to monitor the situation, the Committee felt it more beneficial for alternative measures to be investigated and

On a motion put by Bob McKinley (seconded by Mr James E Smith) it was

RESOLVED that the officers investigate to identify if alternative measures more in keeping with the intent of the petition were available, and report back to Committee in due course.

15/02 **EAST SURREY RURAL TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP** [Item 14]

RESOLVED that the Committee be consulted on preliminary findings by way of a workshop to be held in early autumn 2002.

16/02 **FETCHAM, BOOKHAM AND EFFINGHAM LOCAL AREA SAFETY STUDY – MONITORING FINDINGS** [Item 15]

Plans of the proposals were displayed and copies circulated at the meeting. The consultant (Mr Philip Herring) attended the meeting to answer any points of detail for Members.

Lengthy discussion ensued on this item during which Members raised suggestions for improvements to individual sites which the officers undertook to investigate. There was a view that more innovation was required in road markings, particularly with regard to speed reduction. As a result of new Regulations the introduction of roundel markings was also to be considered.

Where significant works were to be undertaken, the officers agreed to endeavour to ensure that Local Members were kept informed.

Members asked that the possibility of integrating Safe Routes to Schools initiatives with this project be considered, particularly with regard to The Ridgeway.

RESOLVED

- (a) That Members note the findings of the review undertaken.
- (b) That Members approve the progression of schemes as set out in paragraphs 10 to 17 of the report, subject to the necessary funds being made available.
- (c) That subject to available funding, the Local Transportation Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Local Members, consider progression of the various additional suggestions put forward by Members at the meeting.

17/02 **CAPITAL BUDGET** [Item 16]

As a result of the Committee's decision (minute 06/02 above) that up to 100% of the delegated capital funding (£100K) be made available for transportation purposes, the amount of capital funding available for 2002/03 totalled up to £350k (£250K plus up to 100% of £100k). The officers' suggestions for the allocation of this funding were set out in paragraph 8 of the report.

The Committee was informed that the total amount of funds available for Mole Valley for integrated transport measures through the bid process, would not be known until May 2002. However, in addition to the suggested priorities for the funding already secured (paragraph 8 of the report), and in order to ensure that the momentum

of schemes which had already been approved was not lost, the officers proposed the following list of schemes to be funded from monies received in May 2002:-

Pixham Lane, Dorking – Traffic Management Measures
 Coldharbour Lane – Safe Routes to Schools
 Deepdene Roundabout – Improved pedestrian and cyclist crossing facilities on southern arm
 Ashcombe Road – Traffic Management Measures
 Chart Lane North – Road Safety Measures
 Dorking Parking Management Scheme
 Punchbowl Lane – Road Safety Measures

With two possible additions:-

Rectory Lane, Bookham – bus lay-by
 A29 Ockley - Footway construction

Concern was raised with regard to accident figures on the A24 between North Holmwood and Beare Green and it was confirmed that ideas put forward through the consultation process on this stretch of road were to be welcomed. The Committee was informed of the current position concerning future A24 improvements.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the schemes put forward in paragraph 8 to the report be funded from the current capital funding allocation, plus up to 100% of the delegated capital funding.
- (b) That when additional funding levels were known in May 2002 a further report be presented to the Committee suggesting further ways of distributing the funds available.
- (c) That delegated powers be given to the Local Transportation Manager in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to assign additional funding from that allocated in May 2002 as necessary prior to the July meeting.

18/02 **REVENUE BUDGET** [Item 17]

Clarification was provided to Members on a number of operational issues, including the monitoring of principal and minor roads. It was confirmed that details of any virement of funds would be reported to the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

In future years Members requested that details of the previous year's maintenance allocations be included for comparison purposes.

It was noted that local businesses had not been given advanced notification of the works undertaken on the C59 Rusper Road, Newdigate. While officers had visited those companies it was agreed that a letter of apology be sent to the businesses involved.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the indicative functional distribution of the 2002/03 Highway Maintenance Revenue Budget as set out in Table 1 of the report be agreed.

- (b) That the discretion for the Local Transportation Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, to vary up to 25% of the indicative allocations for each expenditure head, within the Mole Valley maintenance revenue budget, whilst retaining the County Council's policies and standards, be noted.

19/02 **B2038 PIXHAM LANE, DORKING – EXPERIMENTAL ROAD CLOSURE**
[Item 18]

Following a workshop, during which criteria for the proposed experimental closure of Pixham Lane had been set, it was

RESOLVED that if at any time the scheme be deemed intolerable then delegated powers be given to the Local Transportation Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Local Members, to take the decision to abandon the scheme.

20/02 **PETITIONS RECEIVED** [Item 20]

The Committee was informed that 3 petitions had been received since the last meeting of the former Mole Valley Partnership Area Transportation Committee in February 2002. Details of the petitions and the officers' comments were set out in the report.

Lengthy discussion ensued in respect of the petition related to Leatherhead High Street. The very large number of petition signatories from a mix of residents, businesses and visitors to the town indicated that communication could have been improved, although it was recognised that there were a wide variety of views in respect of the future of town centre. Some Members considered there was a need to review the value of Phase 2 for Leatherhead as a result of the petition and as two years had elapsed since the initial consideration of the proposals. However Members were reminded that in addition to the full consultation undertaken 2 years ago, the former Mole Valley PATS Committee had discussed the Phase 2 development three times in the past six months after further public consultation. On each occasion the decision had been to progress the scheme.

As a way forward, while not raising expectations, the Committee agreed that a public meeting, involving both supporters and objectors, be held. It was suggested that the Mole Valley Leatherhead Town Centre Working Group be invited to establish the terms of reference for the meeting, determine a date and venue and invite relevant organisations. Those invited to the meeting were to be requested to put forward questions and proposals in advance of the meeting. Full publicity was to be given to the meeting.

In conclusion the County Executive Member for Transport and the Economy reminded the Committee of the scrutiny process. Any change to the recent decisions to proceed with the scheme would be difficult to explain and there was a possibility that any decision to abort the scheme might be "called-in" by County.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the petitions in respect of Fetcham highway improvements and speed cushions in Ashcombe Road, Dorking, be noted.
- (b) That in respect of the Leatherhead Town Centre petition, a public meeting be held to enable views of all interested parties to be heard.

21/02 **LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN – PROGRESS REPORT** [Item 19]

Noted

[Note: Mr Michael Anderson, Mr Hubert Carr, Mrs Rosemary Dickson and Mrs Janet Marsh left the meeting during discussion on this item]

22/02 **FORWARD PLAN** [Item 21]

Noted.

[Meeting Ended: 5.35 pm]

Chairman