

THESE MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
LOCAL COMMITTEE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2005

MINUTES: of the meeting of the Mole Valley Local Committee held at 14.00 on
Wednesday 20 July 2005 in the B'Free Youth Café, Kingston Road,
Leatherhead

Surrey County Council Members

Helyn Clack, Chairman
Tim Hall, Vice Chairman
Timothy Ashton
Stephen Cooksey
Jim Smith
Hazel Watson

Mole Valley District Council Members

Hubert Carr
Rosemary Dickson
Valerie Homewood
John Northcott (substituted by Chris Townsend)
Jean Pearson
Ben Tatham (substituted by Rosemary Dickson)

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

PART ONE - IN PUBLIC

- 33/05 **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN** [Item 1]
Helyn Clack and Tim Hall will carry out the duties of Chairman and Vice-
Chairman of the Local Committee for Mole Valley for the 2005/06 municipal year.
- 34/05 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** [Item 2]
Apologies of absence were received by Ben Tatham (who was substituted by
Rosemary Dickson) and Chris Townsend (who was substituted by John
Northcott).
- 35/05 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** [Item 3]
Jim Smith declared an interest as Executive Member for Community Safety and
Helyn Clack declared an interest as Executive Member for Transportation. No
prejudicial declarations of interest were made.
- 36/05 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** [Item 4]
The minutes of the last two local committee meetings were approved and signed
by the Chairman.
- 37/05 **PUBLIC AND MEMBER QUESTIONS** [Item 5]
The Area Transportation Director agreed to send a written response to the
question from Mrs Bev Bishop regarding a planning application to Therfield
School, which will be copied to Members. Richard Bailey, the North
Leatherhead Partnership Development Worker, was invited to offer some
background information to the question. John Northcott advised that at this time

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no such planning application from Therfield School had been registered with the Council.

- 38/05 A written question was submitted by Cllr David Walker and a written response was tabled at the meeting (appended to this minute). The ATD responded that there has been a substantial improvement in street lighting, with 95.5% of lighting operational throughout the district. He also confirmed that Callum Findlay and Helyn Clack had addressed concerns about the service provided by Electricite de France (EdF) and improvements have since been made.
- 39/05 John Northcott asked that highways officers reconsider their decision not to attend callover and meetings of the Mole Valley District Council Development Control committee, as he was concerned that their non-attendance could slow up the decision process when there is no representative there to answer questions. The Area Transportation Director confirmed that a county officer meets with planning officers once a week to enable regular representation. Jim Smith asked for evidential basis for slowing down the process, as he was concerned about officer attending meetings and then not being called upon. Rosemary Dickson added that Members can contact officers in advance if they have a query so there is no need for them to attend.
- 40/05 No questions were asked during open public question time.

- 41/05 **PETITIONS** [Item 6]
No petitions were presented in accordance with Standing Order 62.

- 42/05 **DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** [Item 14]
The committee agreed to change the running order in order to accommodate the attending officer, Kathy O'Leary, who had another appointment to attend.

Jim Smith was concerned that no crime and disorder implications were mentioned in the report. He asked how the various plans, such as the Mole Valley Community Plan and the Mole Valley Community Safety Strategy, link together. Kathy O'Leary replied that the process for developing the Local Development Framework was a joint one alongside the review of the Community Strategy. Jim Smith asked that Local Area Agreements (LAA) be included as a topic.

John Northcott added that individuals were welcome to take part in the consultation process and that all comments would be welcome.

The Local Committee welcomed their involvement in the consultation process and asked to be updated as the framework is developed.

RESOLVED

(i) To note the draft Statement of Community Involvement.

- 43/05 **RESPONSE TO PETITIONS – LEATHERHEAD PARKING** [Item 7]
Hubert Carr queried whether the Department of Environment Act 1974 had been superseded. The Area Transportation Director confirmed that officers would

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raise the matter with Legal Services and keep him informed. Tim Hall added that the Mole Valley Parking Study was due to be reported in November and that this evidential source of information may be preferable rather than progressing the matter through legal channels.

The ATD went on to explain that Mole Valley District Council puts a small resource into an off-street parking study, and that the Surrey County Council input is based on safety issues. Until the introduction of DPE (Decriminalisation of Parking Enforcement) Surrey Police were unable to enforce orders. Now parking restrictions can be enforced, but this creates a problem of lack of parking for residents. There will be no solutions by October but currently working towards via DPE traffic order review.

The ATD altered the published recommendation (ii) and the committee agreed this.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the feasibility of Resident Parking Schemes be fully discussed with all interested parties and the practical and financial aspects be investigated in order to present a detailed report to a future meeting of this committee, following a further audit / review of parking restrictions in the Leatherhead Area**
- (ii) That the petitioners be advised that any parking on single yellow lines is illegal, within the restricted hours and that the possibility of Resident Parking Schemes is being investigated at the present time.**
- (iii) That a members working group reconvenes, once funding is identified to take forward a further audit / review of parking restrictions.**

44/05 **BOAT (BYWAY OPEN TO ALL TRAFFIC) 116 LEATHERHEAD** [Item 8]

The Chairman welcomed Sue Todd, Head of Rights of Way to the meeting.

Tim Hall asked why this particular BOAT had been singled out. Sue Todd explained that it was investigated as a result of a local petition. The discussion resulted in some questions that had been dealt with when the report came before committee previously.

In order to short-circuit the deviations by the new members John Northcott moved an amendment, which was seconded by David Sharland. The recommendations were agreed following a suggested amendment by the ATD.

RESOLVED

- (i) that officers be asked to advise members on whether the legal and policy criteria still applies to make the order for BOAT 116**
- (ii) to delegate to the ATD/CROW officer, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice chairman and local Members, the making of the order or the pursuit of the Public Enquiry.**

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45/05 **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PRIORITIES** [Item 11]

Tim Hall asked officers to provide newly elected members with a list of schemes. The ATD stated that he was reluctant to send members a 60-page report but it was available from his office if they wanted a copy. The Chairman said that there would be opportunities in private meetings to look at priorities as flexibility had been built in but a decision on the programme had to be taken now. The ATD agreed to email the full list of schemes within the week. Recommendations (iii) & (iv) were amended to add "and local members."

RESOLVED

- (i) **Agree the Priority List as shown in Annexe 1 and the schemes associated with each of the schools listed.**
- (ii) **Approve the progression of all schemes and projects identified / detailed within this report, subject to funding and safety audit where appropriate**
- (iii) **Delegate the agreement of all points of detail, where necessary, to the Local Transportation Director or his Successor / Representative in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of this Committee and the local Members.**
- (iv) **Authorise the Local Transportation Director or his Successor / representative, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of this Committee and the local Members, to acquire highway rights and / or enter into negotiations for the acquisition of land for any issue related to this report, subject to normal standing orders that may be required.**

46/05 **LTP (LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN) BUDGET AND SCHEMES** [Item 9]

Roger Archer-Reeves tabled Annexe B to the report along with a change to the published recommendation (v).

By way of explanation, the ATD went into a detailed explanation about the adjustment to the budgets caused by the change in CIPFA regulations. This meant that the capital budget set aside for tree repairs now had to come from elsewhere and would be funded from the drainage budget. While this should free up £100k to spend on capital projects, an equivalent squeeze on the revenue budget has resulted in funds having to be reallocated from the drainage budget.

RESOLVED

- (i) **Note the progress of schemes undertaken during 2004/5**
- (ii) **Note the out turn figures for 2004/5**
- (iii) **Agree the level of funding assigned to schemes as detailed in Table 2 and Annexe B**
- (iv) **Agree that the allocation of budgets to schemes, with respect to the 2004/5 underspend, is delegated to officers**
- (v) **to delegate to the Area Transportation Director, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman, the final decision as to which**

**schemes are progressed through the Local Allocation in
consultation with local members.**

(vi) Note the progress of current schemes as per the attached annex.

28/05 ANNUAL HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT PLAN [Item 10]

In introducing the report, Roger Archer-Reeves drew attention to paragraph 4.3 of the report, which should have shown revenue as £647,000 and the total as £3,199,400. A further Annex B (1) and Appendix C were circulated at the meeting.

NOTE FOR THE MINUTE: Timothy Ashton arrived at 3.55 pm

Hazel Watson expressed her delight at the number of Prudential schemes in her division, but asked how the overspend mentioned under paragraph 4 would lead to a reduction this year. Roger Archer-Reeves gave a technical explanation of the process. He stated that overspends in Mole Valley and Spelthorne were not due to inefficiency and in a couple of years should result in an increase in the allocation.

NOTE FOR THE MINUTE: Hazel Watson left at 4.00 pm

David Sharland expressed concern that, even when reported, gangs were not coming out to clean gullies. Roger Archer-Reeves referred to the monitoring process and again claimed the situation was improving as verified by printouts and a 10% audit sample. The Chairman referred to stretched targets and, in reference to overgrown gullies, pointed out that some of them were old and no longer in use.

RESOLVED

- (i) To approve this report as the Annual Highway Management Plan for the Local Transportation Service in Mole Valley for 2005/2006**
- (ii) To note the outturn figures for the Maintenance Programme for 2004/2005**
- (iii) To note that there is discretion for the Area Transportation Director, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to vary up to 100% of the indicative allocations for each expenditure head within the revenue budget whilst retaining the County Councils policies and standards**

29/05 LEATHERHEAD DECONGESTION STUDY [Item 12]

A working group based on members from Leatherhead had been set up to consider the issues. There was much comment about the proposals and the Chairman asked that members bring their comments to the working group. Roger Archer-Reeves also welcomed all the points raised but asked if the detail could be picked up outside the meeting so that the resolution overall could be agreed.

The ATD also commented that the programme was a work in progress from 3 years ago and priorities would be revised in the autumn. They would progress

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those tasked by the Committee. Volunteers were requested for the working group and the recommendations were agreed.

RESOLVED

- (i) **Note the intention to reconvene the Leatherhead Working Group to help steer the decongestion project.**
- (ii) **Approve reconvention of the Members' Working Group, in 2006/7, subject to funding being assigned, to investigate and review parking restrictions in and around Leatherhead.**
- (iii) **Approve the progression of all schemes and projects identified / detailed within this report, subject to funding and safety audit where appropriate and subject to agreement where necessary of the Leatherhead Working Group.**
- (iv) **Delegate the agreement of all points of detail, where necessary, to the Local Transportation Director or his Successor / Representative in consultation with the Leatherhead Working Group.**
- (v) **Authorise the advertisement of any necessary Traffic Regulation Orders related to this report and if no objections are maintained the making of the Orders.**
- (vi) **Agree that the Local Transportation Director or his Successor / Representative, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair has delegated authority to formally consider objections to any statutory consultations related to this report.**
- (vii) **Agree that the schemes listed within this report now supersede any previous measures agreed for progression under the decongestion study.**
- (viii) **Authorise the Local Transportation Director or his Successor / representative, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of this Committee, to acquire highway rights and / or enter into negotiations for the acquisition of land for any issue related to this report, subject to normal standing orders that may be required.**

30/05 **MEMBERS' LOCAL ALLOCATION BUDGET** [Item 13]

There was no discussion and all new proposals were agreed.

RESOLVED

- (i) **to approve the bids for Members' Local Allocation as detailed in the report totalling £12,652**
- (ii) **to note the approval of bids that fall below the £500 threshold totalling £3,300**

31/05 **FEEDBACK FROM PERFORMANCE MONITORING TASK GROUP** [Item 15]

This item was for information only.

RESOLVED

- (i) **that Members continue to be updated and involved locally in the waste management consultation and possible site identification, and respond on an individual basis to the Development Plan Document.**

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- (ii) that gaps in Early Years provision known by Members continue to be fed back to Early Years officers and proactive publicity for support of the service continue.
- (iii) that Members take the opportunity to visit schools in their wards with Education officers as appropriate, to acquaint themselves with issues of note.
- (iv) that Members consider 'follow up' awareness sessions related to Looked After Children and Children's Services to ensure an understanding of the complex issues and Members' advocacy role.

32/05 **FORWARD PROGRAMME** [Item 16]

This item for information gave dates for future local committee meetings throughout the 2005/06 municipal year. Roger Archer Reeves asked that all Members note the Risk Management seminar at Pippbrook on the 27 July at 2pm for members and substitutes. Members noted the committee dates but asked that the timing of informal meetings be circulated as soon as possible.

[Meeting ended: 16.45]

Chairman.