

MINUTES: of the meeting of the Mole Valley Local Committee held at 14.00 on Wednesday 5 December 2007 in the Council Chamber, Pippbrook, Dorking

Members Present - Surrey County Council

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

Members Present - Mole Valley District Council

Ann Howarth
David Howell
Chris Hunt
Jean Pearson
David Sharland

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

PART ONE - IN PUBLIC

- 61/07 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF SUBSTITUTIONS** [Item 1]
Apologies were received from Cllr V. Homewood.
- 62/07 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** [Item 2]
Hazel Watson declared a personal interest in agenda item 11 – Local Committee Funding, by virtue of being a member of the Boxhill Project Steering Group.
- 63/07 **MINUTES OF THE LAST** [Item 3]
The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record of the meeting, which took place on the 26 September 2007.
- 64/07 **PUBLIC WRITTEN QUESTIONS** [Item 4A]
No public questions were received.
- 65/07 **MEMBER QUESTIONS** [Item 4B]
Nine Member questions were received. The questions and answers are set out in annex A to the minutes.
- 66/07 **PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION SESSION** [Item 4C]
No public open questions were received.

67/07 **PETITIONS** [Item 5]

One petition was received.

A) Vincent Road, Dorking

Mrs. Matthews presented a petition requesting improvements on Vincent Road, Dorking. In the Autumn 1999 residents of Vincent Road submitted a petition to Surrey Highways requesting that entrances to the east and west side of the road be improved and the road is designated 'access only' to prevent 'rat-running' and improve the safety of the residents living there. Mrs. Matthews informed the committee that after numerous requests they had been told that there were insufficient funds to meet this demand.

Mrs. Matthews updated the committee Members that at Mole Valley's Development Control Meeting a planning application was being submitted and if approved it will attract a Section 106 payment of £10,000 for highways improvements for Vincent Road. The residents of Vincent Road wished to for the local committee to request that Surrey Highways work up an improvements scheme for Vincent Road consulting with them.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Matthews and the residents of Vincent Road, and their comments on the issue. The Local Highways Manager was asked to look into the issue and provide a report to the next meeting of the Local Committee.

68/07 **RESPONSE TO PETITION – LEATHERHEAD WAITING RESTRICTIONS** [Item 6]

Members received a brief report detailing the response to the petition submitted by Dr M Degenhardt about Leatherhead's waiting restrictions. Dr. Degenhardt was informed a more detailed report would be presented at the March 2008 committee meeting.

The Group Highways Manager (East) tabled some last minute additional recommendations 30 minutes prior to the start of the committee to clarify the position, membership and remit of the working group via terms of reference.

For clarity it was confirmed the membership of the Leatherhead Waiting Restriction Working Group would be made up of County Councillor Tim Hall and the five Mole Valley District Councillors for Leatherhead.

Members of the committee welcomed the new recommendations, but stressed the importance of a report back to this committee in March 2008.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) agreed to;

- (i) Establish a task group to consider parking concerns in Leatherhead with Terms of Reference (Attached),
- (ii) The Task Group will report back to the Local Committee through

the Local Highways Manager at every appropriate meeting of this committee; and,

- (iii) The Committee is asked to note that a report on the outcome of the Leatherhead Waiting Restriction review will be presented at the March 2008 Committee

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

To comply with Surrey County Council's legal framework for Member task groups.

69/07 RESPONSE TO PETITION – PUMP CORNER [Item 7]

Members received a report in response to the petition submitted to the September committee by a representative of the Westcott Village Association.

The Group Highways Manager (East) tabled some last minute additional recommendations prior to the start of the committee to clarify the position, membership and remit of the working group via terms of reference.

Members of the committee understood the need for new recommendations and County Councillor Hazel Watson accepted the Chairmanship of the Working Group.

Councillor Hazel Watson with the support of Stephen Cooksey put forward the motion that the traffic lights at Pump Corner, Dorking be hooded. After a debate the motion was put to the vote. With 10 votes in favour to 1 vote against the additional motion was carried. County Councillor Jim Smith wished his objection to be noted.

Councillor Stephen Cooksey with the support of Hazel Watson put forward a second additional motion that the Pump Corner Task Group meet in public to provide residents of Mole Valley with transparency. The motion was put to the vote and was carried 8 votes in favour of the change.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) agreed;

- (i) To establish a task group to consider this junction and other matters associated with the free flow of traffic and the safety of all road users, see terms of reference with amended 1a. *Unless otherwise agreed, meet in public* (attached),
- (ii) That the Task Group will report back to the Local Committee through the Local Highways Manager at every appropriate meeting of this committee,
- (iii) To note the contents of this report as a response to the petition received on the 26th September 2007; and,

- (iv) That the traffic lights at the end of West Street be hooded for a trial period starting no later than January 2008 to assess its effect on Pump Corner, subject to a safety audit and supportive measures

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

To comply with Surrey County Council's legal framework for Members task groups.

70/07

WASTE MINIMISATION PROJECT IN MOLE VALLEY [Item 8]

Surrey County Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Manager and Mole Valley District Council's Head of General Services updated the committee on the work to cut waste and increase recycling in Mole Valley and Surrey wide.

The committee thanked both officers for their presentation and congratulated them on the good results they are achieving.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee agreed to consider ways in which to be informed and engaged in future processes.

71/07

POVEY CROSS ROAD [Item 9]

The Group Highways Manager (East) informed the Members that following the Committee's resolve in June 2007 to develop proposals to overcome residents concerns about inconsiderate commuter parking and parking associated with local businesses and Gatwick Airport, Officers had taken out an informal public consultation.

As part of this consultation, Members were updated; residents were given two main options with sub-options (a & b). As a result of a successful consultation Officers were now confident in recommending option b, which could be formally advertised, and subject to any representations.

The Group Highways Manager (East) highlighted that the recommendation had inadvertently failed to include the local member on the working group and therefore suggested that the recommendation is amended accordingly. Members were happy with this change and therefore voted in favour of the amended recommendation.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) agreed that;

- (i) the proposal contained in Option 1b to provide parking bays on-street with a maximum stay of 4 hours operating 0830 to 18.30 Monday to Saturday, be agreed; and
- (ii) that authority be delegated to the Local Highways Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and local divisional Member to advertise any necessary Traffic Regulation Order(s), to

consider any objections received and subject to those objections make the Order(s) associated with the implementation of Option 1b.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

Option 1b is supported by the majority of those responding to the informal consultation, it is therefore, recommended to the Committee for its consideration, adoption and subsequent advertisement of the requisite Orders, potentially leading to implementation on-site.

72/07 ASHTEAD WAITING RESTRICTIONS [Item 10]

The Group Highways Manager (East) presented the report on the Ashtead Waiting Restrictions Scheme. He updates the Committee that the Ashtead stage two waiting restriction scheme came into operation on 28th April 2006, although the portion of the scheme relating to peak hour waiting restrictions in Broadhurst, Culverhay and Overdale came into operation on 15th October 2007.

The Group Highways Manager (East) reminded the Members that the Committee agreed one further element of the overall scheme in June 2006 and this related to new restrictions in Grange Road, Grangemount and Ottways Lane. These proposals have now been formally advertised and objections to the proposals have been forthcoming.

Members of the Committee were asked to give consideration to these objections in order to agree a way forward. The Officer recommendation was to proceed with the Order as advertised. Members thanked the Officers for the report and felt it timely to proceed with the Officers proposals and therefore supported the recommendation.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) agreed that;

- (i) the Order as advertised and shown in Annex 1 to this report be confirmed and brought into operation; and
- (ii) the location be monitored and considered again as part of the cyclical review of Ashtead's waiting restrictions in the future

73/07 LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING [Item 11]

Members were asked to support the seven proposals for formal approval from the funding from the Members' Local Allocation. Detailed proposals are outlined in Annexe A to the report:

- £5,000 (revenue) SCC Youth Services – Mulberry Centre
- £6,000 (£2,367 revenue, £3,633 capital) Headley Computer Club
- £3,000 (revenue) Ashtead Football Club
- £2,000 (revenue) Dorking Needs Action Group
- £3,000 (capital) Bookham Community Association
- £3500 (revenue) Bookham Residents Ass - Bookham Youth Centre

- £1300 (revenue) Box Hill Project

Members were also asked to note six bids that fall below the £1,000 threshold:

- £500 Newdigate Parish Council – Funding towards producing a Parish Plan
- £500 Priory School - For students to build a sculpture for the school
- £250 Leigh Parish Council – To provide funds towards a fireworks display for the younger children in Leigh
- £255 (capital) Brockham Green Nursery – To fund the cost of a secure replacement gate for the outside play area.
- £500 (revenue) Bookham Resident Ass – Bookham Youth Centre – To fund the purchase of decorating materials which will be used by the young people to brighten up the building.
- £500 (revenue) The Dawnay School – To extend the literacy initiative in school and purchase further materials to enhance the lending service available to families.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) agreed;

- (i) to approve the seven proposals detailed in Appendix A totalling £23,800; and,
- (ii) to note the approval of six proposals which fall below the £1,000 threshold totalling £2,505.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The spending proposals put forward for this meeting have been assessed against the County standards for appropriateness and value for money and it is recommended that they should be approved.

7407 CLAIMED PUBLIC FP 522 SHERE AND ABINGER [Item 12]

The Countryside Legal Team Manager updated the Committee that Shere Parish Council had submitted an application for a Map Modification Order (MMO) to add a public footpath between the Horsham Road, Holmbury St. Mary and Public Bridleway No. 20, Abinger to the Surrey County Council DMS.

She advised that the evidence shows that a public footpath exists over the route and therefore a legal order to modify the Definitive Map and Statement should be made.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) agreed:

- (i) That the public footpath rights are recognised over the route A – B – C – D – E on drawing 3/1/68/H26 and that the application for a MMO under sections 53 and 57 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to modify the Definitive Map and Statement by the addition of a footpath is approved. The route will be known as Public Footpath no. 600, Shere and Abinger; and,
- (ii) That a legal order should be made and advertised and if objections are received it will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for confirmation.

75/07 CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE, DORKING [Item 13]

Members of the Committee received an update with regard to the Controlled Parking Zone in Dorking.

The Group Highways Manager (East) tabled some last minute additional recommendations prior to the start of the committee to clarify the position, membership and remit of the CPZ working group via terms of reference.

As above Members welcomed the clarity and therefore supported the new recommendations.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) agreed:

- (i) To recognise the existence of the task group 'Dorking Controlled Parking' and its adherence to the general terms of reference (attached),
- (ii) To note the report.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

To comply with Surrey County Council's legal framework for Members task groups

76/07 LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN SCHEME OF PROGRESS [Item 14]

RESOLVED

That the Local Committee noted the report.

77/07 FORWARD PROGRAMME [Item 15]

RESOLVED

That the Local Committee noted the report.

[Meeting ended: 16.35]

Chairman

DRAFT

Annex A Public Written Questions

The following 9 questions were submitted in accordance with Standing Order 46.

Questions from David Sharland, District Councillor for Leatherhead South

Advertising Banners

Whilst advertising banners on highway sites is illegal, would the Highway Authority please consider adopting a different approach to commercial advertising from that adopted to community advertising?

There are no official highway community advertising sites in the north of Mole Valley. This leaves highway furniture and boundary fences as about the only places for community organisers to hang banners.

We need to address this issue and would welcome the Highway Authority engaging with the community to resolve the difficulties. When is it likely that this could occur?

Response from Local Highways Manager

Section 178 of the Highways Act 1980 prohibits the fixing or placing of most things over, along or across a highway without consent; such consent may be subject to reasonable terms and conditions as the authority thinks fit. The purpose of Section 178 is to prevent, as far as possible, damage and injury to persons using the highway, which might arise if the placing of items was unregulated.

If consent is granted conditions will be attached regarding, fixing, placement, maintenance and removal of such items. The applicant may appeal to a magistrate's court against the refusal to grant consent or against the terms and conditions required by the authority. Charitable organisations may apply to the authority for consent to place a banner or similar on the highway and each application will be considered on its merits subject always to the authority protecting and maintaining the rights of the public to, as far as possible, the safe use and enjoyment of the highway.

Temporary advertisements are also covered by Class 3 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 2007; specifically Class 3(D), which stipulates the size (must not exceed 0.6 m²) and limits the duration of temporary advertisements (not more than 28 days before and 14 after the event). Mole Valley District Council is the responsible planning authority regarding planning enforcement. Surrey County Council is willing to consider applications for permanent sites in the north of the local area and proposals should be addressed to the Highways Group Manager East who is based in the Leatherhead office.

Questions from Hazel Watson, County Councillor for Dorking Hills

Taxi Vouchers

Earlier this year some Mole Valley residents who received taxi vouchers last year were declined taxi vouchers owing to insufficient funds. What action has been taken to resolve the funding shortfall and to provide taxi vouchers to residents who had previously received them and would still be entitled to receive them? Is there a funding shortfall in relation to meeting the demand from Mole Valley residents for taxi vouchers and if so how much is the shortfall?

Response from Surrey County Council

Members will be aware that there was some concern and confusion regarding the Taxi Vouchers Scheme over the summer period. After several officer meetings the problem was overcome and the accounts reviewed and tied up. As of 3rd December 2007 85 books have been posted out with 20 new residents expected to receive booklets this week. Further to this there is funding left for another 25 booklets for 2007/08.

Members will be aware that currently in Mole Valley the funding comes solely from Member Allocations and therefore at the March Committee they might want to consider assigning a bid to cover the 2008/09 year.

Abinger Bottom

At the September meeting of the Local Committee in response to my question, it was stated that the missing finger sign pointing to Abinger Bottom off Hollow Lane was currently under manufacture and would be installed by the end of October. The finger sign pointing to Abinger Bottom is still missing. What is the reason for the delay and when will the missing sign be installed?

Response from Local Highways Manager

The reply provided to Councillor Watson at the Committee's meeting in September was accurate at that time based on information supplied by the Countryside Manager. Since then the company responsible for making and erecting the sign has not delivered it, but the Countryside Manager advises me he is pursuing the company to complete this task and that he will keep Councillor Watson appraised of progress.

Headley Common Road

When will the long outstanding issues under the Headley Traffic Plan be implemented: the 40mph signs on Headley Common Road, the HGV advisory notices on B2033 and other entry into Headley roads and the entry "gateways"?

Response from Local Highways Manager

The County Council's constructor Carillion has the gateway and road-marking scheme for design and implementation, the speed limit is ready to commission when the signs are in place. The Highways Group Manager east has prioritised scheme delivery for the east area with Carillion for the remainder of this financial year. The Headley scheme will be delivered on-site as soon as practically possible within the constraints of the overall prioritisation.

Westcott Green

When will the hedge to the west of The Green in Westcott Street in Westcott be cut back to improve sightlines and make the road less narrow?

Response from Local Highways Manager

The hedge pruning referred to in the question forms part of the Dorking Hills Community Gang work programme that is due to commence on Monday 10 December 2007.

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A25, Westcott

When will the vegetation on the A25 through Westcott be cut back so that road signs are visible and the pavement between Westcott House and Lince Lane is not narrowed by vegetation?

Response from Local Highways Manager

The vegetation clearance referred to in the question forms part of the Dorking Hills Community Gang work programme that is due to commence on Monday 10 December 2007.

A25, Coast Hill

When will a full sized chevron, in place of the inadequate small chevron, be installed on the sharp bend on Coast Hill on the A25 to make it safer?

Response from Local Highways Manager

Whilst the size of the chevron at this location is considered appropriate to its location its visibility could be enhanced; a replacement sign with a yellow backing board will be ordered.

Boxhill Road

What action is being taken to reduce flooding on Boxhill Road near Fraser Heath House in Box Hill, as the work carried out to date has not resolved the flooding problem?

Response from Local Highways Manager

The County Council has historically implemented highway drainage works in the vicinity of Fraser Heath House, Boxhill Road to address the accumulation of surface water run-off the highway receives, including that from adjoining land. The natural land drainage regime of the area militates against an absolute solution, but the County Council will include further gully cleaning of Boxhill Road on its next schedule of work that could be complete before Christmas.

A24, Blocked Gullies

When will the blocked gullies reported by me in August be unblocked and where flooding regularly occurs: the eastern side of the A24 cycleway between Pixham Lane and the Burford Bridge, Broome Close near the junction with Church Lane in Headley, two gullies in Hackhurst Lane in Abinger Hammer just north of the entrance to the school and the gully on footpath 116 where it accesses the eastern end of Furlong Road in Westcott?

Response from Local Highways Manager

The gully-cleaning schedule for work that could be complete before Christmas includes the locations identified in the question.

Mole Valley Local Committee

Leatherhead Waiting Restrictions Task Group Terms of Reference

Objective:

The Local Committee agreed on the 5th December 2007 meeting, that a Working Party be formed to consider the junction of Pump Corner in Dorking and other matters associated with the free flow of traffic through Dorking in both an east – west / west-east direction and the safe movement of all other road users through this key junction. Cllr Hall agreed to take the lead.

Timings:

The start date of this Task Group is January 2008, with the end date to be determined when the programme is recommended to the Local Highways Manager and taken back to the Local Committee for approval.

Membership:

The Task Group membership to be: Group Manager Highways East, Local Highway Manager Mole Valley,

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General

1. Task Groups exist to advise the Local Committee and will
 - a. Unless otherwise agreed, meet in private;
 - b. Develop a work programme;
 - c. Formally record actions;
 - d. Report back to the Local Committee on progress.
2. The Task Group will contain appointees from the membership of the Local Committee, identified in such a way to ensure adequate geographical coverage for the particular Task Group area and function.
3. The Task Group's function is to a programme to be recommended by the Local Highway Manager to the Local Committee for approval.
4. The Task Group will agree and publish criteria for the prioritisation of the scheme in question and circulate to the Local Highway Manager and the Local Committee.
5. The report containing the Task Group's recommendations to the Local Committee will be supported by a summary of the reasoning behind its prioritised programme.
6. The Task Group will monitor the progress of the work programme and recommend any adjustments as appropriate to the Local Highway Manger for to be taken back to the Local Committee.

Mole Valley Local Committee

Pump Corner Task Group Terms of Reference

Objective:

The Local Committee agreed on the 5th December 2007 meeting, that a Working Party be formed to consider the junction of Pump Corner in Dorking and other matters associated with the free flow of traffic through Dorking in both an east – west / west-east direction and the safe movement of all other road users through this key junction. Cllr Mrs. Watson agreed to take the lead.

Timings:

The start date of this Task Group is January 2008, with the end date to be determined when the programme is recommended to the Local Highways Manager and taken back to the Local Committee for approval.

Membership:

The Task Group membership to be: Group Manager Highways East, Local Highway Manager Mole Valley,

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General

7. Task Groups exist to advise the Local Committee and will
 - a. **Unless otherwise agreed, meet in public;**
 - b. Develop a work programme;
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11. The report containing the Task Group's recommendations to the Local Committee will be supported by a summary of the reasoning behind its prioritised programme.
12. The Task Group will monitor the progress of the work programme and recommend any adjustments as appropriate to the Local Highway Manger for to be taken back to the Local Committee.

Mole Valley Local Committee

Dorking Controlled Parking Task Group Terms of Reference

Objective:

The Local Committee agreed on the 5th December 2007 meeting, that a Working Party be formed to consider the junction of Pump Corner in Dorking and other matters associated with the free flow of traffic through Dorking in both an east – west / west-east direction and the safe movement of all other road users through this key junction. Cllr Ashton agreed to take the lead.

Timings:

The start date of this Task Group is January 2008, with the end date to be determined when the programme is recommended to the Local Highways Manager and taken back to the Local Committee for approval.

Membership:

The Task Group membership to be: Group Manager Highways East, Local Highway Manager Mole Valley,

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General

13. Task Groups exist to advise the Local Committee and will
 - a. Unless otherwise agreed, meet in private;
 - b. Develop a work programme;
 - c. Formally record actions;
 - d. Report back to the Local Committee on progress.
14. The Task Group will contain appointees from the membership of the Local Committee, identified in such a way to ensure adequate geographical coverage for the particular Task Group area and function.
15. The Task Group's function is to a programme to be recommended by the Local Highway Manager to the Local Committee for approval.
16. The Task Group will agree and publish criteria for the prioritisation of the scheme in question and circulate to the Local Highway Manager and the Local Committee.
17. The report containing the Task Group's recommendations to the Local Committee will be supported by a summary of the reasoning behind its prioritised programme.
18. The Task Group will monitor the progress of the work programme and recommend any adjustments as appropriate to the Local Highway Manger for to be taken back to the Local Committee.