



PUBLIC QUESTIONS

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE
(REIGATE AND BANSTEAD)**

20TH MARCH 2006

NOTE: Standing Orders only allows for 6 questions at each meeting.

Two Public Questions have been received

1. Hazelwood Lane

Mr John Bunner, Hazelwood Lane, asks the following question:

"The majority of Hazelwood Lane needs fully re-furbishing and a new tarmacadam surface laid. When can I expect this permanent remedial action to be taken rather than the temporary pot-hole repairs which do nothing to rectify this deplorable and dangerous state of affairs"?

The Local Transport Manager Responds:

"Hazelwood Lane was last resurfaced in 1998 (a length of approximately 400m from the junction with Outwood Lane). Officers understand, however, that in the last two years a number of reports of potholes have been made along Hazelwood Lane

During 2005 Reigate and Banstead's Local Transportation Service (R&BLTS) attended the area sixteen times and carried out thirty-one pothole repairs. R&BLTS have recently inspected Hazelwood Lane and have ordered further pothole repairs to be undertaken.

Due the limited amount of funding that Surrey County Council receives from Central Government towards highway maintenance, the County has to prioritise the list of schemes that require major maintenance or resurfacing. Each Local Transportation Service (representing each district in the County) submits annual bids to a central County team who then assess and prioritise the improvements across the County so that the areas of most need in each district are brought up to a suitable standard. In the meantime R&BLTS undertake regular inspections and undertake pothole repairs to ensure the safety for road users.

R&BLTS can add Hazlewood Lane to its list of roads seeking funding for major resurfacing and also on the list of what is known as Local Structural Repairs (which targets the sections of the road requiring greatest attention, rather than the whole road). As stated earlier, however, this request would have to compete with other maintenance priorities across the County and as such is not guaranteed to receive major funding in the near future.

With regard to comments about the road being dangerous, I can confirm that there have been no accidents along this length of road in the last 3 years (the criteria used to assess safety improvements) as a result of the highway condition. The County is aware that the character and alignment of this road does require drivers to drive within the posted speed limit.”

2. Court Lodge Infant School Site

Reverend Robert J May, Horley Baptist Church, asks the following question:

“We would like to ask the Local Committee either to explain or to enquire as to why there is the current delay in any information about the Council's hopes or intentions for the site and also why there is no information currently about how and when the County Council intends to dispose of the site.”

The Valuer and Estates Manager Responds:

“In order to protect the children at the school site it was considered inappropriate to actively market the site. Now the school is empty our consultants have been requested to finalise a disposal strategy with a recommendation as to whether the site should be sold by private treaty or auction. It is anticipated that the site will be advertised for sale in Mid May when relevant details will be made available. In the meantime consultants have been requested to manage the site pending sale.”