

MINUTES: of the meeting of Surrey County Council's Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) held at 14:00 on Monday 21 June 2010 at Reigate Town Hall.

THESE MINUTES REMAIN DRAFT UNTIL FORMALLY APPROVED AT THE 20 SEPTEMBER 2010 MEETING

Members Present – Surrey County Council

Mrs Angela Fraser (Chairman)	Mr Nick Harrison
Dr Zully Grant-Duff (Vice-Chairman)	Mrs Frances King
Mr Michael Gosling	Mr Peter Lambell
Dr Lynne Hack	Mrs Dorothy Ross-Tomlin
Mrs Kay Hammond	

Members Present – Reigate and Banstead Borough Council

Cllr Mark Brunt (Associate Vice-Chairman)	Cllr Brian Stead
Cllr Richard Bennett	Cllr Mrs Anna Tarrant
Cllr Brian Cowle	Cllr Barbara Thomson
Cllr Dr Richard Olliver	

PART ONE - IN PUBLIC

[All references to items refer to the agenda for the meeting]

22/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr De Save.

23/10 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS – 1 MARCH 2010 [Item 2]

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the previous meeting.

24/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

Item 11 – Mrs Frances King declared a personal interest by virtue of being a resident of one of the roads considered in the parking review (Allingham Road).

Item 11 – Councillor Richard Bennett declared a personal interest by virtue of owning a property at one of the locations considered in the parking review (junction of Woodmansterne Lane and Fiddicroft Avenue).

25/10 **LOCAL COMMITTEE PROTOCOLS [Item 4]**

The Local Committee and Partnership Officer presented the report.

The Local Committee **AGREED**:

- (i) That the Local Protocol (Public Engagement) is working well and should continue without any amendments at this time.
- (ii) The Local Financial Protocol be amended to enable the Area Director to approve capital allocations up to and including £1,000 under delegated powers.

26/10 **PETITIONS [Item 5]**

- (a) A petition was received from Mrs Susan Bishop-King signed by 160 residents, requesting resurfacing of Rose Bushes, Epsom Downs. It was noted that since the submission of the petition, the road had been resurfaced, and Mrs Bishop-King thanked the Local Highways Manager for the work carried out.

The Committee **NOTED** the response of the Local Highways Manager.

- (b) A combined petition was received from local residents, parents, teachers, friends and pupils of the Royal Alexandra and Albert School, requesting a signalled crossing over the A242 Gatton Park Road close to the pedestrian entrance to the school. The petition had been signed by 384 local residents, parents, teachers and friends of the school, with a further 207 pupils signing a separate petition making the same request. Ms Helen Pollard presented the petition on behalf of the Mr David Clamp.

The Committee **NOTED** the response of the Local Highways Manager.

- (c) A petition was received from Mr Greaves signed by 133 residents, requesting resurfacing of Albert Road, Horley.

The Committee **NOTED** the response of the Local Highways Manager.

- (d) A petition was received from Mrs Michelle Porter signed by 61 residents requesting resurfacing of Sandlands Road, Walton on the Hill.

The Committee **NOTED** the response of the Local Highways Manager, attached as **Appendix A** to the minutes.

27/10 **FORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 6]**

Seven public questions were received. Written responses are attached as **Appendix B** to the minutes.

28/10 **FORMAL MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 7]**

One Member question was received. A written response is attached as **Appendix C** to the minutes.

29/10 **LOCAL EDUCATION OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT ON EDUCATION [Item 8]**

The Local Education Officer presented a revised report which is attached as **Appendix D** to the minutes.

During discussion by the Committee, the following key points were raised:

- It was noted that Borough Councillors should raise education matters via their local County Councillor.
- A question was asked regarding the location of a new primary school in Horley. The Local Education Officer explained that currently the site was being used by the developers, but it would be cleared in future.
- Members asked if trend data could be used in future to provide a meaningful comparison between results.
- A question was asked whether the extra Reception class at Merstham Primary School was a “one-off” with the “bulge” moving as the pupils progressed through the school. The Local Education Officer confirmed that this was a “one-off” and was a response to the need to provide thirty additional infant places in the Reigate area. All schools were asked to take an additional class, but Merstham Primary was the only school in a position to do this. A new primary school is planned in the Redhill area, which will provide additional capacity, and once this is in place, an area review will take place.

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

30/10 **SURREY SATRO – PRESENTATION [Item 9]**

Members received a presentation from Dr Beccy Bowden, Chief Executive of Surrey SATRO (Science and Technology Regional Organisation) on the work of the educational charity.

31/10 **REIGATE AND BANSTEAD PARTNERSHIPS NOMINATIONS AND DELEGATED POWERS [Item 10]**

The Area Director presented the report.

The Committee **AGREED** that:

- (i) Mrs Angela Fraser be nominated to represent the Local Committee on the Reigate and Banstead Local Strategic Partnership with Mrs Kay Hammond as deputy.
- (ii) Mrs Kay Hammond be nominated to represent the Local Committee on the Reigate and Banstead Community Safety Partnership (formerly known as the Crime and Disorder Reduction partnership) with Mrs Angela Fraser as deputy.
- (iii) Dr Zully Grant-Duff to deputise at meetings of these partnerships in the event that either Mrs Fraser or Mrs Hammond are unavailable.
- (iv) The Area Director, in consultation with the County Councillor representative, agree the allocation of Surrey County Council community safety funding allocated to the CSP, in accordance with the Community Safety Strategy priorities.

32/10 **BANSTEAD AND SOUTHERN VILLAGES PARKING REVIEW [Item 11]**

Mrs Frances King declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of being a resident of one of the roads considered in the parking review (Allingham Road).

Councillor Richard Bennett declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of owning a property at one of the locations considered in the parking review (junction of Woodmansterne Lane and Fiddicroft Avenue).

The Parking Strategy and Implementation Group Manager presented the report.

During discussion by the Committee, the following key points were raised:

- Members asked how long the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) lasted, in the event that implementation was delayed. The officer replied that the TRO would not be advertised until funding was available.

- Clarification was sought regarding the £55,000 implementation cost, and the timescale for implementation. The officer reported that £2,000 to £4,000 was required for the advertisement of the TRO, with the rest of the funding required for signage and lines on the road. It was not effective to advertise the TRO without putting in signs and lines because it would lead to complaints about enforcement.
- A question was asked regarding the temporary TRO at Wells Place, Merstham, and whether this would remain in place. It was confirmed that it would.
- Members asked whether it was possible for the Merstham Station car park, owned by Network Rail, to take on additional capacity to alleviate the displacement of parking from nearby roads. The officer agreed to discuss this with the Rail Development Officer.
- The officer confirmed that there were no further parking reviews planned during the current financial year, nor any funded plans for Controlled Parking Zones. It was noted that Surrey County Council is looking at how parking is managed countywide.
- An amendment to recommendation (i) was proposed by Dr Zully Grant-Duff and seconded by Mrs Angela Fraser, in order to deal with the concerns about displacement of parking into Church Hill, Merstham.
- The Committee also requested that Members be kept informed of all developments relating to the funding and implementation of parking schemes.

The Committee **AGREED**:

- (i) The recommendations detailed in Annex A to the report submitted plus the inclusion within section 27 of “no waiting at any time” restrictions for Church Hill, Merstham, from its junction with London Road for a distance of 20 metres on both sides of the road.
- (ii) The allocation of the necessary funding to proceed with the introduction of the parking amendments and officers to keep Members informed of developments regarding funding and implementation.
- (iii) That the County Council follows due process to amend the existing Traffic Regulation Orders for the recommended parking controls to be implemented.

33/10 **PROPOSED UPDATED SPEED LIMIT POLICY FOR CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL COMMITTEES [Item 12]**

The Safer and Smarter Travel Manager presented the report. A presentation was tabled and is attached as **Appendix E**.

During discussion by the Committee the following key points were raised:

- Members asked if there was a definition of rural and urban with regards to roads. The officer replied that roads with a speed limit of over 40 miles per hour were described as “rural” but the policy gives more details of the appropriate limit for each type of road. The term essentially referred to open roads, and not necessarily fields and villages.
- Members asked whether different guidelines would be issued by the new Government. It was noted that the results of a consultation were awaited, and that the policy would be kept under review if new guidelines were issued.
- A question was asked regarding the discretion to review and if necessary increase speed limits. The officer confirmed that there was scope to do this.
- Members asked whether the changes to the policy would allow 20 mph speed limits to be enforced. The officer informed the Committee that enforcement was a police matter, and that lower than average speed limits would stretch limited police resources. The national guidance was for the introduction of 20mph limits over a large area than a single road, to enable drivers to become accustomed to lower speeds without the need for calming measures.
- Members were concerned about the calculation of average speeds and requested that modal and median averages be used.
- It was noted that Local Committees would make the final decision on any changes to speed limits outside schools, with an emphasis on evidence and ensuring that the views of police and residents were taken into consideration.
- The officer agreed to check whether a traffic order was made for the 20mph zone in North Earlswood.

The Committee **NOTED** the report and its comments detailed above be considered, together with the notes of the discussion at the 7 December 2009 meeting regarding 20mph speed limits, in finalising the report and policy to Cabinet.

34/10 **FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS 2010/11 FOR HIGHWAY WORKS** **[Item 13]**

The Local Highways Manager presented a revised report which is attached as **Appendix F** to the minutes.

During discussion with the Committee, the following key points were raised:

- It was noted that funding was not currently in place to implement the Redhill Parking Review. The Local Highways Manager

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suggested that Members may wish to allocate £30,000 from the Local Revenue Allocation to enable this.

- Members felt that this was a suitable use of funding, since enforcement of parking regulations in Redhill was becoming difficult without signs and markings, and residents' expectations had been raised.
- Kay Hammond suggested that Community Payback could be used to supplement some of the works undertaken by the Community Gang, should there be insufficient funding allocated for an additional gang for the remainder of the financial year. This resource had been used successfully in other parts of Surrey.
- Concerns were raised regarding flooding and wet spots. It was noted that there was a separate programme in place to tackle wet spots, and that the following locations in the borough had been identified for improvements: Park Road, Banstead; Reigate Road, Sidlow; West Street, Reigate; Marketfield Way, Redhill; Bonehurst Road, Salfords.

The Committee:

- (i) **NOTED** the funding for highway maintenance revenue works as set out in Annex A to the report submitted.
- (ii) **APPROVED** the use of the £100,000 Local Revenue Allocation to fund the implementation of the Redhill Parking Review, an additional Community Gang and the undertaking of drainage works, the proportion to be agreed in consultation with the Chairman and Portfolio Holder for Community Safety.

35/10 **LOCAL COMMITTEE RESPONSE TO JOINT SCRUTINY REVIEW OF SEVERE WINTER WEATHER [Item 14]**

The Local Highways Manager presented the report.

During discussion with the Committee, the following key points were raised:

- That grit bins were designed to deal with icy roads, which occur every year, rather than heavy snowfall.
- That the County Council's gritting routes do not take into account the fact that the Banstead area (north of the M25) is higher than the rest of the borough and indeed, most of the county council area, and therefore colder.
- The County Council should make greater use of local communities and parish councils when dealing with winter events.
- It was recognised that some of the problems experienced last winter were a result of salt rationing by the previous Government in response to the national shortage of salt, and that in future

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Surrey should ensure that it keeps further stocks in reserve so that all priority roads should be gritted.

- Chipstead Way, between Chipstead Valley Road and Woodmansterne Village is a bus route and a very steep hill, and should be considered as a priority 'A' for gritting.
- The list of priority roads on the County Council's website requires updating and the grouping of some localities is illogical and requires revising. This needs to be carried out by officers familiar with the routes 'on the ground'.
- Main access routes to all educational establishments should be prioritised, and revised where educational establishments have closed.
- Improved liaison between the County Council and Borough/District Councils is required so that excess grit and salt is swept away following winter events.
- In order to ensure that Chipstead Village is not completely marooned, gritting in the past has taken place from the A217/Blackhorse Lane through High Road to the middle of Chipstead, branching at the White Hart pub, going down Hazelwood Lane on one side, and How Lane on the other side, ensuring access/egress to Chipstead Valley Road/Outwood Lane and the A217.

The Committee **AGREED**:

- (i) To **NOTE** the report of the joint Select Committees and endorse the recommendations therein.
- (ii) That the comments above be forwarded to the Chairman of the Transportation Select Committee for inclusion in the submission to Cabinet.

36/10 **LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING [Item 15]**

An addendum to the report was tabled and is attached as **Appendix G** to the minutes.

The Committee:

- (i) **NOTED** the distribution of funding allocated by the Local Committee in 2009/10.
- (ii) **AGREED** the following items submitted for funding from 2010/11 Local Committee delegated revenue budget totalling £2,047.45.
 1. Salfords Primary School – fencing of sensory garden £600

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| 2. | New display boards for Banstead History Centre | £447.45 |
| 3. | Surrey Wildlife Trust – Drive for Volunteering across Surrey | £1,000 |

(iii) **REFUSED** the item submitted for funding from 2010/11 Local Committee capital budget.

37/10 **CABINET FORWARD PLAN [Item 16]**

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

38/10 **LOCAL COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN [Item 17]**

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

[Meeting Ended: 5.36pm]

Chairman
