

MINUTES: of the meeting of Surrey County Council's Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) held at 14:00 on Monday 20 September 2010 at Reigate Town Hall.

THESE MINUTES REMAIN DRAFT UNTIL FORMALLY APPROVED AT THE 6 DECEMBER 2010 MEETING

Members Present – Surrey County Council

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

Members Present – Reigate and Banstead Borough Council

Cllr Richard Bennett	Cllr Mrs Anna Tarrant
Cllr Brian Cowle	Cllr Richard Wagner (substitute)
Cllr Adam De Save	

PART ONE - IN PUBLIC

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

39/10 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Peter Lambell, Mrs Frances King, Cllr Mark Brunt, Cllr Dr Richard Olliver (Cllr Richard Wagner substitute), Cllr Brian Stead and Cllr Barbara Thomson.

40/10 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS – 21 JUNE 2010 [Item 2]**

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

41/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]**

Item 6 – Cllr Wagner declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of being Chairman of the Governing Body at Banstead Infants School.

Item 7 – Cllr Wagner declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of having supported the trial scheme with discretionary funding.

Item 8 – Cllr Wagner declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of being a member of the Downlands Management Board.

Item 9 – Although not directly affected by the item, Cllr Bennett declared a prejudicial interest in this item by virtue of his business including two children’s nurseries in the county and several nurseries are mentioned in the report, and left the room during its consideration.

42/10 **PETITIONS [Item 4]**

A petition was received from Mrs June Saunders signed by 79 local residents, and parents and staff of Epsom Downs Primary School, requesting the removal of the traffic calming scheme outside Epsom Downs Primary School, and replacing it with a zebra crossing or traffic light crossing.

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

43/10 **FORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]**

Six public questions were received. Written responses are attached as **Appendix A** to the minutes.

44/10 **FORMAL MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 6]**

Cllr Wagner declared a personal interest in this item.

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

[The Chairman agreed to pass on Cllr Wagner’s comments regarding the number of permits to Estates Planning and Management].

45/10 **HIGH ROAD, CHIPSTEAD – EXPERIMENTAL KERB BUILD-OUT AND AND PRIORITY GIVE WAY [Item 7]**

Cllr Wagner declared a personal interest in this item.

Peter Morley, Chairman of Chipstead Residents Association explained the background to the experimental scheme to the Committee, and the Local Highways Manager presented the report.

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

- Concerns were raised regarding the high level of traffic currently using Outwood Lane, and a request for traffic levels to be monitored there was made.

- Concerns were raised regarding the position of the kerb build-out in relation to the access to the Meads car park and rugby club, as it may make egress dangerous. It was noted that the car park entrance/exit had been widened recently.
- The position of the build-out on the southbound lane was queried as it was thought that the average speed of southbound traffic would be greater than that of northbound traffic owing to the nearby junction with Elmore Road. It was suggested that it might be safer to locate the build-out on the other side of the road. However, it was noted that the location had been chosen by safety engineers as the safest site.
- Members wished to know how long the experimental period would last. It was noted that this was dependent on the results of monitoring and reporting to the Local Committee.

The Committee **AGREED** that:

- (i) The kerb build-out and priority give-way working as shown in Annex B to the report submitted be approved for construction.
- (ii) If the scheme needs to be removed on safety or access grounds, the Area Highways Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and local elected Member take appropriate action.

46/10 **DOWNLANDS PROJECT – PRESENTATION [Item 8]**

Cllr Wagner declared a personal interest in this item.

Members received a presentation from Alex Baxter-Brown, Downlands Project Manager, on the work of the project.

47/10 **SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL FUNDING OF VOLUNTARY SECTOR GROUPS IN REIGATE AND BANSTEAD [Item 9]**

Cllr Bennett declared a prejudicial interest in this item and left the room during its consideration.

The Corporate Policy Manager presented the report, and Des Shepherd, Manager of Reigate and Banstead Voluntary Service provided a local perspective on the voluntary, community and faith sector, providing examples such as the establishment of the Merstham Community Facility Trust.

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

- Members noted that there were a number of grants made to pre-schools and nurseries, and questioned why this could not be amalgamated into a single grant, as this would make the process

more efficient. The Corporate Policy Officer highlighted that some grants were for one off projects but agreed to take this suggestion back.

- Clarification was sought as to whether the Village Halls Advisory Post was for Strawson Hall only. It was noted that the Village Halls Advisory Post covered all halls in Reigate and Banstead and Surrey.
- Members noted that sensitivity was required with regard to funding, as there were critical dependencies between organisations. The officer reported that the move from grants to contracts for the Children's Service was complete and that other services had moved some grants to contracts and were exploring different grant programmes. However, some grants will always remain as grants.
- Concerns were raised that there were still some large grants being made when there had been efforts to change all grants to contracts. The officer reported that this was still the aim, although there had been delays in converting some grants to contracts.
- Members requested information on grants made by the Borough Council to voluntary organisations. The officer reported that she would be happy to include Borough and NHS data in future updates, in order to provide a fuller picture.
- Concerns were raised that Age Concern (Merstham, Redhill and Reigate) had not received funding from Surrey County Council even though a large grant had been made to the countywide organisation. The officer agreed to follow this up.

The Committee **NOTED** the report and agreed that future reports would be welcomed.

48/10 **£112,000 CAPITAL BUDGET FOR HIGHWAYS IN 2010/11 [Item 10]**

The Local Highways Manager presented the report.

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

- Clarification was sought as to whether the top 3 schemes in the Local Structural Repairs list in Annex A were the priorities. The Local Highways Manager explained that these were the priorities, but negotiations with the contractors would determine the amount of work carried out.

The Committee **APPROVED** use of the £112,000 capital funds for Reigate and Banstead as set out in Annex A to the report submitted.

49/10 **A242 GATTON PARK ROAD, REDHILL – PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING [Item 11]**

The Local Highways Manager presented the report.

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

- Members welcomed the implementation of this scheme, and thanked officers, the school and its trustees for working so quickly to bring the report to Committee following the petition at the previous meeting.
- Discussion took place around the use of tactile paving for pedestrians and corduroy paving for cyclists. Officers noted that schemes such as this needed to comply with national guidance. Corduroy paving was designed to inform pedestrians and cyclists of the extent of a shared footway, and must be distinct from ordinary tactile paving.

The Committee **AGREED** that the toucan crossing as shown in Annex A to the report submitted be approved for construction.

50/10 **CHILDREN'S CENTRES UPDATE [Item 12]**

The Senior Children's Centre Development Officers tabled a presentation, attached as **Appendix C** to the minutes

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

- Concerns were raised that the Netherne, Hooley, Chipstead and Woodmansterne areas were not covered by a Children's Centre, and it was too far for parents to travel to the centres at Banstead or Epsom Downs. Officers are aware of the gap and reported that Banstead Children's Centre was looking to provide outreach services to these areas; this had been delayed by the need to recruit a new manager. Some families in this area were using the Chipstead Valley Children's Centre in the London Borough of Croydon, and officers had arranged to meet with the Centre Manager there.

The Committee **NOTED** the presentation.

51/10 **SMALL DISADVANTAGED AREAS FUND [Item 13]**

The Area Director presented the report.

The Committee considered both bids submitted and assessed them

using the criteria in Annex A to the report submitted.

The Committee **AGREED** that the bid received from Home Start (Epsom, Ewell and Banstead) be recommended to the Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund Panel for funding.

52/10 **LOCAL COMMITTEE TASK GROUPS TERMS OF REFERENCE 2010/11 [Item 14]**

The Area Director presented the report.

The Committee **APPROVED** the Terms of Reference template annexed to the report submitted, for use by all Local Committee Task Groups during 2010/11.

53/10 **LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING [Item 15]**

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

The Committee:

- (i) **AGREED** the following items submitted for funding from 2010/11 Local Committee delegated revenue budget totalling £28,805.59:

1.	Breech Lane, Walton on the Hill – Changing Rooms	£5,000
2.	Horley Health Walks	£2,404
3.	Alternative Energy Science Workshops for Primary and Secondary School Students	£2,000
4.	Primary Science Workshops – Surrey SATRO	£3,000
5.	Surrey Wildlife Trust – Drive for Volunteering Across Surrey	£2,500
6.	Horley Community Environment Week – Horley Town Council	£200
7.	A242 Gatton Park Road/Croydon Road, Reigate – Signing	£2,520.60
8.	A217 Brighton Road, Lower Kingswood – Local Direction Sign	£728.11
9.	A2022 Fir Tree Road – Warning Sign	£345.36
10.	Park Lane East, Reigate – Verge Hardening	£8,000
11.	A240 Reigate Road, Nork – Local Direction Signs	£844.65
12.	Hazelwood Lane, Chipstead – Pedestrian Warning Signs	£500
13.	Fresh Trax – Internet Access	£762.87

(ii) **AGREED** the item submitted for funding from 2010/11 Local Committee capital budget totalling £10,000:

1. Merstham Cricket Club - Additional Changing Rooms and Refurbishment of Existing Clubhouse to include Disabled Toilets £10,000

(iii) **NOTED** the item submitted for funding from 2010/11 Local Committee delegated revenue budget totalling £1,000 agreed under delegated powers in accordance with the Local Financial Protocol:

1. Downlands Countryside Management Project - purchase of new cattle for Conservation Grazing £1,000

54/10 **CABINET FORWARD PLAN [Item 16]**

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

55/10 **LOCAL COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN [Item 17]**

The Committee **NOTED** the report and **AGREED** the provisional meeting dates for 2010/11:

Formal:

Monday 20 June 2011
Monday 19 September 2011
Monday 5 December 2011
Monday 5 March 2012

All 2.00pm at Reigate Town Hall

Informal (County Members only):

Monday 18 April 2011
Monday 18 July 2011
Monday 31 October 2011
Monday 23 January 2012

All 10.00am at Reigate Town Hall

[Meeting Ended: 4.10pm]

Chairman