

DRAFT

MINUTES: of the meeting of the Surrey County Council Local
Committee held at 10.00 on Friday 16th December 2005 at
the Runnymede Centre, Chertsey

Surrey County Council Members

Mr Terry Dicks - Chairman
Mrs Mary Angell - Vice Chairman
Mrs Carole Jones
Mrs Yvonna Lay
Mr R A N Lowther
Mrs Elise Whiteley

PART ONE - IN PUBLIC

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

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am.

63/05 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

No apologies were received.

64/05 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2005 [Item
2]

The Minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

65/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

No declarations of interest were received.

66/05 PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 4]

Public questions had been received from three members of the public, and these were addressed as follows:

1. Question from Mr Alan Thorogood

"I would like to ask what was done to install the temporary priority system under the 12'3" railway bridge in Trumps Green Road, how was it monitored, was it judged to be a success, and what are the LTS plans for making this a permanent improvement?"

Answer from Surrey County Council's Local Transportation Team

A temporary trial was undertaken in October 05. Staff monitored driver behaviour, conflict and queue lengths. A detailed technical assessment is yet to be completed. A full report will be brought back to this committee in 2006.

Mr Thorogood asked a supplementary question:

“Could a full report on this matter come to the next Local Committee meeting?”

Mr Richard Bolton, Local Transportation Manager for Runnymede, said that he could not guarantee a report for the first meeting of 2006 but he expected to be able to report back at the subsequent Local Committee, and he assured Mr Thorogood that the delay in reporting would not affect the programming of any work.

2. Question from Mr Gordon McCallum

“When will Surrey County Council be doing something to stop illegal motors and vans from using Egham High Street at the wrong times, causing all sorts of problems to those who believe it is "pedestrian" between 11.00 am and 4.00 pm?”

Answer from Surrey County Council's Local Transportation Team

The above restriction was introduced in the early 1990's. The purpose was to make this section of the High Street more pedestrian friendly, whilst still allowing essential vehicle access outside of the core hours to enable serving of the local businesses.

The restriction is fully signed, as described in the Highway Code. There is also a barrier, which prevents vehicles from using the road. For practical reasons it is not locked. There are a number of exceptions (funeral cars, statutory undertakers completing repair works, emergency service vehicles responding to a call etc) but the vast majority of vehicles are prevented from using the road Mon-Sat 11am to 4pm. The Police do have the necessary legal powers to enforce the restriction if they so choose.

Following a previous complaint, an extensive CCTV survey was completed in January 2004. From studying the tapes this revealed a generally good level of compliance. Problems occasionally occur when the gate is left illegally open. Discussions were held with the Police following this survey. As this was investigated relatively recently it is not proposed to use any more resources pursuing this matter.

Mr McCallum asked a supplementary question:

“Have the police been asked to enforce the order by attending Egham High Street during closed periods, as I have never seen them?”

The Chairman explained that the County Council has no powers to deploy police resources. Mrs Jones suggested that Mr McCallum might attend one of the regular police community meetings at which the public can give their views on priorities for policing in the area. Mr Bolton noted that data for 2004 indicated that the police had issued warnings to people using the street during closed periods, and that he had been given assurances that the Police Community Support Officer undertook patrols in the area.

3. Question from Mr & Mrs JH Confrey

“What is being done to protect my wife and myself at Edgell Close, Virginia Water – this year alone there have been five cars through our front fence, and we have asked for a crash barrier but RBC still put back wooden poles that a push bike could knock down, also what is being done about road safety in Stroude Road?”

Answer from Surrey County Council’s Local Transportation Team

“From examining our records, there have been no reported injury accidents at this location in the last three years. There may have been damage only accidents – these are not centrally recorded. It is recommended that Mr Confrey takes this matter up with the Borough Council, who are responsible for the property. With regard to general safety on Stroude Road, Surrey Police recently installed speed monitoring apparatus (5 – 10 December 05). The apparatus was located in the 30mph section, near to the junction with Whitehall Farm Lane. This is thought to be the fastest section of the road, within the 30mph limit. This has revealed that, in common with many roads throughout the country a number of drivers do exceed the posted speed limit. The average 24hr two way traffic flow was 6100 vehicles, travelling at a mean speed of 31.9 mph, and an 85th percentile speed of 37.6 mph. Vehicle speeds were comparable in both directions. The 85th percentile is the speed at which 85% of drivers travel at or below. Stroude Road already benefits from inclusion in the Speed Poster campaign. Posters were last erected in May / June this year and the site will be further visited next year. This is an effective method of reminding drivers that they should not exceed the speed limit, which exists for good reasons. Earlier this year (7 July) Surrey Police, together with Surrey County Council undertook a mobile enforcement education day. This is where speeding drivers are stopped, and educated through a variety of methods to the dangers of driving excessively fast.”

Between the 12-19 September, and then again from the 28 Sept- 11 Oct “SID” (Speed Indicating Device) was placed on the side of Stroude Road near to the junction with Hurst Road (in the 40mph section before the bends). If drivers travel at excess speed it flashes their speed and tells them to slow down. It was also in place on 21 – 29 Nov in the 30mph section, near the junction with Edgell Close.

In addition to all of the above measures Surrey Police do undertake mobile enforcement along Stroude Road and take action against offending drivers.

All injury accidents (which are reported to the Police) are stored on a central database. From analysing this information it is possible to identify accident clusters and trends. Resources can then be targeted to where they will have best effect. In the last three complete year period for which we have records (Oct 02 through to Sept 05) there have been a total of 6 injury accidents on the entire length of Stroude Road, excluding the junction with Sandhills Lane. Due to a recent serious accident, Stroude Road will be raised at an additional Accident Work Group meeting (consisting of Police and County Council road safety Officers) with a view to considering, what, if any improvements can be made. This is scheduled for later this month.

Mr Confrey was not present so no supplementary question was put.

67/05 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 5]

A series of questions had been received from Mrs Whiteley, to which Mr Richard Parkinson had responded:

1. Questions from Mrs Elise Whiteley

“1. Surrey Waste Management say that computers and television sets may be accepted for recycling or safe disposal at Lyne Lane Civic Amenity site. Residents are not confident that this is being implemented as they are told to put computers with the bulk of rubbish, which is removed by waste trucks. Have we an assurance that, with due care for the chemicals involved, computers will be disposed of safely? If not, is the site in Bagshot capable of dealing with this type of waste?”

2. The farmer adjoining Lyne Lane Civic Amenity Site has been concerned, for a very long time, about the detritus from the site, which is blown onto his land. Why are there still holes in the netting and what has been done to protect the farmer from rubbish going on his land? It is about 6 months or more since I asked this question at the County Council.

3. Has the ecopod system of composting commenced at Trumps Farm? If not when will it commence?”

Answer from Mr Richard Parkinson, Operations Group manager, SCC Waste Management

1) Since July of this year, computer monitors and televisions have been classified as hazardous waste and Surrey Waste Management Ltd should be making arrangements for them to be collected separately and sent for specialist recovery. Until now, SWML have relied on the recycling contractors at the civic amenity sites to make these arrangements, however these have not been particularly satisfactory and therefore SWML are making alternative arrangements with specialist contractors to remove these waste from the sites. The service will be available at all civic amenity sites.

Computer processing boxes are not classified as hazardous waste and can be re-used, recycled or disposed of in the normal way.

2) The fencing adjacent to the farmer's land has been inspected and appears to be free of holes. Surrey Waste Management has also changed the way that the site is operated to reduce the possibility of litter blowing from the site. Previously, SWML loaded waste into high sided articulated vehicles however now the waste is loaded into skips placed directly on the ground. This reduces the loading height and therefore the chances of litter blowing over the fence. SWML have also recently demolished a redundant building on the site with the aim of making space for more containers, which can be accessed via steps and gantries. This should reduce or remove the need for bulk loading of waste.

3) The Ecopod trial at Trumps Farm has not started yet but it is hoped to commence early in the New Year.

Mrs Whiteley said that she was grateful for this response, adding that on question 2 she had been informed of an improvement but that there will still one or two holes remaining in the fencing.

68/05 **PETITIONS** [Item 6]

No petitions had been received.

69/05 **BAKEHAM LANE/CALLOW HILL** [Item 7]

Mr Richard Bolton, Local Transportation Manager, provided an update following the petition presented by residents at the Local Committee meeting on September 30th. He noted that injury/accident data for the whole road, including Callow Hill, amounted to fifteen incidents in the last three year period, and also noted that vehicle activated signs and anti-skid surfacing had been installed on Callow Hill in April 2005, along with HGV route signs to discourage lorries from this route. He said that, in light of the advice which applied county-wide, that a reduction in speed limit would not work in isolation where average speeds were in excess of the limit, he could not recommend a change in the speed limit to 30mph and the police were in agreement on this.

Mrs Jones asked if consideration of measures to improve safety for pedestrians on Bakeham Lane could be made in advance of the Members Tour and annual programme decisions. Mr Bolton agreed to undertake a walk of the route before the tour.

RESOLVED

- a) to note the recent works undertaken and the Police commitment to continue undertaking speed enforcement, where it is safe to do so;
- b) to consider Bakeham Lane and Callow Hill at the next Members Tour in 2006 for possible addition to the forward programme of minor improvement schemes;
- c) that the lead petitioners be formally advised of the Committee's decision.

70/05 **BANNED RIGHT TURN IN STATION ROAD ADDLESTONE** [Item 8]

A correction was noted in respect of the name of the new housing development referred to in the report: this is now called Mead Court.

RESOLVED

The Committee agreed:

- a) to the advertising of a Traffic Regulation Order, to introduce the No Right Turn restrictions from Station Road into and out of Mead Court, as shown in drawing no. JB333 (at Annex 1);

b) that the Local Transportation Manager be authorised, following consultation with the Chairman and Divisional Member, to consider and if possible resolve any objections received and to make the order.

71/05 BROX ROAD SPEED MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION [Item 9]

Mr Richard Bolton introduced the report and his recommendation to introduce a thirty minute waiting restriction. Mr Dicks and Mr Lowther commented on the extent of lorry traffic in Brox Road, and the difficulties for emergency vehicles in passing along the road at times.

RESOLVED

The Committee agreed to:

- a) the advertising of an order for the introduction of limited waiting 30 minutes with no return for 2 hours Mon-Sat 0800-1800 hours, no waiting Mon-Sat 0800-1800 and mandatory disabled parking bays (3 hour limit), as depicted on drawings 4646-01 and 4646-02 (Annexes 2 and 3);
- b) that the Local Transportation Manager be authorised, following consultation with the Chairman and divisional Member, to consider and if possible resolve any objections received and to make the order.

72/05 IN TOWN WITHOUT MY CAR (Item 10)

The Chairman reminded members of his previous opposition to the concept of ITWMC when it was agreed to proceed at a meeting of the Local Committee on March 11th 2005. He noted that he had not been informed of the date or likely costs in advance of the event, and had been concerned to find the transportation office unstaffed on the day of the event. Other members agreed that they did not wish to see a repetition of the event as it was not perceived to be an efficient use of resources. It was suggested that an alternative campaign to encourage students to cycle more could be effective in reducing congestion at least in Egham and Englefield Green.

A unanimous vote rejected the officer recommendation in the report. The Chairman's alternative motion was agreed.

RESOLVED

That the Committee does not support In Town Without My Car Day in the future, but will continue to support other initiatives subject to their content.

73/05 UPDATE OF LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMME [Item 11]

This report was for information only. Mrs Jones asked for an update on the feasibility study for a crossing in St Jude's Road Englefield Green, and Mrs Lay asked if action could be taken to enforce the yellow lines outside Thorpe Lea Primary school in Egham Hythe.

74/05 **MEMBERS' INDIVIDUAL FUNDING ALLOCATION** [Item 12]

Mr Lowther said he was pleased that a reduction in the traffic management costs for Black Cherry Fair had been achieved following contact with Ringway.

Mrs Whiteley asked to be consulted about the design and positioning of the Ottershaw village signs.

RESOLVED

to approve the proposed expenditure from the Members' allocations budget as at Annexe 1.

[Meeting ended 10.45 am]

Chairman's signature