

DRAFT MINUTES: of the meeting of the Surrey County Council Local Committee held at 2.30pm on Monday 17 September 2012 at the RBC Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Addlestone.

Surrey County Council Members

Mr Mel Few
Mr John Furey
Miss Marisa Heath
Mrs Yvonna Lay (Vice Chairman)
Mr Chris Norman (Chairman)
Mrs Mary Angell

Runnymede Borough Council appointed members

Councillor P. Roberts
Councillor A Alderson (apologies)
Councillor T. Dicks
Councillor D. Cotty
Councillor R. Edis
Councillor P. Tuley
Councillor D Knight (substitute)

PART ONE - IN PUBLIC

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

30/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Mary Angell and Councillor Alan Alderson, and Cllr David Knight attended as substitute. Mrs Angell arrived during Item 7.

31/12 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 18 JUNE 2012 [Item 2]

The minutes were approved and signed with one correction to the resolution at Item 9 to include "and that the parking scheme should be rejected".

32/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

Cllr David Knight declared a pecuniary interest, with particular reference to Item 9 Flood Risk Management Strategy, as a paid employee of Thames Water.

33/12 WRITTEN MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 4]

None received.

34/12 PETITIONS [Item 5]

None received.

35/12 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 6]

One written question had been received:

Question from Mr Raj Shourie of Coopers Hill Lane, Englefield Green

Can Surrey Highways please explain why they do not consider the following: "to remove extraneous traffic from an unadopted highway that has no provision for through traffic and no proper turning facilities, to help preserve the fabric of the unadopted highway and to promote the safety of pedestrians cyclists and equestrians using the lane" to be a satisfactory highways basis for inclusion in the report at Item 8, on the matter of Coopers Hill Lane?

[I have consistently posed the quoted highways justification as the basis for the proposed Traffic Regulation Order in emails to SCC Highways over the last few months, and to date have received no substantive response].

The chairman gave the following response with advice from Surrey Highways:

Extraneous traffic is not considered to be a significant issue at the location and the very limited number of additional vehicles that may travel along the unmade section of the lane (east of Kingswood Hall of Residence) are highly unlikely to cause accelerated deterioration of its condition.

36/12 HIGHWAYS UPDATE REPORT [Item 7]

Area Highways Manager Andrew Milne introduced the report, noting that the A30/St Judes Road traffic junction proposed pedestrian crossing was awaiting further survey work in early October before recommendations could be put to the Committee. He advised members that the Local Structural Repair (LSR) schemes agreed previously would be undertaken in January 2013. He asked that members delegate the decision to undertake further LSR work as detailed at Annex 1, as a contingency in case planned capital schemes could not be delivered within the financial year.

Members noted that pedestrian surveys at the A30 crossroads were of key importance, and suggested that Royal Holloway College might be asked to contribute to any works there, as well as suggesting that engineers make use of CCTV footage (from Safer Runnymede) of the junction in modelling impacts. Members asked for a more detailed breakdown of costs, especially where schemes had been completed, and dates for delivery. It was noted that more detail was available in a spreadsheet now sent to the Local Committee chairman, who agreed to circulate this.

RESOLVED

- i) to note the progress with the ITS highways and developer funded schemes;
- ii) to note that a further Highways Update report is to be brought back to the next meeting of this Committee;
- iii) the proposed contingency plans for ITS capital funding, and authorised the NW Area Team Manager together with the chairman and vice-chairman of this Committee to agree any additional actions that may be required to ensure the budget is fully utilised.

37/12 COOPERS HILL LANE ENGLEFIELD GREEN: PROHIBITION OF MOTOR VEHICLES [Item 8]

Mr Andrew Milne advised the Committee that, following its decision on 18/6/12 to approve installation of a gate across the highway in Coopers Hill Lane, it had been discovered that there was no legal basis for this decision as the assumed Traffic Regulation Order had been revoked by the Borough Council in the 1980s but road signs remained in place. He advised that there was no legal basis for proceeding to advertise a new order because of no public benefit. Whilst the owner of Grand View, who was prepared to meet the costs, had cited the prevention of fly tipping as a reason, Runnymede Borough Council had recorded only one incidence at the location in recent years and did not support installation of a gate. Further, there was a risk of legal challenge if an order was made and a decision in favour could set a precedent in other parts of the county.

Members expressed regret that the owner of Grand View had been kept waiting for a year to receive a definitive answer, and felt it was unfortunate that mistakes had been made. They also recognised that any public consultation on an order may well prompt opposition, and that the risk of creating a precedent in other areas was real.

RESOLVED

To revoke the Local Committee resolution made on 18 June 2012 and decide that the gate should no longer be installed since it has now been established that advice previously provided to the Local Committee was inaccurate, and there is actually no existing legal basis on which the gate can be installed.

38/12 SURREY LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY [Item 9]

Ms Deborah Fox introduced the report, noting that the draft Flood Risk Management Strategy was about to be published on the county council's website (www.surreycc.gov.uk/consultations) with consultation open until 30 November. She said that recent legislation required a joint-up approach across all authorities responsible for dealing with flooding of all types, including surface water floods. She noted that in preparing the document there had been a willingness to work together on the part of all agencies, and that the final draft represented a set of ambitions for the future.

Members asked about the annual programme for tackling "wetspots" (included in the strategy document), the Government's approach to insurance of properties vulnerable to flooding, and the possibility of Environment Agency assistance with making homes more flood resilient. They also asked that Ms Fox clarify with the Partnership Board the question of how much Government funding was allocated to Surrey for flood prevention. It was noted that the Emergency Management team had organised a workshop for local communities to discuss planning for a flood, to be held in the Runnymede Centre on 24/11/12.

39/12 ANNUAL REPORT: RUNNYMEDE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP [Item 10]

Ms Sylvia Carter (Community Partnerships and Committee Officer) introduced the report, noting that the Partnership had much reduced funding for 2012-13 following the cessation of Home Office grant via Surrey County Council, and that the county contribution of £3,160 had been delegated at the last meeting of the Committee. Commander Roger Nield (Surrey Police) commented on the major implications arising from the election of a Police Crime Commissioner due in November 2012, which would be scrutinised by the Surrey Police and Crime Panel, for which Councillor Terry Dicks had been designated as the local representative. He advised the Committee that there had been fewer victims of crime in Runnymede in the year to date when compared with the previous year, and that all aspects of the Olympics had proceeded safely in the borough.

Members asked about community speedwatch, traffic congestion, domestic abuse, inconsiderate cyclists using pavements, the current crime detection rate, and the importance of delivering the Troubled Families programme (a national initiative) at local level – Mrs Angell requested a briefing on the latter and suggested that it should be included within the Partnership Plan for 2012-13. Mr Furey requested that a summary of the Police Crime Commissioner candidates for the county be circulated.

The report was noted.

40/12 **FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT** [Item 11]

Mr Paul Kenny (Group Manager, Surrey Fire & Rescue Service) presented the report. He highlighted the low level of fire incidents within the borough, ongoing work undertaken with Age UK to target vulnerable residents, a recent resilience exercise, and youth initiatives such as Junior Citizen and Firefighter for a Day. He undertook to ensure members received details of the Safe Drive Stay Alive performance at Strodes College, Egham.

Members noted the report.

41/12 **LOCAL PREVENTION COMMISSIONING 2012-13** [Item 12]

Mr Leigh Middleton asked members to consider the proposed new timescale for the Local Prevention Framework contract, as included at Annex A. He confirmed that the Youth Task Group had reviewed this and recommended an extension of the contract, to allow sufficient time to procure the next round.

RESOLVED

to extend the Local Prevention contract for five months to 31 August 2013 **from its existing end date of April 2013;**

ii) to extend the remit of the Youth Task Group to constitute up until the first Local Committee of the municipal year;

iii) to delegate the ability to appoint members to the Task Group to the Assistant Director for Young People in consultation with the chairman and vice chairman of the Local Committee to replace any members who are no longer councillors following the elections.

42/12 **GOODS VEHICLE OPERATING LICENCES** [Item 13]

Members noted the report. Mr Furey asked for more background information on the applicants' capacity to accommodate vehicles on site, when the application is sent for members' comments.

43/12 **UPDATE: AGGREGATES RECYCLING JOINT DPD** [Item 14]

[Miss Marisa Heath left the room for this item, having declared an interest as Chairman of the Planning & Regulatory Committee.]

Mr Les Andrews (Policy Manager) explained that the DPD formed the final part of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework, and that the Examination in Public of the Aggregates Recycling DPD was still in progress. The Inspector had asked the county council to make modifications to ensure that the Plan was compliant with the national Planning Policy Framework, including the environmental report. Members had a number of questions on the report including at 2.6, where the meaning of "potential permanent sites" was queried. Mr Andrews replied that the word "potential" was used because not all sites would have a developer come forward with an application, but where they did they could become permanent. He added that the site at Whitehall Farm, Egham, was being deleted because the potential operator at that site had indicated they were not interested in developing it as an aggregates recycling location, although at adjacent Milton Park they were. He said that in the case of Hamm Court, the developer had not indicated their view. He reminded members that the DPD states that no recycling operation may persist after the mineral workings at a site have concluded. He added that all parties had had an opportunity to comment on the selection of sites during the Examination in Public.

[Miss Marisa Heath returned to the Chamber, Mr Furey left].

44/12 **MEMBER ALLOCATION FUNDING** [Item 15]

RESOLVED

- (i) all the items presented for funding from the Local Committee's revenue and capital funding as set out in paragraph 2 (2.1 to 2.7) of the report;
- ii) to note the expenditure approved since the last Committee by the Community Partnerships Manager and Team Leader under delegated powers, as set out in paragraph 3 (3.1 to 3.5)

45/12 **FORWARD PROGRAMME** [Item 16]

RESOLVED

to agree the Forward Plan contained in the report.

46/12 **LOCAL UPDATES: FOR INFORMATION** [Item 17]

The information items were noted.

[Meeting ended at 17:15]

Chairman's signature _____