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## SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007 at St David's Church Parish Centre, Everest Road, Stanwell.

### County Council Members:

Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos\* (Chairman)  
Mr Victor Agarwal\*  
Mr Ian Beardsmore\*  
Mr Laurie Burrell  
Mrs Carol Coleman\*  
Mr Frank Davies\*  
Mrs Denise Turner

### Borough Council Members:

Councillor Gerald Forsbrey\*  
Councillor Vivienne Leighton\*  
Councillor Jack Pinkerton\*  
Councillor Robin Sider\*  
Councillor Richard Smith-Ainsley  
Councillor Caroline Spencer\*  
Councillor George Trussler\*

\* = present

(All references to items refer to the Agenda for the meeting)

### 01/07 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN (Item 1)

The Committee noted the appointment of Mrs Saliagopoulos and Mrs Coleman as Chairman and Vice Chairman for the 2007/08 municipal year.

### 02/07 WELCOME SPELTHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (ITEM 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Burrell, Councillor Grant, Councillor Packman and Mrs Turner.

Councillor Spencer substituted at the meeting for Councillor Grant and Councillor Leighton substituted at the meeting for Councillor Packman.

### 03/07 MINUTES (ITEM 3)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2007 were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

# DRAFT

## **04/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ITEM 4)**

Mrs Coleman declared a personal interest in Item 11 (application for funding to the Colne Valley Partnership), as she was a member of the Colne Valley Partnership.

## **05/07 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Item 5)**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

1. Leigh Middleton, Youth Development Officer for Spelthorne, was welcomed to the meeting.
2. That the report on Community Safety (Item 12) would be asking the Committee to transfer £24,000 to the Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership.
3. That a motion had been received from Spelthorne Borough Council on transportation matters. The issues raised in the motion would be discussed at the Highways seminar on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2007, which is being organised by David Munro.
4. An additional £100,000 funding had been allocated to Spelthorne for street scene improvements. Annette Williamson confirmed that this funding would focus on patching, road markings, weed control and trees.
5. That there was no update available at the time of this meeting on the closures of the post offices in Spelthorne.

## **06/07 PETITIONS (ITEM 6)**

The following four petitions were received and presented to the Committee:

1. Auger Close/Richmond Road, Staines – Opposition to proposed waiting restrictions.
2. Windmill Green, Shepperton – Request for Maintenance of Private Road.
3. Stanwell Road, Ashford - Criminal Damage to Cars and Traffic.
4. Grant Close and Manor Farm Avenue, Shepperton - Opposition to proposed waiting restrictions.

## **07/07 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME (ITEM 7)**

Six Members questions were received as set out in the annex attached together with the answers given.

## **08/07 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (ITEM 8)**

Three public questions were received as set out in the annex

# DRAFT

attached together with the answers given.

## **09/07 LOCAL COMMITTEE PROTOCOL (ITEM 9)**

### **Resolved:**

To agree the Local Protocol as set out in Appendix A to the report.

## **10/07 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES (ITEM 10)**

The Committee noted that the DPE Task Group was now to be known as the On-Street Parking Partnership.

### **Resolved:**

That membership of the outside bodies and task groups remain the same as that for 2006/07. It was agreed that the appointment to the Health and Social Care Partnership would be made outside of the Committee meeting.

## **11/07 MEMBERS FUNDS (ITEM 11)**

### **Resolved:**

1. To (i) Approve the criteria in Annex A for the use of funds (ii) approve the use of delegated authority to the Area Director in consultation with the Chairman (or Vice Chairman if the Chairman's monies are being proposed for spend) (iii) adopt the guidance note in Annex B.
2. To note the funding approved under delegated authority in the last financial year 2006/07.
3. To note the funding approved under delegated authority.
4. To approve the application for funding of £1770 for advertisements to publicise the Local Committee the cost of which would be shared between the County Councillors as set out in the report.
5. To approve the application for funding of £850 for SCC Children's Services the cost of which would be shared between the revenue funds of Mr Agarwal, Mr Beardsmore, Mrs Coleman, Mr Davies and Mrs Saliagopoulos. It was agreed that Mr Burrell and Mrs Turner would also be invited to contribute.
6. To approve the application for funding of £196 for Spelthorne Children with Disabilities the cost of which would be shared between the revenue funds of Mr Agarwal, Mr Beardsmore, Mrs Coleman, Mr Davies and Mrs Saliagopoulos. It was agreed that Mr Burrell and Mrs Turner would also be invited to contribute.
7. To approve the application for funding of £3000 to the Colne Valley Partnership. The cost of the funding would be shared between the revenue funds of Mr Beardsmore, Mrs Coleman, Mr Davies and Mrs Saliagopolous. It was agreed

## **DRAFT**

- that Mr Burrell and Mrs Turner would also be invited to contribute.
8. To approve the funding of £3000 for an interactive whiteboard at Thamesmead School from the revenue fund of Mr Burrell.
  9. To approve the funding of £3201.75 for a security gate at Littleton C of E School to be funded from the revenue fund of Mr Burrell.
  10. To approve the funding of £2000 for a mannequin and helmets for Surrey Air Ambulance the cost of which would be shared by Mr Agarwal, Mr Beardsmore, Mrs Coleman, Mr Davies and Mrs Saliagopoulos. It was agreed that Mr Burrell and Mrs Turner would also be invited to contribute.
  11. To approve the funding of £4000 towards the roof repairs at Staines Congregational Church, to be funded from the capital fund.
  12. To defer consideration of the application for £5634 for wet room facilities in the Bradbury Centre to the October Committee.
  13. To approve the funding of £6156.18 to the Ashford Congregational Church from the capital fund.

### **12/07 COMMUNITY SAFETY (ITEM 12)**

#### **Resolved:**

1. That the budget of £24,000 devolved to the Local Committee for community safety would be transferred to the Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership to be spent to further the work of the Partnership, £12,000 of this funding specifically ring-fenced to fund work to reduce the incidence of domestic abuse.
2. That the activities of the Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership in 2006/07 and plans for 2007/08 would be noted.

### **13/07 POLICING IN SPELTHORNE – PRESENTATION (ITEM 13)**

The Committee received a presentation on policing in Spelthorne from Steve Rodhouse, Divisional Commander.

Various issues were discussed during this presentation including, for example, Neighbourhood Policing and police activity in the local area.

### **14/07 LIBRARIES STAFFING REVIEW (ITEM 14)**

The Libraries Area Manager introduced the report and it was explained that the staffing review was currently taking place on a countywide basis and has addressed the issue of inconsistent opening hours.

## **DRAFT**

The Libraries Area Manager agreed to consider alternative names for the three Groups of Libraries on the basis that the currently proposed names do not adequately describe the Spelthorne structure.

### **Resolved:**

1. Support the approach of seeking improvements to opening hours and services through efficiency gains from Self-service new technology.
2. Support the proposed new Group Structure – three Groups of Libraries, A ('Town' Centre), B ('District' Centre) and C ('Local' Centre), with a geographical/strategic approach.
3. Support the resulting improvements in opening hours in Libraries in Spelthorne.

**15/07**

### **ALLEGED PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY BETWEEN CHESNUT MANOR CLOSE AND KINGSTON ROAD, STAINES (ITEM 15)**

The Committee confirmed that the public would be made aware of the method by which they can object to the order should they wish.

### **Resolved:**

1. A Map Modification Order be made under Section 53 and 57 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to modify the Definitive Map and Statement to include that part of the route shown E-F on drawing 3/1/85/H21. The route shall be known as Public Footpath 67 (Staines).
2. If objections are maintained the Order be submitted to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for confirmation.
3. No public footpath rights are recognised over the route A-B-C-D-E on drawing 3/1/85/H21 and that the request for a MMO order under sections 53 and 57 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to modify the Definitive Map and Statement is not approved. The applicant should be so informed.
4. In the event of the County Council being directed to make a MMO over A-E by the Secretary of State following an appeal by the claimants, the County Council as surveying authority will adopt a neutral stance at any public inquiry, making all evidence available to help the inspector to determine the case.

**16/07**

### **CHANGE IN ORDER OF AGENDA BUSINESS**

The Chairman proposed that the order of the Agenda be changed to allow Agenda Item 18 to be taken next.

# DRAFT

**Resolved:**

The Committee agreed to this proposal. .

17/07

**MANOR LANE, SUNBURY – SPEED REDUCING MEASURES  
(ITEM 18)**

The Committee adjourned the meeting between 9.05pm and 9.08pm to allow a member of the public to speak to this item as set out in the Local Committee Protocol.

**Resolved:**

1. The resolution of 19 June 2006 to introduce traffic calming measures along Manor Lane be rescinded; and
2. Two speed-activated signs be installed in 2007/08 on Manor Lane as part of a six monthly rotating programme within Spelthorne.

18/07

**PROPOSED CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE FOR STAINES  
(ITEM 16)**

The Local Highways Manager reiterated that the intention of this report was only to seek approval to informally consult on a proposed Controlled Parking Zone for Staines. It was also confirmed that the informal consultation was to be funded from previous funds made available by the County and Borough Councils.

**Resolved:**

1. Residents and businesses in the proposed area of Staines, as displayed at the meeting, are consulted informally on the introduction of Controlled Parking, comprising eight zones, prior to formal consultation being carried out by Public Notice;
2. Residents and businesses are consulted on the following issues:
  - (a) the days of operation of the zones, either Monday to Friday, Monday to Saturday or Monday to Sunday;
  - (b) the proposed cost of Residents' Permits at £20 for the first household permit, £40 for the second, £100 for the third and £150 for the fourth and Business Permits at £50 for the first permit and £100 for subsequent permits;
  - (c) Visitors' Permits, available for residents to purchase, at a cost of 50p per daily permit. Permits issued free of charge to residents over 60 or on receipt of higher rate disability living allowance;
  - (d) pay & display costs would mirror car park charges, currently 80p per hour, £5.50 per day;
3. The informal stage of public consultation is funded on a

# DRAFT

50:50 basis between County and Borough, using the remaining funds that were made available during 2006/2007; and

4. The outcome of the informal consultation with residents and businesses is reported back to this Committee.

## **19/07 CHRISTMAS PARK & RIDE (STAINES) (ITEM 17)**

### **Resolved:**

The Committee agreed the provision of the service for 2007.

## **20/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING (ITEM 19)**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at St David's School, Ashford.

The meeting which commenced at 7pm ended at 9.25pm

Chairman.....

# **DRAFT**

## **Annex to the Minutes of the SCC Local Committee in Spelthorne held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007**

### **AGENDA ITEM 7**

#### **MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

##### **Councillor Sider asked the following question:**

Item 16 of the Local Committee ( Spelthorne) agenda dated 11 December 2006 was a report regarding the proposed implementation of a shared bus stop / taxi rank at Thames Street, Staines. Para 2.2 of this report stated that Surrey CC were currently seeking advice from Government of the South East ( GOSE ) regarding the combined bus stop clearway and taxi rank. Para 3.3 informed Members that consultation was underway with GOSE and that their advice was awaited. Can the Local Transportation Manager inform me as Chairman of Spelthorne Borough Council Licensing Committee why some 6 months has now elapsed with no information forthcoming, and can I also be informed of the reasons why there has been such an inexplicable delay.

##### **The Local Transportation Manager gave the following answer:**

The advice of the Government Office for the South East (GOSE) for the shared use of the layby adjacent to Debenhams on Thames Street as a bus stop and taxi rank was sought on 10 November 2006 and their response was received on 18 April. GOSE have confirmed that the proposed markings do not conform to the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions and that the matter needs to be addressed. They suggested some alterations and stated that if the adjustments were acceptable to SCC, we could apply formally to enable them to proceed with the authorisation. I propose to make this application during the next few working days.

##### **Mrs Coleman asked the following question:**

“A petition regarding road safety in Fordbridge Road, Ashford, was brought to the 10th October 2005 meeting of this committee. Other petitions that were brought to this committee after that time have resulted in reports presented to this committee. I do not recall a report from the Fordbridge Road petition coming to this committee.

Could we please be informed what actions have been or will be taken in response to the petition, and if a report has been or will be presented to this committee?”

##### **The Local Transportation Manager gave the following answer:**

A report will be brought to the next meeting of the Local Committee in October.



# DRAFT

## **Mrs Coleman asked the following question:**

“The pedestrian lights on the pelican crossing on Church Road by St Matthew's Church show a steady green man for 7 seconds, followed by a flashing green man of 10 seconds. The pedestrian lights over Church Road by the memorial at Fordbridge Road show a green man pedestrian light for 7 seconds, followed by no green man for 3 seconds, however there is a waiting place in the middle of the road to enable pedestrians to cross the road in two stages, if they need more time. For your information, the sequence of lights is different for pelican crossings and junctions controlled by traffic lights. I will spend some time at this junction and contact you again.

This is the reply from the Local Transportation Manager on 13th April 2006, to concerns raised at the Ashford Police Panel meeting of 5th April 2006, about this crossing, and that there is not enough time for elderly or infirm people to cross safely. Despite this item being on the minutes of every police panel meeting since then, and numerous reminders sent to them, no reply has been received from the Transportation Office, and concerns are growing regarding this crossing.

Can this crossing be looked at as a matter of urgency to see if the pedestrian crossing time can be altered to allow more time to cross safely, or whether other measures can be taken i.e. a waiting place installed on this crossing?”

## **The Local Transportation Manager gave the following answer:**

The pedestrian lights have been reviewed and the pedestrian crossing time could be extended. To make the alteration a new data chip would be required, at a cost of about £2,000, which could be funded from the Safe Routes to Schools Allocation.

## **Mrs Coleman asked the following question:**

“The main Post Office in Ashford will be closing on 26th June, with no replacement as yet. Staines Post office will be closing, but will be relocated in a store in Staines High Street. The alternatives for Ashford residents do not offer all the services of the main post offices, and the nearest main office will be in Sunbury or Staines, a bus ride away for those without cars, and difficult for those using mobility scooters. The alternative sub post offices in Ashford may not be easily accessible for those who are elderly or infirm. I am concerned that the Post Office is not doing everything possible to find a replacement in Church Road, Ashford for a main Post Office.

What can Surrey County Council and Spelthorne Borough Council do to support our main Post Offices in Spelthorne, and ensure that each community has one?”

## **DRAFT**

### **The Area Director gave the following answer:**

The Post Office wrote to Surrey County Council on 20th June in relation to the Post Office at Church Road, Ashford to advise that following the resignation of the existing staff and despite best efforts, there was some difficulty in maintaining a post office counter service and that the Post Office would have to temporarily close this branch on 26th June. The letter advises that the Post Office will continue to work hard to restore services in the area as soon as possible.

The Local Committee is very concerned at the temporary closure of this Post Office and the inconvenience caused for many local people, and particularly for those who find it hard to get to post offices at a distance, such as older people, disabled people and people with small children.

The Local Committee will convey its concerns firmly to the Post Office and ask them to continue best endeavours to re-open the Post Office as soon as possible.

### **Councillor Sider asked the following question:**

“Further to his reply to my question at the Local Committee meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006, and with the increasing anti social behaviour in Shepperton, of which Surrey County Council and its relevant partners are aware, can the County Council Youth Development Officer inform me whether the Youth Development Service Team in Spelthorne, having identified the resources to recruit three new part time workers for Shepperton Youth Development Centre as stated in his reply, and having commenced a recruitment campaign in January 2007, with interviews planned for the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March respectively, and thereafter CRB checks, concluding that they would not commence employment until after Easter, can he inform me whether they are now in post, and if not, the reasons why?”

### **The Youth Development Officer gave the following answer:**

Firstly can I introduce myself, I am Leigh Middleton, and I have taken over from Gavin Kitchen as the Youth Development Officer for Spelthorne. I am pleased to be able to inform the committee that we are making substantial progress with our Shepperton youth provision.

We now have in post our Team Leader (Victoria Dickson) for Shepperton. Victoria is currently in the middle of her initial induction training and will be starting to develop our work in this area. I am aware that some initial detached work will be carried out over the summer period. The service has also employed two additional staff; both will be based at Shepperton once CRB clearances are received. I anticipate this process taking a further 6-8 weeks. Once these members of staff are in post we will be able to open two 13-19yrs sessions in the evenings at Shepperton. This is in addition to “The Junction

## **DRAFT**

Club” delivered to under 14’s on alternative Friday evenings, in partnership with a local church.

I can also report that from September two Specialist Youth Provisions will be delivered from Shepperton. This will result in Shepperton being in full use by young people on 4 nights of the week. In addition to the regular youth clubs offered, Shepperton also hosts two ‘daytime’ school projects delivered by my team.

We have also been working hard on planning our summer provision and this work will expand for 2007. We will deliver a U-Project (a targeted project aimed at 15-16yr old school leavers to support them into the next phase of adulthood) and our regular Summer Scheme is being expanded to include Shepperton for two full weeks.

### **Mr Burrell asked the following question:**

“Can the Local Transport Manager update the Spelthorne Local Committee on the current proposals and plans to maintain the road surface in Walton Bridge Road, and the approaches to Walton Bridge from Spelthorne. Due to the high volumes of traffic that uses this road serious deterioration has arisen to the carriageway, which needs urgent attention?”

### **The Local Transportation Manager gave the following answer:**

All A, B and C class roads are surveyed annually together with 25% of the unclassified road network. Roads in need of repair are assessed according to their condition data, the number of defects that have occurred and local knowledge and the rolling programme of major maintenance is prioritised and updated annually.

Base repairs and resurfacing along Walton Bridge Road between its junctions with Marshalls Roundabout and Walton Bridge, including the approaches to the Bridge, are currently programmed to be carried out during 2011. Members may know that priorities can change and it is possible that this date will alter. Remedial works will be carried out in the meantime.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8**

### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

#### **Councillor Nichols asked the following question:**

“What does Surrey County Council consider acceptable an road surface quality for its designated Safe Routes to School bearing in mind that potholes present an increased risk to bikers? We have a 'Safe Route' in Lower Sunbury with sections that are uneven and with significant potholes - notably parts of

## **DRAFT**

Green Street and Manor Lane. The latter has a section which needs complete resurfacing: when will this be done?"

### **The Local Transportation Manager gave the following answer:**

The specification for road surface quality along a Safe Route to School does not differ from other routes. A works order is in place to fill about six potholes on Manor Lane between No. 28 and The Avenue and also around the entrance to Chennestone School. There are no outstanding orders for Green Street, except for a missing kerbstone at its junction with Manor Lane but it is currently programmed to be surface dressed during 2008. This programme could alter.

Defects on the highway should be reported through the Call Centre on 08456 009 009 or through the SCC website.

### **Mr Paul Freyne asked the following question:**

"I live at 101, Staines Road East, in Sunbury. This part of Staines Road east is set back from the main road and is situated on a narrow road which is just wide enough for two cars to pass each other.

I have lived here for five years and as soon as I moved in I became aware of people parking opposite my driveway and that of 103 and 99, and therefore blocking us in as the road is so narrow. At that time most of the problem was caused on race days at Kempton, but they were very helpful and soon started to put cones opposite our driveways and race days have not been a problem since.

However, over the past few months the parking problem has become a lot worse due to several close by businesses getting a lot busier. From 7am to 5pm weekdays we have customers from Travis Perkins Builders Merchants parking opposite our driveways for up to an hour at a time, as we are only four doors from their site. Then in evenings and all afternoon at weekends we have customers from The Grey Horse pub doing the same. The pub is just a few doors past Travis Perkins and these people can leave their cars there for up to 4 hours, or overnight if they get too drunk to drive home.

We also get people parking over our driveway on a Thursday all morning and up to 3pm for Kempton Park Thursday market. This is not run by Kempton Park and the market owners are not willing to help local residents with parking problems. Kempton also has other events occasionally at weekends, which do cause us problems too, but they will only put cones down on racedays.

We also have a church seven doors to the left of us and Sundays morning can be chaos between 10am and 11.30am when they arrive for morning service and again park opposite our driveway. The church has advised their attendees not to do this, but someone is always late and does it anyway.

## **DRAFT**

I would like to ask you how we get yellow lines put down to stop this happening as there are plenty of parking spaces just a few yards on from us and this will take away all our misery?"

### **The Local Transportation Manager gave the following reply:**

The process to request the provision or alteration of yellow lines is that a list is compiled of all requests that are assessed annually against the objectives of the Local Transport Plan of reducing congestion, improving access, safety, the environment and their practicality of enforcement. The locations with the highest priority are then processed through the public notice procedure for Traffic Regulation Orders.

### **Councillor Weston asked the following question:**

"A pothole is reported to SCC and then some months later (I don't know the timescale on this) a white mark is drawn around the hole. Many months later the pot hole is filled. By this time more potholes have appeared but only the pothole that has been reported in the first instance is filled. If there is always going to be many months between marking the hole and actually filled in, can not someone check the road and ensure that any further holes that have since appeared, be filled at the same time.

If this cannot be done may I suggest that the work is carried out far quicker than is happening at present?"

### **The Local Transportation Manager gave the following answer:**

Under the current system the gang will only fill the potholes that are listed on their worksheet, as the material they carry is sufficient to only remedy those on the list. We are working with the Constructor to improve the communication on this work so that the gang can work more effectively.