

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at Spelthorne Borough Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines.**

**County Council Members:**

**Mrs Denise Turner-Stewart (Chairman)\***  
**Mr Victor Agarwal\***  
**Mr Ian Beardsmore\***  
**Mrs Carol Coleman\***  
**Mrs Caroline Nichols\***  
**Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos**  
**Mr Richard Walsh\***

**Borough Council Members:**

**Councillor Denise Grant**  
**Councillor Gerry Forsbrey\***  
**Councillor John Packman**  
**Councillor Jack Pinkerton\***  
**Councillor Robin Sider\***  
**Councillor Richard Smith-Ainsley\***  
**Councillor George Trussler\***

**\* = present**

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

**The Chairman made the following announcements:**

**i)** This is the last local committee meeting for Highways Manager Annette Williamson, as she is leaving Highways on 19<sup>th</sup> November, after 20 years service – 12 with Spelthorne Borough Council and 8 with Surrey County Council.

The Acting Area Team Manager is Michelle Armstrong. She will attend Spelthorne Local Committee meetings until a permanent replacement is appointed.

I'd like to thank Annette for all her contributions to this Local Committee.

**ii)** It is with great sadness that I have to inform you of the sudden death of Trevor Baker, on the evening of 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Trevor was Spelthorne Borough Council's Principal Committee Manager and had recently notched up 40 years of service with the Council. He was only 61 years old.

Trevor was known not just to staff and councillors, but to the community at large as he met countless people in his role - he

attended over 2,000 council committee meetings serving on almost every one.

He leaves a wife, daughter and two grandchildren. Our thoughts are with his family and friends. We will now have a moment's silence for Trevor."

**69/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (ITEM 1)**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Saliagopoulos, Councillor Packman and Councillor Grant.

**70/10 MINUTES (ITEM 2)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Chairman made the following statement to update Members about Clockhouse Lane:

"This Local Committee has made available £30,000 from the Members' Revenue Budget 2010 / 2011 to jointly fund with the London Borough of Hounslow the design of the pedestrian / cycle bridge over the railway at Clockhouse Lane.

Hounslow has advised that tender documents for the outline and detailed design are ready to be sent to prospective consultants. Tenders are to be received by 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010 with a view to award the contract and commission the consultant by 17<sup>th</sup> December. The outline and detailed design are programmed for completion by 25<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

Discussions are on-going regarding the introduction of a southbound 7.5 tonne weight restriction; however, Hounslow remains concerned about the impact the restriction would have on their road network. A Spelthorne and Hounslow meeting of Members and Officers is arranged for later this week."

**71/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ITEM 3)**

The SCC Area Director read the following statement:

"Please be aware that at its meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2010, the Standards Committee of Surrey County Council agreed Dispensations to the following appointed members and substitutes to speak and vote at any meeting of Surrey County Council's Spelthorne Local Committee in relation to Airtrack and the Heathrow Airtrack Order for a period of two years:

Cllrs Leighton, Jaffer, Forsbrey, Grant, Trussler, Napper and Beardsmore.

Under authority delegated to Ann Charlton as Monitoring Officer of the County Council, agreed by the Standards Committee, Cllr

Nichols has also been granted Dispensation to speak and vote at any meeting of Surrey County Council's Spelthorne Local Committee in relation to Airtrack and the Heathrow Airtrack Order for a period of two years."

In respect of agenda item 7, Councillors Smith-Ainsley, Sider and Pinkerton declared an interest as members of the Borough Council's Planning Committee, and therefore would not seek to comment on any planning matters relating to Airtrack and the Heathrow Airtrack Order.

Mr Beardsmore and Councillor Forsbrey also declared an interest as members of the Borough Council's Planning Committee, but each has a Dispensation to speak on Airtrack and the Heathrow Airtrack Order.

N.B Mr Walsh declared a personal interest ahead of item 12 Members Funds application from Shepperton Library for car park line marking as Mr Walsh's wife is a member of staff at Shepperton Librbary

72/10

**PETITIONS (ITEM 4)**

Shenaz Gain, of Shenaz Gain Health and Beauty, Ashford, submitted a petition with 61 signatures regarding parking and yellow lines in Clarendon Road Ashford.

Mrs Gain was not present at the meeting.

The Chairman asked the Committee to refer to the Officer's report regarding the petition, which was tabled at the meeting.

**Resolved:**

- (i) Received the petition.
- (ii) Noted that the only double yellow lines introduced recently in the vicinity of the petitioner's business are at the junction of Chaucer Road and Coleridge Road for a length of 10 metres in each direction to maintain road safety and keep sight lines clear.
- (iii) Noted that the extent of the parking controls in Clarendon Road and the surrounding streets will be assessed as part of the next parking review in Spelthorne which currently scheduled to take place during February and March 2011, with the outcome of the review due to be reported to this local committee in July 2011.

73/10

**MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (ITEM 5)**

No member questions were received.

74/10

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS (ITEM 6)**

Two questions were received and the answers are as set out in Annex 1 to these minutes.

**75/10 HEATHROW AIRTRACK OBJECTIONS TO THE TRANSPORT AND WORKS ACT ORDER 1992 (ITEM 7)**

The Chairman welcomed Iain Reeve and Lyndon Mendes to the meeting. Mr Reeve gave a presentation on the Airtrack proposals, asking the Committee to comment upon a package of measures proposed by BAA to address the County Council's objections to the Airtrack scheme.

Full comments made by the Committee are listed in Annex 2 to these minutes.

**Resolved:**

- (i) Comments to Cabinet and Council on whether the package being offered by BAA should be accepted. These views will form the basis of the report to Cabinet in November and Council in December.
- (ii) The comments previously agreed by this Committee were reviewed in relation to the Heathrow Airtrack scheme following consideration of the updated information contained in this report.
- (iii) Views to Cabinet and Council in relation to specific aspects of the Heathrow Airtrack scheme were provided as set out in the report and annex A (item 7).

N.B Cllr Forsbey asked that it be recorded that he was not in agreement with resolution (ii).

**76/10 SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL FUNDING OF VOLUNTARY SECTOR GROUPS IN SPELTHORNE (ITEM 8)**

The Chairman welcomed SCC Corporate Policy Manager Saba Hussain, and Celia Leggett and Jacqueline Diment from VAIS (Voluntary Action in Spelthorne), who presented a report of VAIS success, Saba Hussain, for information.

The Chairman thanked the Officer and members of VAIS, and all the Committee endorsed members' praises and thanks for the highly valued work that VAIS does for all of Spelthorne.

**77/10 AREA IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (ITEM 9)**

The Chairman welcomed Michael Graham from Spelthorne Borough Council, who gave a presentation and provided the Committee with an update.

**78/10 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT (ITEM 10)**

The Chairman welcomed Les Dodd, Surrey Fire & Rescue Service Area Manager (North), who presented the report.

**Resolved:**

- (ii) Noted the performance of SFRS within Spelthorne.
- (ii) Supported the achievement of personnel at Staines and Sunbury Fire Stations.
- (iii) Supported the commitment by SFRS to embrace new technology and improved initiatives, to reduce risk further and make Spelthorne safer.
- (iv) Endorsed SFRS to continue working with partners to influence behaviour in the community.
- (v) Considered further promotion of the SFRS Firewise Scheme with partner agencies and local contacts.
- (vi) Recognised that following evaluation of initiatives funding may be requested in order for them to be implemented, maintained or continued.

79/10

**SMALL DISADVANTAGED AREAS FUND BIDS (ITEM 11)**

SSC Area Director presented the report.

**Resolved:**

- (i) Considered all the bids that have been submitted to the Local Committee.
- (ii) Prioritized these applications in the order set out below:
  1. Youth Justice: The Hub.
  2. Stanwell Community Projects 'Dig it! Stanwell.
  3. Walton Weybridge & Hersham Citizens Advice Bureau / North Surrey Domestic Abuse Outreach.
  4. Kids Taskforce.
- (iii) Recommend all four of the bids to the Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund Bids Panel for consideration.

80/10

**MEMBERS' FUNDS (ITEM 12)**

The Local Committee and Partnership Officer presented the report.

Mr Walsh declared a personal interest ahead of item 12 in relation to the Members Funds application from Shepperton Library for car park line marking as Mr Walsh's wife is a member of staff at Shepperton Librbary

**Resolved:**

- (l) Noted that Mrs Turner's contributions to Spelthorne Borough Council for hanging baskets within Ashford West & Staines South was £3054 (para 2.1).

- (II) Noted that Mrs Nichols contribution to Spelthorne Borough Council for hanging baskets within Upper Halliford was £368 (para 2.2).
- (III) Noted funding bids approved under delegated authority since the last Local Committee meeting (para 2.3).
- (IV) Approved an application for funding of £250 from Girl Guiding Surrey towards the Brave the Waves project, to be funded from Mr Walsh's allocation (para 2.4).
- (V) Approved an application for funding of up to £1500 from Spelthorne Borough Council for winter hanging baskets and bus stop troughs within Ashford, to be funded from Mrs Coleman's allocation (para 2.5).
- (VI) Approved an application for funding of £382 from Shepperton Library for car park line marking, to be funded from Mr Walsh's allocation (para 2.6).
- (VII) Approve an application for funding of £1000 for Surrey Fire & Rescue Young Firefighters Association, to be funded from Mrs Coleman's allocation (para 2.7).
- (VIII) Approved an application for funding of £1550 from St Saviour's Centre for furniture for the Church Centre, to be funded from Mr Beardsmore's capital allocation (para 3.1).
- (IX) Approved an application for funding of up to £5687 from Spelthorne Borough Council for the installation of 10 cigarette and gum smartbins on Church Road Ashford, to be funded from Mrs Coleman's capital allocation (para 3.2).

**81/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING (ITEM 13)**

To be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2011 in the Council Chamber, Spelthorne Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines at 7pm.

The meeting, which commenced at 7.00pm, ended at 11.05pm.

Chairman.....

ANNEX 1

SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE  
11<sup>th</sup> October 2010

AGENDA ITEM 6

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Both questions were tabled at the meeting as neither questioner was present.

**Mr Andrew McLuskey asked the following question:**

"In the light of the recent report in the Surrey Mirror that planners received extensive entertainment from local Mineral Companies, does the Local Committee agree that the Gravel Plan formulated by County is now fatally compromised?"

**Ian Boast Acting Head of Environment gave the following answer:**

"The major event referred to by the press was the Minerals Products Association lunch, attended in 2009 by about four hundred and fifty guests. This event provides a forum for discussion for a wide range of organisations associated with the industry.

Council officers are professional and objective and therefore the Minerals Plan, which is subject to extensive scrutiny through public examination, is not compromised."

**Mr FJ Wallin asked the following question:**

"I have asked several times over the years to have 'keep clear' marking in School Road, adjacent to the BP garage.

I enclose two copy letters received from SCC some years ago.

School Road has been re-surfaced and white lines replaced on two occasions since I raised the subject. If this marking was carried out at the time of re-painting I would have thought it would not cost a great deal and would not have caused a problem with traffic management.

After all these years could we please have some idea of when this problem will be resolved?"

**The Local Highway Manager gave the following answer:**

"When a 'keep clear' marking was first requested many years ago on School Road adjacent to the BP garage it was not compliant with the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions to provide the marking adjacent to a private access. The roadmarking could only be marked at junctions.

A review of the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions now permits the marking to be laid at a private entrance used by the general public, but only in places where it can genuinely be helpful in maintaining the smooth flow of traffic.

In response to the requests for the marking and the change in the Regulations, a 'keep clear' marking is incorporated into the redesign of the proposed junction layout to provide protected pedestrian crossing times at the junction. This scheme is fully designed and awaits funding.

In the meantime, I have discussed the provision of the roadmarking with colleagues in the Traffic Signals Team. They are concerned that it could interfere with vehicle detection on the approach to the junction and inhibit good operation. However I will ask a colleague to investigate this further with them and let you know the outcome."



## ANNEX 2

**SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE  
11<sup>th</sup> October 2010****AGENDA ITEM 7 – Heathrow Airtrack**

- (i) The Committee is asked to give its comments to Cabinet and Council on whether the package being offered by BAA should be accepted. These views will form the basis of the report to Cabinet in November and Council in December.**

**The Committee gave the following comments on whether the package being offered by BAA should be accepted.**

- The package currently being offered is inadequate in that it will not resolve all the problems that the scheme will create. The committee does not recognise this as a complete package in that it does not currently resolve all fundamental concerns associated with level crossings.
- The committee notes that four of the eight proposed mitigation measures will not directly address the issues for Staines or Spelthorne and so challenge the proposed mitigation package and its suitability; what is currently proposed is of very limited benefit to Staines.
- The committee does not like the scheme of mitigation as proposed as there is very little benefit to Staines and Spelthorne directly; however, if it was decided by Central Government that the scheme were to go ahead, then well in advance of any such decision the following factors would need to have been taken into consideration :
  - That regular reports regarding the negotiation of the construction management plan for aspects of the scheme are brought to the Local Committee for its views and comment.
  - Officers should come back to Local Committee to agree on issues that directly affect Spelthorne.
  - The mitigation package needs to consider mitigation for issues such as Staines Roundabout and Staines Bridge linked to Thorpe Road crossing; measures to mitigate these issues need to be part of the final mitigation.
  - Mitigation of measures relating to the construction of the proposed tunnel and overhead electrification are not in the package being offered and therefore consideration should be given to the inclusion of satisfactory mitigation measures for residents in relation to these issues.

- The proposed Controlled Parking Zone mitigation proposal for Staines should include the cost of the permits for residents affected, should residents indicate that they would wish to take such a scheme forward.
- That should residents indicate that they would not want a Controlled Parking Zone for Staines, Surrey County Council would agree not to impose the scheme.
- That consideration is given to the introduction of a subsidised cycle hire scheme for Staines and the surrounding area, similar to that introduced by the Mayor of London, as part of the proposed cycle scheme mediation.
- That consideration is given to assessing the viability of looking at Runnymede roundabout and Vicarage Road Underpass as an integrated scheme.
- Recognise that as part of the TWA process, BAA will need to demonstrate that it has fully considered and evaluated all other possible alternative schemes in relation to Airtrack.
- One view expressed was that it was not the right scheme and that alternative schemes should be looked at without the disbenefits of the Airtrack Scheme.
- The Committee queried whether the mitigation package would be paid for by BAA and not from public funds.

**(ii) The Committee is asked to review its comments previously agreed by this Committee in relation to the Heathrow Airtrack scheme following consideration of the updated information contained in this report.**

**Traffic impacts**

- Whilst the report states construction conditions will resolve traffic impacts associated with the chord, the reality for residents of Staines is that they will face continual building in Staines town centre from a variety of building schemes that are planned to go forward in future years, including the Centrica development and Elmsleigh phase three. The combined impacts of these schemes on residents and users of Staines Town Centre need to be fully considered.

Level Crossings: Thorpe Rd level Crossing

- Recognition is needed that a small change to the level crossing down time at Thorpe Rd level crossing could result in large scale issues of congestion and NO2 emissions at Staines Roundabout and Staines Bridge, as the road network in this area is currently acting at close to full capacity and a small change may lead it to reaching capacity. The mitigation package that is proposed must satisfactorily address traffic impacts at Staines Bridge and Staines roundabout if this objection is to be withdrawn.

**Car Park Impacts**

- A fundamental issue is that BAA has not yet come forward with a viable plan to link the Tothill and Elmsleigh car parks, which are on

different levels. If this issue is not resolved satisfactorily then the town centre could lose access to 641 car park spaces across the two sites; this would have dire consequences for Staines town centre, which would lack sufficient car parking for visitors.

- Report states that *'exit from the car park traffic signal controlled junction, which provides access to Tothill car park from Thames Street, may operate close to capacity during peak periods, but should be able to accommodate the additional flows when the ramp to the Elmsleigh is closed'*. Query as to how this statement can be made when BAA has not yet come forward with a viable plan to link the Tothill and Elmsleigh car parks.
- Effective mitigation is needed to ensure an exit from the Elmsleigh car park is in place prior to the existing ramp to Elmsleigh being removed.
- Regular reports on the construction management plan to be provided to the Local Committee.

### **Air quality**

- Whilst the current Air Quality objection relates to the scheme as a whole, acknowledgement is needed that Air Quality is an issue for Staines and Spelthorne. The whole of Spelthorne is an Air Quality Management Area and the impacts of the Airtrack scheme may have localised impacts on Spelthorne and these need to be addressed.
- The Committee has concerns regarding impacts on Air Quality at Staines Bridge and Staines Roundabout, associated with the increase in Thorpe Road level Crossing down time.

### **Staines Station**

- Consideration should be given to the proposed scheme including a direct link from Staines to Guildford and Woking, noting that this had been a feature of the original new High Street Station proposals and would be a direct benefit to Staines.

### **Hithermoor Landfill site & Waste management**

- For the Hithermoor objection not to be maintained, BAA must demonstrate that additional mitigation measures to reduce the impacts for residents to a minimum will be in place and that the needs of residents have been taken into account.
- Additional mitigation could include funds for County Council enforcement Officers to independently monitor this site.

### **Overhead rail line**

- Mitigation of measures relating to overhead electrification are not in the package being offered and consideration should be given to the inclusion of satisfactory mitigation measures for residents in relation to this issue.

- Construction plan for this element of the scheme should consider the needs of residents living close to this locality.

**(iii) The Committee is asked to give its views to Cabinet and Council in relation to specific aspects of the Heathrow AirTrack Scheme as set out in the report and Annex A.**

#### **Traffic Impacts & Additional Jobs**

- The statement in the report annex A that the traffic modelling that has been undertaken has shown that there are no significant traffic issues post construction in Staines Town centre, is not supported by the benefits to Spelthorne highlighted in the presentation. This stated that 400 jobs may be relocated to Staines and that Staines would benefit from improved attractiveness for future developments and employment by being a gateway to Heathrow. Additional developments and jobs may create associated additional traffic impacts.

#### **Impact of Piccadilly line connection via Heathrow**

- Has the impact of connectivity to the Piccadilly underground line from Staines via Heathrow and the possible impacts of this on Staines, been factored into the proposed scheme and its mitigations?

#### **Stanwell Tunnel to Terminal 5**

- The Construction plan for this element of the scheme should consider the needs of residents living close to this locality.
- Mitigation of measures relating to the construction of the proposed tunnel and overhead electrification are not in the package being offered.
- Any construction of the proposed tunnel should be considerate to residents' concerns and consideration should be given to the inclusion of satisfactory mitigation measures for residents in relation to construction of the proposed tunnel. Proposed mitigation could include ensuring that the construction phase for tunnelling should take place as far away as possible from residential properties in the vicinity, to minimise the impacts.