



SURREY

COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting

SURREY HEATH LOCAL COMMITTEE

Date: Thursday 18th March 2004

Time: 10.00 AM

Place: Kings International College, Watchetts Drive, Camberley.

Members present:

Surrey County Council [3]

Mr Maurice Neighbour (Camberley East)
Mr Fred Chipperfield (Camberley West)
Mr John Phillips (Frimley Green & Mychett)

Surrey Heath Borough Council [5]

Cllr Moira Gibson
Cllr Keith Bush
Cllr Vivienne Chapman
Cllr Edward Hawkins
Cllr Patricia Pearce

All references to items refer to the Agenda for the meeting.
The meeting was preceded by an Open Public Question Time. The notes of this are in Annex A.

Part 1. In Public - Part A.

27/04 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from County Councillors Lavinia Sealy, Dr Brian Coffin and Alan Peirce.

28/04 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 15th January 2004.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

29/04 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor John Phillips declared a personal interest in Item 9 as a Governor of Blackdown School.

30/04 PETITIONS

None notified.

31/04 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None notified.

32/04 MEMBER QUESTIONS

None notified.

33/04 ANNUAL REPORT ON LOCAL EDUCATION PERFORMANCE

Dr Rowan Swan, Joint Acting Head, Performance Analysis & Improvement Centre. Children & Young People, outlined the report.

The Education Service is moving away from statistical reporting and towards issue reporting. The news in Surrey Heath is good, especially in Key Stages one and two. Surrey Heath is ranked very highly in these areas compared to the Surrey Average. Results for Key Stages three and four are also high.

Schools that have high levels of children with special educational needs sometimes appear to have low results when assessed on the national framework. However, Surrey's own analysis of such schools shows that these schools in Surrey Heath are serving pupils well.

Surrey Schools Performance report will be published soon and this will give an in depth account of schools Surrey-wide.

John Ambrose, Local Education Officer, updated the Committee on Blackdown school. On the 16th March the Executive of Surrey County Council formally agreed to publish a closure notice regarding the school. This is subject to the usual objection process.

Members commented that the notices should be in plain English and asked if parental preference when looking at alternative schools would be upheld.

It was also noted that the Admissions policy, especially in rural areas needs examining to ensure that the best service is given to local families. There are many Primary school reviews ongoing but no urgent reviews are in Surrey Heath. Any further closure proposals will be brought to the Local Committee for consultation.

Education welfare is carrying out pro-active truancy patrols in Surrey Heath.

Surrey Heath does not have a Confederation of schools as the Heads in Surrey Heath already work very well together and wished to work on a Surrey Heath wide basis. The Local Committee asked to be kept informed of what it could do to assist the high standards of education in the Borough.

RESOLVED

The Surrey Heath Local Committee:

1. Discussed the report and,
2. commented as above on Education attainment issues in the Borough.

34/04 ANNUAL REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Paula Evans, Team Manager, North West Multi-professional team, introduced the report. In 2002, pre-empting the Children's Bill, Social Care and Education came together to provide a service to effectively meet the needs of local families. There were many existing links but closer working means better support for the child, the family and local schools. A Partnership Board with Health has also been set up. The Local Director will be asked to join.

Surrey Heath forms one locality team that is the largest in the North west area. Links are being made to the Traveller Service, Physical, Sensory Support Service, Connexions and the Youth Development Service. Support is also given on an individual basis to local schools.

Members asked about dental inspections in schools. This is a responsibility of the Primary Care Trust (PCT), Paula Evans will take this back to the PCT.

In Surrey Heath the secondary School heads do not want behaviour support for Key Stage four. This has been retargeted to Primary schools and staff are receiving special training in early years to help them deal with this retargeting. An early intervention pilot has been set up and is being evaluated by Education Psychology. There are many projects in Surrey Heath for excluded pupils, many of these link to the Youth Development Service. Surrey County Council is an effective corporate parent and the Traveller Service is working very well with parents and schools.

The bill for out of County care is met by local budgets. There are area placement panels that are looking at how the numbers of children cared for out of County can be reduced.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee in Surrey Heath:

- (i) Provided comment and feedback on the content of the report and the operation of the service, as above
- (ii) Commented on the information in the report and how future reports might be presented.

35/04 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SERVICE ISSUES IN SURREY HEATH

A) DRAFT YOUTH STRATEGY

The full Borough plan will be going to the Executive in the future. The focus is on working with partners to ensure a full provision for the young people of Surrey Heath. A virtual youth club is being looked into. Rural transport and rural communities are of concern in the area. The full report will have targets in it but this was not brought to the Local Committee as it was not completed. The sexual health project at the Frimley Green Youth Centre has won a national award and does not link to any illegal activities. This education is part of a wider plan that links to Children's Services.

The youth club on the Old Dean for 8 – 12 year olds is run by volunteers and there are problems getting enough volunteers. The Youth development Service are prepared to

train and resource projects that work with 8 – 12 year olds. The Youth Development Service are also willing to work with Church and voluntary groups and are happy to train and work with partners.

Members voiced strongly the need to bring the full youth plan to the Committee next year before it goes to the Executive. Concern was also voiced over the numbers of meetings compared to the amount of action happening on the ground.

RESOLVED

The Surrey Heath Local Committee discussed and commented on the report, as above.

B) RESPONSE TO MOTION

The motion was received from two Borough Councillors. This report was withdrawn on the advice of the Head of Member Services, Surrey County Council.

36/04 ANNUAL REPORT ON ADULT AND COMMUNITY LEARNING

Judith Dey, Area Manager, Adult & Community Learning, NW Surrey, presented the report. Adult and Community Learning are funded 50% by the Learning and Skills Council and 50% by fees charged to participants. A&CL target learners over the age of 20 and have a very high satisfaction rate. One in ten adults in Surrey Heath takes part in A&CL. Some learning is offered free e.g. in Self Reliance areas and some family courses. A&CL are seeking to attract new learners and to address local needs. A&CL would like to engage more with Surrey County Council and Borough Council priorities.

The three year plan includes:

- Attracting new learners
- Targeting certain groups e.g. ethnic and young men
- Targeting local concerns
- Targeting basic skills
- Developing new and innovative learning

The service feels well supported by Surrey County Council. The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) do not cut back on the grant if the amount of fees taken increases. There is no intention to move from the current site in France Hill Drive. A&CL would like to work cross borders with colleagues in Hampshire but this is outside their remit of work and would not receive any funding. There are very strong links with Brooklands College.

RESOLVED

The Surrey Heath Local Committee considered and commented on the annual report for 2002/3, commented on the overall objectives for the service, and on priorities for adult and community learning in Surrey Heath for the next three years, and how they could be addressed.

37/04 ANNUAL REPORT ON SELF RELIANCE

Surrey County Council has two successful self-reliance projects in Surrey Heath – The St Michael's project and the varied work on the Old Dean. Plans for the Old Dean Advice Centre were outlined, this should be open in July 2004.

RESOLVED

The Surrey Heath Local Committee discussed and noted the progress made and noted the funding implications for 04/05.

38/04 STANDING CITIZEN'S PANEL REPORT

RESOLVED

The Surrey Heath Local Committee discussed the report and referred the views to the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

39/04 MEMBERS ALLOCATIONS

RESOLVED

The Surrey Heath Local Committee:

1. noted the monitoring statement attached, and
2. approved the allocations made from the pooled budget, and
3. approved the allocations made by Maurice Neighbour and Lavinia Sealy.

40/04 FORWARD PLAN

Members asked for the Waste Structure Plan and Minerals Plan to be brought to the Committee as appropriate.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee in Surrey Heath

1. approved the forward plan of committee reports and suggested any additions
2. agreed meeting dates in June and July 2005.

41/04 TASKS COMMISSIONED BY THE LOCAL COMMITTEE

This report was for information only.

Part B – Transportation.

42/04 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

As noted in 27/04.

43/04 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None notified.

44/04 PETITIONS

None notified.

458/04 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None notified.

46/04 MEMBER QUESTIONS

None notified.

47/04 DEVELOPMENT RELATED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER, FORMER COLLINGWOOD COLLEGE, LONDON ROAD, CAMBERLEY.

Graham Hodgson outlined this Traffic Regulation Order.

RESOLVED

The Committee agreed to:-

1. The making of a Traffic Regulation Order to prohibit the right turning of vehicles from the proposed access onto London road, and;

2. That the Local Transport Manager in consultation with the Chairman and the Local Member be authorised to resolve all objections.

48/04 INTEGRATED TRANSPORT AND LOCAL ALLOCATION CAPITAL BUDGETS

The rise of £170,00 reflects the high quality of the bid. Annex C allows a roll forward of any underspend. Considerable funding is available to initiate projects. The list was agreed by the Task group that comprises both County and Borough Members. The list can be reprioritised at a later date if needs be. All schemes on the list will come to the Local Committee for approval.

Borough Councillor Keith Bush asked for his abstention on voting the recommendations to be noted.

RESOLVED

The Local Committee in Surrey Heath:

- i) noted the total Integrated Transport budget for 2004/05 of £614,000 plus the anticipated 'carry forward' from 2003/04 of £150,000 for the Borough and subject to confirmation of the out turn.
- ii) noted the total Local Allocation budget for 2004/05 of £135,000 plus the anticipated 'carry forward' of £55,000 subject to confirmation of the out turn.
- iii) Agreed that the management of the Local Allocation budget be vested with the Local Transportation Director in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee or in their absence by their delegated representatives
- iv) and that the scheme priorities, as set out in Annex B and Annex C be agreed
- v) agreed that the Local Transportation Director convenes a meeting of the A322 Task Group to discuss the two schemes at Fellow Green and Gosden Road, West End.

49/04 PETITION RESPONSE - FRIMLEY PARK BUSES

Graham Hodgson outlined this report. Consultation has been postponed until April / May 2004 so the full information can be gathered. Local residents have concerns over the bus stop on the A325. The lay by is no longer used as the new buses cannot use it. If the funds were available, this bus stop could be re-engineered.

RESOLVED

The Surrey Heath Local Committee noted receipt of the petition and the action being taken by the Local Transportation Service.

50/04 A319 SPEED LIMIT ASSESSMENT

The assessment was carried out in accordance with Surrey County Council Policy. There will be a 28-day advertising process. After the objections have been dealt with the contractors will be instructed. Major objections will be brought to the Local Committee.

RESOLVED

The Surrey Heath Local Committee:

- i) approved the proposed changes to speed limits along the A319 Bagshot Road (A322 to Pennypot Lane), A322 Guildford Road (A319 to High Street), Gordons Roundabout and approach roads in West End and authorise implementation as shown on Annex 1, and;
- ii) agreed to advertise a Traffic Order in accordance with the Traffic Regulations 1984 and to delegate authority to the Local Transportation Director in consultation with the Local Committee Chairman to determine any objections to the Order.

51/04 SECTION 14(1) & (2) - DELEGATED POWERS

RESOLVED

The Local Committee in Surrey Heath noted this report.

52/04 MAMOTH CONTRACT - PROGRESS REPORT

Steve Lee, Surrey County Council's Assistant Head of Transportation, outlined the report. This contract has brought a massive cultural change. Impacts this year have been; the backlog of 28-day repairs, dealing with the increased reporting of defects and problems caused by flooding and the hot summer.

There is a 95% public satisfaction rate. Winter maintenance has worked well and surrounding authorities are looking to Surrey as an example of good practice.

A business review is currently taking place and the feasibility of using community based work groups to increase response and deal better with public reporting of defects is being looked at. This is a cost reimbursement contract and so any improvement in management would reduce cost. The teams involved in making this contract work were praised for their dedication and commitment.

RESOLVED

Surrey County Council's Local Committee in Surrey Heath noted the report.

53/04 ROAD SAFETY (SID) DATA REPORT

This programme has been very successful in educating drivers and is very popular with Members and local residents. There are regular meetings with Police colleagues to discuss sites. The Speed Visor / Alert signs are new to Surrey Heath. St Catherine's Road and Benner Lane were suggested as possible speed poster sites.

Graham Hodgson is liaising with Borough Officers to bring a report to the Local Committee concerning Borough contributions and schemes.

RESOLVED

The Surrey Heath Local Committee in Surrey Heath approved:

1. the list of sites for use of the speed posters in 2004/05 as shown on Annex 1
2. the list of sites for use of the Speed Indication Device in 2004/05 as shown on Annex 2
3. the list of sites for use of the 'Speed Visor' signs in 2004/05 as shown on Annex 3

54/04 TASKS COMMISSIONED BY THE LOCAL COMMITTEE (TRANSPORTATION)

The A30 traffic light scheme is being progressed.

This report was for information only.

The meeting finished at 12.14 pm.

Chairman.

Open Public Question Time notes.

Surrey County Council's Local Committee in Surrey Heath.

15th January 2004 – 9.30 am Kings International College, Camberley

1. We are concerned because members of the community who have been using the Frimley Green Youth Centre (FGYC) have left or have been asked to leave. Our committee would like to know the full details of what is intended for this facility to include the following information:

- (i) Funding.
- (ii) Hours of opening.
- (iii) How many people will be using the site.
- (iv) Business Plan to include accounting information.
- (v) Details of why the facility should be withdrawn from being used by the community.

Our committee is particularly concerned about the Lorraine Day Dance School. The Dance School is one of the last remaining groups using the facility. In the worse case scenario, should the Dance School be asked to leave, what equivalent site would be provided taking into consideration the following:

- (i) Standard and suitability.
- (ii) Commutability.
- (iii) Cost.
- (iv) Infringement on other Dance School areas.

Please note there are 300 young people who attend the Lorraine Day Dance School.

We believe it is vital to provide young people with creative opportunities and constructive use of their leisure time, the Dance School provides an excellent way to do this. What facilities will be provided to ensure these young people have the opportunity to use their leisure time and creative skills should the Dance School be asked to leave this site? bearing in mind the issues raised in point 2.

Our committee would like it noted that students have been attending the Dance School for many years and have been progressing by taking examinations. Inability to attend the Lorraine Day Dance School could affect future career plans for some students.

In view of the recent concerns expressed by the Government for the future health of the nation and their initiative to try to stem the growing trend in obesity our Committee feels it is important to ensure the Dance School will continue to provide a way for these young people to exercise and keep fit. What facility will the Councillors provide to ensure these young people can continue to maintain their fitness regime should the youth centre be unavailable to them?

Our Committee would like it noted that not only are the Dance classes beneficial to physical development and health but also social and community skills are enhanced and developed.

Our Committee would like to point out that some students have gone on to have successful careers in the arts as a direct result of attending the Lorraine Day Dance School.

Having put forward these points it is hopefully clear the importance that this service provides not only for the young people who use the FGYC but also for the community as a whole. Lorraine Day has a passion for inspiring young people, giving them a sense of self worth and achievement. Although we do pay for her services she gives a lot of her time freely. Together with her students she has raised money for numerous charitable events thus developing and encouraging a good community spirit, something we will all benefit from. We as a committee feel very concerned that Lorraine will lose her livelihood and we will lose a valuable educational resource for the young people who attend her classes.

Would the Committee of Councillors please advise us what measures will be taken to ensure that this does not happen?

Reply from Maurice Neighbour, Chairman of the Local Committee
Cllr Sealy, the portfolio holder for youth, is looking at this at the present time.

Reply from Joel Bailey, Youth Development Worker
A review of the use of Frimley Green Youth Centre is ongoing.

Joel Bailey will address the specific questions by letter.

2. Sarah Esparanta, West End.

Why is the schools admissions policy in the rural areas so unfair? My son did not get into the local village school as priority is given to people who have just moved into the area. This means that I have to take my son to the next village.

Reply from Maurice Neighbour, Chairman of the Local Committee
We will reply to this question by letter as we do not have the full details at present.

3. Mrs Wood, St Catherine's Road, Frimley Green.

What are the proposals for St Catherine's Road now that planning permission has been given to Clewborough school. Of specific concern is the dangerous bend.

Reply from Graham Hodgson, Local Transportation Director.
We will investigate this issue and reply in writing.

4. Cyril Pavey, Camberley

Who enforces Parking restrictions in Camberley High Street?

Reply from Graham Hodgson, Local Transportation Director.

The Police. Decriminalised Parking Enforcement is coming in 2005. This will transfer responsibility to either the County or the Borough Council. Some enforcement will still be the responsibility of the Police.

5. Scott Kelly.

Local residents appreciate the signage changes on the A319 but why was this not done earlier?

Reply from Graham Hodgson, Local Transportation Director.

Due to litigation proceedings neither Members nor Officers can answer that question. Changing signage requires a range of investigations including speed surveys.

6. Cllr Judy Douch

Will the Committee consider a 30 mph speed limit on the A319 past Gordons School?

Reply from Graham Hodgson, Local Transportation Director.

The speed limit has been assessed against County Council policy and has been assessed as a 40mph zone.