



**Minutes of meeting**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (Surrey Heath)**

**Date:** Thursday 26<sup>h</sup> July 2007

**Time:** 7.00 PM

**Place:** Chobham Community Centre, McMahon Close, Chobham

**Members present:**

**Surrey County Council [6]**

Cllr Fred Chipperfield (Camberley West)  
Cllr David Ivison (Heatherside & Parkside)  
Cllr Maurice Neighbour (Camberley East)  
Cllr Alan Peirce (Windlesham)  
Cllr Chris Pitt (Frimley Green & Mytchett)  
Cllr Lavinia Sealy (Chobham, Bisley and West End)

**Surrey Heath Borough Council [4]**

Cllr Richard Brooks  
Cllr Vivienne Chapman  
Cllr Stewart Stevenson  
Cllr David Whitcroft

## Draft minutes for agreement on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

The meeting was preceded by an Open Public Question Time.  
The notes of this are in Annex A.

### **Part 1. In Public - Part A.**

#### **25/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Borough Councillors Moira Gibson, Edward Hawkins and Simon Foale.

#### **26/07 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2007.**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

#### **27/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **28/07 PETITIONS**

None

#### **29/07 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

None

#### **30/06 WRITTEN MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

None

#### **31/07 ANNUAL REPORT ON COMMUNITY SAFETY**

Carolyn Rowe (Local Director North West, Surrey County Council) introduced the report and welcomed Inspector Mark Adams (Neighbourhood Inspector for Surrey Heath, Surrey Police) and Jacqui Newson (Policy Officer, Surrey Heath Borough Council)

Mark Adams took the committee through the statistics, including the reasons why violent crime had seen a large increase, this was mostly due to a wider range of crimes being determined as “violent crimes” by the Home Office eg harassment and breaches of ASBO, even where no violence was used.

Issues in the town centre have been reduced since the introduction of Taxi Marshals (funded by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) and since the Police have worked with bars and clubs on the use of plastic glasses only. The Police are looking at introducing a policy with Surrey Heath Borough Council to restrict the number of licensed premises. Surrey Heath is not seeing a rise in drug offences, but a rise in the detection of drug offences.

Jacqui Newson informed Members of the recent Community Safety Survey, carried out by the CDRP. A report on results will be available in the next few weeks. A response rate of one in five was achieved including high returns from young people. A new Community Safety Strategy for Surrey Heath will be published in April 2008. Papers relating to the partnership's work can be accessed at [www.surreyheath.gov.uk/community/safersurreyheath](http://www.surreyheath.gov.uk/community/safersurreyheath)

David Ivison introduced Maurice Neighbour as the Chair of the Safer and Stronger Communities Board. Cllr Neighbour highlighted the test purchases carried out by Trading Standards to help combat underage sales of alcohol.

Members commented that they would like to see wider promotion of Surrey Police's 0845 125 2222 number as well as the crimestoppers number 0800 555 111.

Inspector Adams informed the Committee that members of the Public could help reduce crime levels by ensuring that they leave nothing of value in their cars. Theft of mobile phones, sat navs and other expensive equipment is a huge problem in Surrey Heath.

Members commented that the recent Tune In meeting held in Deepcut had been a huge success. The next two are being planned for Bagshot and Windelsham and Frimley and Frimley Green.

**RESOLVED**

The Local Committee:

- a) Noted the progress made in promoting community safety in Surrey Heath, and the latest crime statistics;
- b) Delegated responsibility for expenditure of the County Council's local crime and disorder funding in Surrey Heath to the Area Director;
- c) Endorsed the importance of the contribution of all services to community safety in Surrey Heath;
- d) Commented on any issues of concern arising from the report or information presented.

**32/07 ANNUAL REPORT FROM SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE**

Paul Kenny, Borough Manager Surrey Heath, Surrey Fire and Rescue (SF&R), outlined the report. There has been a reduction in primary fires of 8% and a reduction in secondary fires of 23%. Surrey Heath has a high level of collisions and SF&R are working closely with the Police to educate local people.

SF&R are unable to recommend sprinkler system suppliers.

The Safe Drive, Stay Alive campaign is open to all schools and was highly praised by Members.

**RESOLVED**

The Surrey Heath Local Committee

- 1 Recognised the achievements of the Borough Teams at Camberley and Chobham.
- 2 Supported the achievement of the Retained duty personnel at Chobham Fire Station and acknowledge the availability offered by employers who release staff, and those who are self-employed. Recruitment is currently underway to increase the establishment from 12 to 15 personnel

**33/07 ANNUAL REPORT FROM TRADING STANDARDS**

Lucy Corrie, Enterprise Manager, Trading Standards, Surrey County Council, introduced the report. A team plan has been developed to meet the Service vision of "confident consumers and trusted traders". The work towards reducing crime and disorder was highlighted along with the benefits of no cold calling zones and the Buy with Confidence scheme. Members requested that the "Trickster" musical is heavily promoted locally and suggested that Heathscene as well as local parish magazines could be used for this as well as the Borough Council website and local day centres.

**RESOLVED**

The Surrey Heath Local Committee noted the initiatives being taken by the Trading Standards Service.

### **34/07 LIBRARY STAFFING REVIEW**

Rose Wilson, Library Area Manager, Surrey County Council, attended the meeting to outline the report. The proposed changes in library opening hours will hopefully be in place in April 2008. Three major publicity campaigns have been identified; online promotion, promotion of children's activities and promotion of opening hours. 2008 is the national year of reading.

Members praised local library managers and staff as well as the mobile services. The Friends of Bagshot Library Group has increased active users by 100. Members praised the efforts of local people in saving Bagshot library.

Members were happy with the terminology used but prefer the use of "main library".

#### **RESOLVED**

The Committee:

1. Supported the approach of seeking improvements to opening hours and services through efficiency gains from Self-service new technology:
2. Supported the proposed new Group structure – three Groups of libraries, A ('Town' centre), B ('District' Centre) and C ('Local' Centre), with a geographic / strategic approach
3. Supported the resulting improvements in opening hours in Libraries in Surrey Heath

### **35/07 MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS 2006 / 07 OUTTURN REPORT**

#### **RESOLVED**

The Local Committee noted the out-turn of Members Allocations in 2006/07.

### **36/07 MEMBER'S ALLOCATIONS 2007 / 08**

#### **RESOLVED**

The Local Committee :

1. Agreed to pool £5,000 per Members into a central revenue fund for 07/08.
2. Agreed a maximum level of funding per project for revenue allocations of £3,000.
3. Agreed that capital projects over £3,000 may be considered by the Local Committee.
4. Agreed to delegate the power to approve revenue bids up to £1000 to the Area Director in consultation with Members as outlined in paras 12 – 14.
5. Agreed the criteria in para 15.
6. Agreed the allocations detailed in paragraphs 16 – 32

### **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

### **37/07 UPDATE ON LOCAL ISSUES**

This report was for information only.

### **38/07 STANDING CITIZEN'S PANEL REPORT**

It was noted that Cllr Lavinia Sealy's email address was incorrect and should read [lsealy@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:lsealy@surreycc.gov.uk).

This report was for information only.

### **39/07 SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES**

This report was for information only.

### **40/07 FORWARD PLAN**

This report was for information only.

### **41/07 TASKS COMMISSIONED BY THE LOCAL COMMITTEE**

This report was for information only.

Part B – Transportation.

**42/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

As in 25/07.

**43/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**44/07 PETITIONS**

A petition was received from Borough Councillor Bill Chapman concerning speeding along Crawley Hill and Church Hill. Police enforcement has been carried out and local residents are planning to set up a Community Speed Watch. Local residents feel that signage is inadequate and that a Pelican Crossing is needed on Crawley Hill as raised in the Crawley Ridge School Travel Plan in December 2004. The existing traffic refuge is inadequate.

A response will be brought to the next Local Committee.

**45/07 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

None.

**46/07 WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS**

A question was received from Borough Councillor Simon Foale, the question and response are detailed in Annex B.

**47/07 ASSET MANAGEMENT OF THE HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE**

Presentation by Stephen Child, Highway's Group Manager West, attached to these minutes as Annex C. Gullies will all be cleaned out by the end of the year. A ditch clearing programme for Surrey Heath will be looked at as soon as is possible and progressed if appropriate. The service has been reactive in the past but is looking at using the community gangs and geographical targeting to make a real difference locally.

Members recommended that better surfaces were used on carriageways and pavements and raised sustainable high quality as a key issue for the future.

**RESOLVED**

The Committee agreed:

- (i) that the content of the presentation and County Council's approach to asset management be noted.
- (ii) that any comments from Members of the Local Committee concerning the contents of this presentation be reported to the County Council Executive.

**48/07 RUGOSA ROAD, WEST END - FLOOD ALLEVIATION MEASURES**

Members noted that this report showed good joint working between Borough and County.

**RESOLVED**

The Surrey Heath Local Committee

- i. Approved the advertisement of a public notice in accordance with the Highways Act 1980, the effects of which will be to install a road table in Rugosa Road, West End, in the location shown in Annex 1.
- ii. Approved that the Local Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Members consider any representations received in response to the public notice.

**49/07 GIBBET LANE, CAMBERLEY AMENDMENT AND NEW TRAFFIC ORDERS TO ALLOW CYCLISTS**

**RESOLVED**

The Surrey Heath Local Committee approved:

- i. the proposals as shown on Annex 1.
- ii. new and amendment orders be advertised under the Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the purpose of which will be to:
  - (a) Create a new cycle lane in the length of road between Crawley Ridge and Larchwood Glade and
  - (b) exempt cyclists from the existing one-way restriction,
  - (c) And subject to no objections being maintained, the Traffic Regulation Orders be made
- iii. The Local Highways Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Member resolve any objections received in connection with the proposal.

**50/07 HIGH STREET BAGSHOT ZEBRA CROSSING**

**RESOLVED**

The Surrey Heath Local Committee approved:

- i. the proposals as shown on Annex 1.
- ii. A Notice be advertised under the Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the purpose of which will be to create a new zebra crossing outside no.32 High Street, Bagshot,
- iii. The Local Highways Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Member consider any representations received in connection with the proposal.

**51/07 HEAVY GOOD VEHICLE WEIGHT RESITCTIONS**

**RESOLVED**

The committee

- i. Agreed the intention of the County Council to make an Order under Sections 1, Part III of Schedule 9 and Part IV of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to change the existing 17 Tonnes weight restrictions Orders listed in annexe A to 18 Tonnes be advertised and that if no objections be maintained, the Order be made
- ii. Agreed that the consideration and resolution of any representations received as a result of advertising the proposed Traffic Regulation Order be delegated to the Highways Group Manager (West).

**52/07 A322 GUILDFORD ROAD, BISLEY PROPOSED EQUESTRIAN CROSSING AND SHARED CYCLEWAY/FOOTWAY**

**RESOLVED**

The Surrey Heath Local Committee

- i. Approved the advertisement of a public notice in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effects of which will be to install an equestrian crossing combined with pedestrian and cycle crossing facilities at the point where bridleway 147 crosses the A322 Guildford Road as shown in Annex 1.
- ii. Approved the use of the footway along the eastern side of the A322 Guildford Road, Bisley as a shared cycleway/footway over the length shown in Annex 1.
- iii. Approved that the Local Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Members consider any representations received in response to the public notice or any issues arising following completion of the detailed design of the proposed measures.

#### **53/07 UPPER CHOBHAM ROAD FOOTWAY**

The timings are still being set with the contractor. Officers have requested that work is carried out during the school holidays and dates will be sent to Members. Street lighting issues have complicated work.

#### **RESOLVED**

The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) noted that the new footway scheme as approved at the 18 July 2006 Local Committee is to progress to construction as planned.

#### **54/07 WINDSOR ROAD, CHOBHAM - HUMPED ZEBRA CROSSING**

#### **RESOLVED**

The Surrey Heath Local Committee approve:

- i. the proposal shown in Annex 1.
- ii. a Notice be advertised in accordance with the Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Highways Act 1980, the purpose of which will be to create a raised speed table at the existing zebra crossing outside no.83 Windsor Road,
- iii. The Local Highways Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Member consider any representations received in connection with the proposal.

#### **55/07 06/07 CAPITAL OUTTURN**

The speed limit assessment was highlighted by Members as a priority. The data will hopefully be available for Members at the November Local Committee. Data was collected 24 hours a day for 7 days to get a representative sample. Several counters are used when long stretches of road are assessed. A standard methodology is used that includes road frontage and accident data.

#### **RESOLVED**

The Local Committee in Surrey Heath:

- i) noted the outturn position as reported,
- ii) agreed the scheme priorities for 2007/08, as reported, and
- iii) agreed that the management of the 2007/08 Devolved LTP and Local Allocation budgets be vested with the Local Highways Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee.

#### **56/07 CAMBERLEY CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE**

Members noted that page 3 7 c) should read "Represents a 50% increase year on year for residents permits"

#### **RESOLVED**

The Local Committee

- a. noted the 2006/07 outturn position and 2007/08 estimate for the Controlled Parking Zone account,
- b. agreed to review the patrolling efficiencies within the zone and explore the implications of introducing on street charging for parking.
- c. agreed the increases for all on street parking permits within the town centre and controlled parking zone as set out in the report.
- d. agreed that the management of the CPZ budget be vested with the Local Highways Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**57/07 LAKE ROAD PETITION RESPONSE**

Members asked officers to ensure that overhanging vegetation was not an issue and was cut back so as not to interfere with the measures used.

**RESOLVED**

The Surrey Heath Local Committee noted the addition of Lake Road to the temporary vehicle activated signs programme for 2007/08 and the indicative programme for the review of traffic conditions along its length.

**58/07 TASKS COMMISSIONED BY THE LOCAL COMMITTEE (TRANSPORTATION)**

This report was for information only.

The meeting finished at 9:34pm

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Chairman.



Open Public Question Time notes.  
Surrey County Council's Local Committee (Surrey Heath)  
26<sup>th</sup> July 2007, Chobham Community Centre.

**1. Jill Axtell, Chobham.**

When can we expect Surrey Heath Borough Council (SHBC) and the Environment Agency (EA) to complete the restoration of Field 81? This is no longer a flood meadow and so contributes to flooding. Both SHBC and EA put in about £75,000 each but it was restored 2 ft higher than it should have been, why?

**Reply from Vivienne Chapman, Borough Councillor.**

This is the responsibility of the Environment Agency. The project did not run out of money and remains the responsibility of the EA.

**2. Nick Decata, Chobham**

We have an insurance excess of £5,000 pending an enquiry into who owns and maintains the drains. What is being done to address this?

**Reply from David Ivison, County Councillor.**

We understand there have been problems over recent years and agencies are working together to address issues where possible.

**3. Edmund Bain, Chobham**

We did not know about these meetings, can they be promoted via Council Tax leaflets?

**Reply from David Ivison, County Councillor.**

This is a good idea and we will look into it.

SHBC Members also suggested using Heathscene to promote the dates of the Local Committee.

**4. Edmund Bain, Chobham**

Flooding is an issue of drainage, which falls to SCC, SHBC and Surrey Wildlife Trust. The ditches need to be sorted out as there has been no attempt to dig out the ditches in Chobham. I rang SHBC on Friday to ask why ditches discharge into the road. The problem is that no one listens to us. SHBC paid the higher part of the costs of restoration of Field 81 and the field wasn't cleared deep enough. How much money is needed to provide the service we need?

**Reply from David Ivison, County Councillor.**

Billions would be needed to do everything that people have asked for, we don't have the resources to do it all.

**5. Nick Decata, Chobham.**

The last time we had flooding the problem was compounded by waves from vehicles. We need more flood signs to warn drivers.

**6. Mr Bambridge, West End.**

What is being done to alleviate the flooding on the High Street, West End?

We need to improve drainage, what is being done?

We need to prevent overflow from the field at Gordon's School.

**Reply from Lavinia Sealy, County Councillor.**

SCC highways has cleared out drains along by Gordon's and since January has spent an extra £60,000 locally. Borough Councillor Keith Bush has spoken to Gordon's and they are looking into ways of preventing future flooding onto the road. The built environment has changed.

I am having a surgery on 1<sup>st</sup> August at West End Pavilion.

There has been a real effort locally by highways and SHBC.

**Reply from Stewart Stevenson, Borough Councillor.**

We have a land drainage engineer who is looking into who owns the land and enforcing maintenance responsibilities. There has been exceptionally high rainfall and we are working with SCC to find where the ditches are blocked and getting land-owners to clear them. The situation recently was better in areas where the ditches had been cleared since the last flood.

**7. Mr Worsfold, Abelia Close, West End.**

I wrote to Wayne Purdon (SHBC) last month but have received no reply. Cllr Keith Bush came round and was shown the drains that had not been cleared since the estate was built. He said he did not know who owned the land but the next day it was cleared, two days after that the silt was cleared out. I have been out and cleared the road grids myself. The culverts need deep cleaning.

**8. Lesley Hadcroft, Frimley**

Where are these meetings advertised?

We need more sandbags. SHBC did not answer the phones on Friday. When will the sewage around the houses be dealt with?

**Reply from Vivienne Chapman, Borough Councillor.**

The contact centre had over 700 calls in the morning alone. An emergency centre was also set up but was not needed. SHBC was doing everything it could.

**Reply from Paul Kenny, Station Manager – Camberley, Surrey Fire and Rescue.**

Surrey Fire and Rescue attended several incidents and received several hundred calls in Surrey Heath alone. We prioritise saving life over saving property, we did our best but had nowhere to pump the water to. The whole of the County was under this level of pressure, not just Surrey Heath.

**9. Mr Jeffs, Pennypot Lane.**

I contacted SHBC for sandbags but was told by the contact centre that they could not help me. No one knew where the keys for the sandbag bins at Chobham Fire Station were.

**Reply from Stewart Stevenson, Borough Councillor.**

The keys are available and I apologise if incorrect information regarding sandbags was given. The Parish Council has the keys.

**Reply from Vivienne Chapman, Borough Councillor.**

SHBC went all out to supply sandbags and were working on these all day long, building supply yards ran out of sand in the end.

**10. Kevin Dale, Sandpit Road, Chobham.**

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of flooding, water ran past the floodplain into houses, what has changed? In planning how does the Borough Council assess changes to water flow? Surrey Fire and Rescue moved water from the Bourne, did this impact on flooding?

**Reply from Lavinia Sealy, County Councillor.**

It is difficult to understand why water moves as it does. Wayne Purdon will be looking into this and hopefully involving the EA. I have spoken to the EA and will get you the information on what they have done recently. Rainfall has been exceptional but we have had this level of rainfall 11 times in the past 2 years.

**11. John Timms,**

What is going to happen on a strategic level? The existing infrastructure will not cope, it needs new culverts, ditches and balancing ponds. The EA have schemes for Chobham but DEFRA did a cost – benefit analysis and the schemes will not go ahead. Elected bodies need to pressurise DEFRA to change this situation. What are elected bodies doing to pressurise Government?

**Reply from David Ivison, County Councillor.**

There are two conflicting Government policies. One to build more houses and one from DEFRA restricting funds to address infrastructure issues.

**Reply from Lavinia Sealy, County Councillor.**

I am in touch with the local MP, Michael Gove, and he is pressurising Government and will hold a local meeting soon.

Item 22 – Written Member's Questions.

**Question from Borough Councillor Simon Foale**

Yorktown and Watchmoor Business Association (YWBA) Partnership Meeting is becoming increasingly frustrated at the slow response to actions placed on County Officials often well beyond (months not days) agreed action dates. Is this because the YWBA is a low priority for the County Council or that County lacks resources? If the former then what are the measures which Borough officials can take to increase the prioritisation? If the latter then can further personnel be employed/hired to take on these actions?

**Reply from Andy Stokes, Principal Transportation Development Control Officer.**

Surrey County Council has offered significant input to the Partnership in recent years, particularly since it revised the Highway and Transportation Strategy in 2004. The Strategy is development led and it has only been in the past 2 years that significant sums of money have been received following the implementation of development. In fact one of the major aims of the Strategy has been achieved within the last 12 months, namely with the addition of the Yorktown Way link road. This has been a key aim of the Strategy for many years.

S106 monies have been received from a number of differing developments and following a period of re-structuring and reorganization the County has now begun work on surveys and design work, which will ultimately lead to the implementation of some of the secured Strategy measures. The action dates are often subject to many outside influences beyond the control of Officers. However, it should be stressed that these dates are 'expected dates' rather than deadlines. The resources required to carry out the relevant actions has to be balanced against other workloads and pressures and whilst it may appear that the County is not putting adequate resources into Yorktown related issues, the County do consider that the level of input is appropriate when judged against other equally important projects.