

MINUTES: of the meeting of the Tandridge Local Committee held at 10.15am on Friday 26th January 2007 at the Soper Hall, Caterham

County Council Members

- * Mr Peter Langham - Chairman
- * Mr David Hodge - Vice-Chairman
- * Mrs Sally Ann B Marks
- * Marian Myland
- * Mr Ken Rimington
- Mr N W Skellett

District Council Members

- * Cllr Richard Allen
- * Cllr Martin Fisher
- * Cllr Robin Harling
- * Cllr Alan Jones
- * Cllr Eric Morgan
- * Cllr Jeremy Pursehouse

* = Present

01/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Mr N W Skellett.

02/07 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 29 SEPTEMBER AND 6 DECEMBER 2006 [Item 2]

Accepted.

03/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were none

04/07 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS [Item 4]

No formal questions were received prior to the meeting. There was one informal question from a member of the public about Surrey Air Ambulance. Mrs Sally Ann Marks responded.

05/07 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 5]

There were none.

06/07 MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS [Item 6]

Members have been allocated £11,000 each for 2006/07 plus £35,000 for capital projects for voluntary sector organisations in the local area giving a total of £101,000.

Members considered 11 new requests for funding from the Members' Allocations budget as at Annex A of the report and **AGREED** as follows:

- Surrey Student Transport Partnership bus route £7,000

- Hurst Green Family Link Coffee Club £1200
- Felbridge Playground Improvements £5,000
- Outwood Youth Project £2,000
- Bletchingley Village Hall £2,000
- Godstone Youth Club £1,000
- Rotary Clock, Caterham £682
- Tatsfield in Bloom £800
- Independent Housing Opportunities Trust £490
- Lighting at Blindley Heath £300
- 11th Caterham Scouts £1680

East Surrey Museum's bid to enable the acquisition of the Roger Packham postcard collection was deferred to March and a new verbal request for match funding to support their Heritage Lottery Fund bid was considered instead.

The committee AGREED IN PRINCIPLE £4,000 so that the application could proceed, subject to further investigation by the Chairman, Peter Langham and Mrs Sally Marks, supported by the Local Committee and Partnership Officer.

Recent amendments to the Constitution's Scheme of Delegation allowing Local Committees to delegate decision making powers, under certain circumstances, to Local Directors should they wish, were set out in Annex B of the report. Members subsequently considered whether, and how, to change local arrangements in Tandridge. Mrs Sally Marks proposed adopting Option 1, seconded by Marian Myland and the Committee RESOLVED to maintain the previous system whereby allocations can only be agreed by full committee in a formal meeting (Option 1).

Members were then asked to review the existing locally agreed protocol for allocations in Tandridge, which governs the process, as set out in Annex C of the report and to recommend changes.

The Committee AGREED to recommend no further changes be made to the existing local protocol for allocations [as set out in Annex C.]

The Chairman took the opportunity to express a view that Committee meetings should continue to be held in locations other than the Council Chamber in Oxted and suggested venues in Lingfield, Caterham, Warlingham and Godstone should be considered for future meetings.

07/07 **CHILDREN'S SERVICE WORKING LOCALLY** [Item 7]

This report sought to update the Committee on the restructure of the Children's Service following the Business Development Review and, in particular, how it will operate in Tandridge in future. The presenting officer was the Tandridge Locality Manager who had been in post for only four weeks and who was supported by the Local Education Officer.

During the course of the discussion the Chairman agreed to write in support of the local self-reliance projects in Hurst Green and Caterham to the portfolio holder, Andrew Crisp, as there were still doubts about the continued future funding of these posts.

Mr David Hodge asked a question on drug awareness training in primary schools as he had been made aware by a head teacher of a programme provided by Life Education Centres and he was interested to know whether this was offered to all primary schools. The Local Education Officer explained that 4S had a dedicated team which dealt with the subject and that it was available to all schools but that there may be budget implications for head teachers. Mr Hodge said that he would forward information given to him by the head teacher for comment.

When considering the officer recommendations, Members felt that they could not make suggestions for inclusion in the service business plan as they did not have sufficient information.

The Committee therefore RESOLVED:

- (a) to note the content of the report and reflect back to the service any local issues of concern or interest
- (b) to offer continuing support to local projects
- (c) to monitor progress of the new service targets and receive feedback from officers on targets and outcomes at an agreed time.

[NOTE: The committee adjourned for coffee at 11:25 am and reconvened at 11:40 am]

08/07 **PETITIONS** [Item 8]

There were two petitions from local residents [Attached as Annex A] to which officers responded.

In response to Mr David Club who spoke for Tatsfield residents of Paynesfield Road, the East Area Transportation Group Manager said he felt the petition had some merits and arranged to meet with the Rights of Way Officer and the local Member, Mr David Hodge, outside of the meeting to explore further options. He agreed to report back on progress to the next Committee meeting on 23rd March 2007.

In response to Mr Gary Chute, who spoke on behalf of the residents of Peter and Wheeler Avenues in Oxted, the Chairman reminded the Local Transportation Officers that work had already been done on priority parking and asked that the Local Transportation team arrange for working groups to meet again in each division and to feed back their findings to the next meeting in March 2007 in order to expedite the process.

09/07 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** [Item 9]

There were no formal questions but there were two informal questions, one on the subject of Village Gateways, which was due to be discussed later in the agenda [Item 12], and one on the future of the 409 and 411 bus routes in N Tandridge. Surrey officers shared information with the meeting that, while the provider had indeed issued a statement that they could no longer maintain these routes at current costs, the routes were being put out to tender and there was no intention on the part of Surrey County Council's Passenger Transport team to withdraw either of these routes.

10/07 **MEMBERS QUESTIONS** [Item 10]

There were three formal questions received from Members, one from Mr Peter Langham and two from Mrs Sally Ann Marks [Attached at Annex B] and three informal questions. Mr Roger Archer-Reeves, East Area Transportation Group Manager (EATGM), agreed to respond in writing to Mrs Marks on issues relating to Colin Road and Station Road and informed the Committee that he was speaking to EdF about the quality of the service provided since the contract began some 18 months ago. He also agreed to copy Members in to his response. In response to a query by District Councillor Jeremy Pursehouse, he agreed to advise on the timeframes.

Marian Myland asked for more information about the schedule of the Community Gangs. Mr Archer-Reeves advised that this should be happening routinely and asked the Local

Transportation Manager to follow this up with the maintenance engineer and report back to Mrs Myland.

District Councillor Robin Harling raised the issue of the Carillion contract and asked why, in view of unsatisfactory progress, the contract had been extended. The Chairman pointed out that this issue did not fall within the remit of the Local Committee and suggested that Mr Harling should write formally to the Executive. He added that the outcome of the internal investigation had not yet been made public so the Transportation team were not yet in a position to respond. A further question on the Cycle task group was deferred to the East Area Transportation Group Manager's Verbal Update. [Item 11]

11/07 VERBAL UPDATE BY THE EAST AREA TRANSPORTATION GROUP MANAGER
[Item 11]

Roger Archer-Reeves, EATGM, circulated a briefing note [Attached as Annex C]
He updated Members on the recent storms, which had brought down 305 trees across the county. 25 teams worked constantly to clear the damage and keep roads clear. The EATGM then updated Members on a maintenance seminar hosted by Andy Roberts and Helyn Clack and asked the Local Transportation Manager to circulate presentation information. There is a second event due on 28th March. Cycle Forums are to be rationalised and an East Surrey group may be created in consultation with the SCC Cycling Officer.

District Councillor Alan Jones complimented the service on the speed and efficiency with which fallen trees had been cleared. He also announced that the South Tandridge Speed Management programme had finally been completed. He reported that Burstow Parish Council were very pleased with the support they had had from Highways on the installation of a Vehicle Activated Sign which they had purchased and were about to add to it.

Mrs Sally Marks pointed out that Woldingham speed limits due this year were not included in the report and asked whether they should have been. The EATGM suspected that this might have been an oversight and asked the LTM to email her with further information.

Marian Myland asked whom she should talk to about cleaning Coopers Hill Viaduct and on noise pollution on the M23. The EATGM agreed to write to the Highways Agency about the noise issue and to copy in Mrs Myland.

Thanks to the Local Transportation Team in working well in difficult circumstances was duly noted.

12/07 VILLAGE GATEWAY SIGNS ON PUBLIC HIGHWAYS IN TANDRIDGE [Item 12]

This report sought to explain the criteria and process governing village gateway signs on the public highway but after some discussion Members felt that it did not adequately address the issue and could not agree the officer recommendations.

They asked that this report should also include the criteria for acceptability of Gateway signs financed by Parish Councils or other entities, not just those financed by Surrey County Council, and RESOLVED that a detailed report be brought to the next Committee meeting in March for further discussion.

13/07 JUDGES CORNER B2028 WEST PARK ROAD JUNCTION WITH B2027 SNOW HILL AND EFFINGHAM ROAD, COPTHORNE [Item 13]

This report was brought at the request of the Local Committee when the issue was last discussed in the belief that the outcome of the application for funding would have been

published by January 2007. However, this has not yet been discussed and approved and this interim report describes action taken in the meantime.

Members were updated on progress and asked to consider the outline scheme plan, confirm their support and approve the acquisition of land.

Mr Ken Rimington said that he was happy to accept the situation but was eager to see a positive outcome from the funding bid. District Councillor Alan Jones agreed that it was moving in the right direction and hoped that it would be successful.

The Chairman confirmed that all the funding bids were in but had to go first to the Transportation Select Committee for consideration and then to the Executive for approval. He offered to write to the Chairman of the Select Committee copying in the Leader of the Council and the senior transportation officer, Mr Steve Lee, in support of the application. He also requested that Mr David Hodge, who sits on the Select Committee, inform him when it next meets.

The Committee AGREED to:

- (i) approve the outline scheme plan shown at Annex B
- (ii) confirm support for the bid for funding as a LTP Intermediate scheme
- (iii) approve the acquisition of land as indicated on Annex C.

[NOTE: The date and time of the next informal meeting was confirmed as 23rd February.]

[Meeting Ended: 1.15 pm]

Chairman