

MINUTES: of the meeting of the Tandridge Local Committee held at 10.15am on Friday 20th June 2008 at the Victoria Club, Lingfield

County Council Members

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

District Council Members

- * Cllr Lisa Bangs
- * Cllr Michael Cooper
- * Cllr Tony Elias
- * Cllr Martin Fisher
- * Cllr Eric Morgan
- * Cllr Brain Perkins

* = Present

20/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

There were none

21/08 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 07 MARCH 2008 [Item 2]

Accepted.

22/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

Mr Peter Langham declared a personal interest as a member of the Police Authority [Item 9 – Community Safety in Tandridge] and in respect of his wife sitting on the Planning Committee of Tandridge District Council [Item 10 – Copthorne Road]. Mrs Sally Marks declared a personal interest as a member of Woldingham Parish Council in relation to [Item 13]. District Councillor Michael Cooper declared a personal interest as one of the funding decisions affected the Caterham Health Check group (ABC) of which he was a member [Item 13]. None of these were considered to be prejudicial.

23/08 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS [Item 4]

There were none.

24/08 PETITIONS [Item 5]

A petition was brought in relation to the Tetra mast at Oxted Fire Station, which local residents find intrusive and would like to have removed. As the Local Member, Mr Nick Skellett explained that he had called a public meeting for 7 July at Oxted Fire Station to discuss this

issue and the Chairman said that he would not pre-empt the outcome of that meeting but would await developments.

25/08 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS** [Item 6]

There were none, but Mrs Sally Marks took the opportunity to make the Committee aware that Mr Nick Skellett had recently been awarded a CBE and he was warmly congratulated on his achievement.

26/08 **COUNTY COUNCILLORS LOCAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 2008/09** [Item 7]

Members have been allocated £11,000 each for 2008/09 plus £35,000 for capital projects for voluntary sector organisations in the local area giving a total of £101,000.

A report was provided showing the distribution of funding for last year geographically and by priority and suggested amendments to the protocol were proposed at Annex B.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee

- (i) Note the expenditure for 2007/08
- (ii) consider new requests for funding from the Members' Allocations budget as at Annex A, and approve:

Key Safes	£5,500.00
NCYPE	£7,000.00
CR3	£2,445.00
Godstone Primary School	£1,500.00
Lingfield Primary School	£1,000.00
Dormansland Primary School	£2,000.00
East Surrey Carers Assn	£3,500.00
3rd Caterham Scouts	£1,130.00
1st Hurst green Scouts	£2,500.00
Bluehouse festival	£1,500.00
Lingfield Primary School	£ 600.00

- (iii) Following the annual review of local protocols, formally approve amendments to the local funding protocol for Tandridge Local Committee set out in Annex B.

Mr Peter Langham pointed out that, although he was sponsoring East Surrey Carers Association (ESCA) for the second year running, it also took its membership from Reigate and Banstead and asked whether that Committee should be approached to contribute. Members agreed that it was an excellent cause and were prepared to contribute all of the funding in 08/09 so that planning could go ahead this year and the Local Committee and Partnerships Officer was tasked with ensuring that ESCA were encouraged to apply to Reigate and Banstead Committee for funding in 2009/10.

27/08 **LOCAL COMMITTEE PROTOCOLS – ANNUAL REVIEW** [Item 8]

The Local Committee is a properly constituted body governed by Surrey County Council's Constitution. However, in order to function effectively in the local area, Local Committees have been granted the power to make some minor changes to facilitate engagement with the local community. Any amendments must be approved by Democratic Services prior to being adopted under Local Protocols.

The reason for reviewing the Local Protocol is so that it is effectively monitored on an annual basis and any amendments incorporated in a timely manner to improve the running of the Committee meetings and to provide an operational framework that is unambiguous.

Given the impact of last minute petitions being presented to the Local Committee without any discussion with the petitioners to clarify process, the lead-in time was changed from 3 to 7 days prior to Committee. This proposed amendment had the approval of Democratic Services.

RESOLVED that the committee agree to:

Approve the amendment to the local protocol, as previously discussed, and incorporated in Annex A at para 62.3.

28/08 **COMMUNITY SAFETY IN TANDRIDGE** [Item 9]

Under Part 3, Section 1 of the County Council's Constitution, the Local Committee is responsible for monitoring services provided locally and contributing to the district-based community safety strategy. The Local Committee's service monitoring role and devolved budgets provide an excellent opportunity for supporting the work of the CDRP.

The report was introduced by Lynne Martin (Area Director) and contributions were made by Surrey Police; the District Council's Community Safety Manager; Surrey Fire & Rescue Service; Primary Care Trust (PCT); Trading Standards and the Youth Development Team.

Generally Tandridge does not have a high crime rate and the main areas of concern were around young people congregating in Caterham on the Hill, exacerbated by the lack of youth resources. Mr Skellett commented that the onus was on the CDRP to make a clear request to the County Council's Executive if additional resources were required.

Officers also publicised the Big Drink Debate on-line questionnaire and encouraged Members and the public to complete it as soon as possible.

The Chairman thanked the attending officers for their work and achievements in making Tandridge a safer place to live and work.

RESOLVED

That the Local Committee (Tandridge) agree to:

- (i) Note the work of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership
- (ii) Adopt the Community Safety Plan 2008-11 on behalf of Surrey County Council;(iii)
- (iii) Consider community safety projects when allocating funding from its devolved budgets.
- (iv) Nominate a County Councillor to the Tandridge Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

[NOTE: David Hodge was nominated by Peter Langham and seconded by Nick Skellett and the proposal was carried.]

- (v) That the Area Director, in consultation with the Local Committee representative on the CDRP, agree the allocation of Surrey County Council community safety funding allocated to the Crime and Disorder Partnership, in accordance with the community safety strategy priorities.

[NOTE: The meeting adjourned for coffee at 11:28 am and reconvened at 11:49 am]

29/08 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** [Item 10]

Mrs Charlotte Heijmer of Limpsfield Parish Council asked a question on the subject of the impact of heavy goods vehicles in the local area and the Chairman deferred the response to the discussion at Item 13.

The Chairman also acknowledged comments received from Limpsfield and Westerham Parish Councils on the same subject.

30/08 **PETITIONS** [Item 11]

There was one petition outstanding from the extraordinary meeting of 7 May 2008 from the Woldingham Action Group to which the Chairman returned. He explained that, although he had said he would bring a report to this Committee meeting, Committee had subsequently agreed that there would be a cost implication attached to any further research that would have to be met from the Annual Maintenance Plan, under discussion at Item 13. Until the priorities could be considered and such funding agreed, the report would have to be postponed. He therefore deferred a response until the funding issue had been debated.

31/08 **MEMBERS QUESTIONS** [Item 12]

There was a formal question from Mr Peter Langham on grass-cutting which sparked a debate on how this could be tackled more effectively with suggestions that the District and County could combine their resources and have a single contract. Mr Nick Skellett also suggested that the Community Gangs be deployed to tidy up after the cutting had been done or that more funding could be delegated to Local Committees to address this. He asked the Chairman to prepare some proposals for the next meeting. The Chairman responded that he was due to attend a meeting with the Vice-chairman, Directors and Chief Executive of the District on 15 July and asked Members to let him have their concerns prior to that meeting.

District Councillor Lisa Bangs condemned the inadequacy of the budget and supervision and asked how Highways could become more prudent and spend the budget more effectively. The East Area Group Manager responded that Highways cuts grass for safety rather than aesthetics and that that would remain the priority.

32/08 **INTEGRATED TRANSPORT SCHEMES 2008/09 – 2010/11, MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND SURFACE TREATMENTS 2008/09 AND EAST AREA MAINTENANCE DELIVERY PLAN FOR SURREY HIGHWAYS EAST 2008/09.** [Item 13]

This report sought Member approval for expenditure from the Maintenance budget for 2008/09 and officers were asked to include in future reports figures from the previous year's expenditure so that comparisons could clearly be seen in order to put these decisions into context. They also asked for more locally focussed information which officers agreed to send out in the following week.

Officers took away a number of specific issues to follow up including: Street lighting, A22 at Whyteleaf, Parking improvements and an investigation into further sites for parking restrictions and Well Heights Farm. The East Area Group Manager agreed to copy the Chairman into his response to Members on these issues.

District Councillor Michael Cooper declared his interest as a member of the ABC Health Check steering group and went on to express his pleasure at £45,000 being made available for works in Caterham in connection with the Health Check recommendations.

After some discussion, Members were largely in support of the recommendations but asked for some amendments to be made. Recommendation (ii) was amended to add “and that these programmes be reviewed regularly with reports to the Committee.” This was proposed by Mr Nick Skellett, seconded by Mrs Sally Marks and approved by the committee.

However, when it became clear that there were amendments to other recommendations [(iv) correcting an omission,(vi) and (vii) reflecting an amendment that had not been picked up prior to despatch, these were taken together, read out in their final form by the Chairman, proposed by Mr Nick Skellett, seconded by Mr Ken Rimington and duly approved by Committee.

[NOTE: District Councillor Tony Elias left at 12.45 am]

RESOLVED that the Local Committee (Tandridge) agree to:

- (i) Note the East Area Maintenance delivery Plan for 2008/09, which includes Tandridge, and note the anticipated outturn figures for the east Area Delivery Plan for 2007/08
- (ii) To approve the programme of integrated transport schemes for Tandridge for progression in 2008/09 and the indicative programmes for 2009/10, 2010/11 funded by Local Transport Plan and local Allocation as set out within the report and that these programmes be reviewed regularly with reports to the Committee.
- (iii) that authority be delegated to the East Area Group Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-chairman and local elected Member to advertise any necessary traffic regulation order(s), to consider any objections received and subject to those objections make the associated order(s) and deliver the schemes in (i) and (ii) above.
- (iv) That the East Group Area Manager be authorised to determine any objections received in response to statutory notices in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee, the Vice-chairman, and the local elected Member.
- (v) That authority be delegated to the East Area Group Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-chairman in relation to any amendment to the 2008/09-2010/11 scheme list, as a result of changes in available funding following the closing of the 2007/08 accounts.
- (vi) Approve the allocation of £103,000 of Local Schemes Revenue funding [del in support of the East Area maintenance Delivery Plan 2008/09] as determined by the Local Committee to be spent within Tandridge.
- (vii) Approve the Local Allocation of £100,000 [del per district] as detailed within the report for integrated transport schemes within Tandridge.

As the proposed plan of expenditure included £10,000 for a review into the movement of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) in Tandridge, the Chairman requested a report to be brought back to Committee and, as this was a necessary step in producing a report requested at the extraordinary meeting of the Local Committee in Tandridge in May 2008 in relation to the petition [Item 11], asked that it brought to an additional meeting to be held in public before October. Due to the summer break in August, he stated his preference for this to be done by the end of July and tasked officers with commissioning the report.

33/08 **SPEED LIMIT REVIEW FOR THE A22 EASTBOURNE ROAD SOUTH GODSTONE**
[Item 14]

This report sought approval by Committee to vary a local speed limit.

District Councillor Lisa Bangs asked whether the 40 mph speed limit at Blindley Heath could also be reduced and the Local Transport Manager assured her that it was also on the list of priorities and agreed to report back.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee for Tandridge agree to:

- (i) the proposed change in speed limit from 40mph to 30mph on the A22 Eastbourne Road, South Godstone (see Annex B), and the installation of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) in both directions to support the introduction of this new speed limit.

34/08 **PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMITS AT: C227 WHYTELEAFE HILL (SALMONS LANE TO CHURCH ROAD), WHYTLEAFE; C218 BUXTON LANE/HAYES LANE, WHYTELEAFE; B2030 GODSTONE ROAD (A22 CATERHAM BY-PASS TO TUPWOOD LANE), CATERHAM [Item 15]**

This report sought approval from Members to vary speed limits in and around Caterham. Mrs Sally Marks was supportive of the recommendations and said she was very pleased at their implementation.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee (Tandridge) agree that:

- (i) The 30mph speed limit present on the length of Whyteleafe Hill between Salmons Lane and Church Road be advertised.
- (ii) The 30mph speed limit present on the whole of Buxton Lane and continuing into Hayes Lane up to the County boundary be advertised.
- (iii) The 30mph speed limit present on the length of Godstone Road between A22 Caterham by-pss and Tupwood lane be advertised.
- (iv) That authorisation is given to the East Surrey Highways Group Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-chairman and Local Members to consider and/or resolve any objections to the proposals advertised and that the related Traffic Regulation Orders be 'made'.

35/08 **COPTHORNE ROAD, FELBRIDGE PUFFIN CROSSING [Item 16]**

This report was brought by the Transport Development Control team to request Committee approval for work to begin on relocating a pedestrian crossing in Copthorne Road in respect of a local housing development on the grounds that it was not considered to meet standards in its present location. The cost of the works was to be met by the developer.

Meanwhile, the Chairman had been approached with a request to defer the decision as a number of local residents preferred the current site to the one proposed under the terms of the development and approved by the Planning Inspector.

The Local Committee has no powers to vary planning agreements but does have responsibility for maintaining the highway. Therefore legal advice was sought and it was considered that, since the planning decision had been taken on the grounds of safety, if the Local Committee failed to approve the relocation, Surrey County Council could be liable if an accident were to occur at the present site.

The Chairman reported that he had discussed the issue with the Surrey County Council legal department, Transport Development Control, the District Director of Planning and the office of MP Peter Ainsworth and that he had been given no compelling reason to delay the decision.

Mr Ken Rimington therefore asked for a recorded vote and the Chairman agreed.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee (Tandridge) agree:

- (i) The relocation of the existing Puffin Crossing facility across Cophorne Road, Felbridge, as show on Annex A.

For: Distict Councillor Martin Fisher, Mr Peter Langham, Mr Nick Skellett, Mrs Sally Marks, Mrs Marian Myland, District Councillor Eric Morgan and Mr David Hodge

Against: District Councillor Michael Cooper, Mr Ken Rimington, District Councillor Lisa Bangs and District Councillor Brian Perkins

The vote was carried by seven votes to four, District Councillor Tony Elias having left at 12.45.

[Meeting Ended: 1.35 pm]

Chairman