

MINUTES: of the meeting of the Tandridge Local Committee held at 10.15am on Friday 3rd July 2009 at Tandridge District Council Offices, Oxted.

County Council Members

- * Mr N W Skellett - Chairman
Mrs Sally Ann B Marks - Vice-chairman
- * Mr Tony Elias
- * Mr David Hodge
Mr John Orrick
- * Mr Michael Sydney

District Council Members

- * Cllr Lisa Bangs
Cllr Michael Cooper
- * Cllr Martin Fisher
- * Cllr Eric Morgan
- * Cllr Marian Myland
- * Cllr Brian Perkins

* = Present

18/09 LOCAL COMMITTEE OFFICE BEARERS [Item 1]

Following the election on 4th June 2009, the office bearers for all local committees were appointed by Surrey County Council on 23rd June 2009. Mr N W Skellett opened the meeting by introducing himself and the new Members and thanking the outgoing Chairman, Mr David Hodge, for all his hard work in the previous year. He also highlighted some of the County Council's priorities as outlined in the Leader's speech which included an injection of £1m for partnership work with the Police to reduce speeding; the strategy to improve recruitment of Social Care staff and the role of local committees in improving delivery of local services and local leadership.]

18/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 2]

Apologies were received from Mrs Sally Ann B Marks; Mr John Orrick and District Councillor Michael Cooper. District Councillor Ken Harwood substituted.

19/09 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 MARCH 2009 [Item 3]

Accepted.

20/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 4]

Mr Tony Elias declared that he was also a District Councillor as is Mr Michael Sydney. The Committee clerk pointed out that this did not of itself constitute a conflict of interest. There was therefore no need to complete and submit a form or to withdraw from the meeting at any point. In relation to Item 9, the Local Education Officer's Annual Report on Education, Mr Skellett declared a non-prejudicial interest, in that he was a governor of Oxted School, and Mr Sydney in that he was a governor of Lingfield Primary School.

21/09 **PETITIONS** [Item 5]

There were none.

22/09 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** [Item 6]

There were none.

23/09 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS** [Item 7]

There were none.

24/09 **COUNTY COUNCILLORS ALLOCATIONS FOR 2008/09** [Item 8]

At its annual budget meeting in February 2009, £8,250 revenue funding was delegated to each Member for this financial year plus £35,000 capital funding per Local Committee to support community initiatives.

The Local Committee considered 7 applications for funding totalling £36,744 from a total budget of £84,000. Leaving a balance of £47,256.

The amount set aside for TVSC's move to new premises above Oxted Library was to a total of £10,000 but this may be considerably less if the CAB, who will be sharing the same office space, makes good on promises to contribute to the costs.

The amount set aside for the Caterham Evening Villager service was to a total of £9,000 but may be significantly less if the local parish councils of Caterham on the Hill and Caterham Valley vote to make a contribution at their next meetings 8th July.

Mr Tony Elias, speaking on behalf of Showtimers, asked that the Committee also meet the cost of any VAT incurred in the purchase of their stage curtains should this prove necessary.

A further application was made by Highways in respect of a traffic counter for Chalkpit Lane, with total costs of £1200 to be shared with Oxted Parish Council. The Committee felt that this cost should be met, if possible, from an existing Highways budget but agreed that it was important that the work should proceed.

RESOLVED that the Tandridge Local Committee considered new requests for funding from the Members' Allocations budget as set out in Annex A of the report and approved the following:

Godstone at Play	£5,000.00
Limpsfield Chart Cricket Club	£3,000.00
Bletchingley Village Hall	£500.00
TVSC	up to £10,000.00
East Surrey Rural Transport Forum	up to £9,000.00
Caterham Youth Centre	£8,000.00
Showtimers	£1244.00 plus VAT

Reason for Decision

All projects under consideration have been sponsored by, and have the support of, the appropriate Local Member. As funding for Tandridge Local Committee is pooled, Members are requested to consider them as a group and to decide on whether or not to approve them.

25/09 **LOCAL EDUCATION OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT ON EDUCATION** [Item 9]

This report sought to provide Members with an overview of local education issues, developments and attainment in the district.

The Local Education Officer (LEO) opened by explaining that the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCFS) no longer publishes attainment results for Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) at the end of Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 3. Schools are therefore able to concentrate on those activities that add value to pupil development. Although most schools administer SATs, teacher assessment is now the key indicator of attainment. Surrey schools are achieving at an equal or higher level than the national average with some Tandridge schools performing exceptionally well.

She also took the opportunity to introduce the Tandridge Schools Confederation Co-ordinator, who explained briefly the role and scope of the confederation, which now incorporates 34 schools including most recently the Orpheus and gave some additional information on the Confederation Day event and on the Tandridge Youth Council.

The LEO responded to questions on auditing (which she agreed to follow up with the appropriate officers outside the meeting); church schools and admission criteria; swine flu and primary school absence figures, which she felt were largely attributable to parental attitudes, although this is being addressed.

Members further noted the improvement in de Stafford School under the leadership of its Head Teacher, Mr Mark Phillips, and Mr David Hodge proposed that the Chairman should write to him on behalf of the Committee to express their appreciation. Mr Skellett agreed to do this.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee (Tandridge) **AGREED** to note the content of this report.

Reason for Decision

It is a function of the Local Committee to monitor service provision by County services within the District, which it fulfilled by noting the content of this report and commenting on the delivery of local education.

26/09 **CHILDREN'S CENTRES IN TANDRIDGE** [Item 10]

This item consisted of a short briefing note, carried forward from the previous meeting, which sought to introduce the new rural Children's Centre bus. The bus parked up outside the venue from 11.30 to 12.10 so that Members and the public could view it during the coffee break. The senior childcare manager for Tandridge and the Children's Centre manager based in Hurst Green were on hand to answer questions.

[NOTE: Adjourned for coffee at 11.45 am and reconvened at 12.05 pm]

27/09 **PETITIONS** [Item 11]

There were 3 petitions (attached as Annexes A, B & C) on a footpath in Felcourt presented by Mrs Shirley Kaye and Mr Peter Joseph-Tebbutt; a pedestrian crossing for Lingfield presented by Mr Mick Taylor and parking in Lingfield presented by Kate Limbert from the Chamber of Commerce.

28/09 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** [Item 12]

There were 2 written questions (attached as Annexes D & E) from Mr Ian Frow on speed limits in Outwood and from Mrs Liz Cutter on grass cutting in grass-cutting and other highways works.

29/09 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS** [Item 13]

District Councillor Martin Fisher asked about the grass-cutting schedule and the Local Highways Manager replied that it should now be in phase 3 of the cycle and that the community gangs could also be deployed to strim areas where sightlines had become obscured but promised to follow this up outside the meeting.

30/09 **INTEGRATED TRANSPORT SCHEMES 2009/10 – 2013/14** [Item 14]

An amended report was tabled as this report sought approval for the programme of integrated transport schemes recommended by Members at the last committee meeting [6 March 2009] prior to the election and a subsequent project had been proposed for footway improvements at the Avenue S Nutfield, tested against the CASEM matrix and subsequently ranked at No 8 in the list for action in this financial year.

It was duly noted that £20,000 had been set aside for works in Caterham in respect of the S2S (Shabby to Smart) scheme, which arose from the Caterham Health Check, while only £18,000 had actually been spent on progressing the work. It was suggested that the balance could be used to offset the cost of the traffic counter in Chalkpit Lane. The Local Highways Manager agreed to look into this.

District Councillor Lisa Bangs asked whether the original feasibility study for safety improvements in the High Street, Dormansland would still be valid thus creating a saving of £10,000 which could go towards progressing the scheme, or for employing a patrol crossing person in the meantime to safeguard children en route to school. It was pointed out that the staffing costs would be drawn from a different funding stream but the Local Highway Manager agreed to take this up with the relevant team after the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee for Tandridge **AGREED** to:

- (i) note the financial outturn for the previous financial year for Integrated Transport schemes (2008/09).
- (ii) approve the programme of Integrated Transport schemes for Tandridge District for progression in 2009/10 - 2013/14 funded by Local Transport Plan and Local Allocation budgets as set out within the report.
- (iii) approve the Local Allocation of £100,000 for integrated transport schemes, as detailed within the report.

- (iv) approve the use of £25000 of the Tandridge revenue maintenance budget in order to progress feasibility design work associated with parking and highways schemes in Annex A (revision 1).

Reason for Decision

The rationale for the recommendations was to allow projects to move forward and provide a continuous workflow.

31/09 **HIGHWAY SCHEMES IN TANDRIDGE** [Item 15]

This report sought to update the Local Committee on the progress of highway schemes being progressed in the 2008/09 and 2009/10 financial years.

Two minor amendments were made to the table on Page 33 at Item 4 [HGV Routes in Oxted] and Item 6 [Rook Lane, Chaldon], which referred to budget setting for 2009/10. It was pointed out that both of these schemes had been completed ahead of schedule and the redundant lines were duly deleted.

RESOLVED that The Local Committee (Tandridge) **AGREED** to note the content of this report

Reason for Decision

This report was for information only to keep Members informed of progress.

32/09 **LINGFIELD PARK RACECOURSE PROPOSED PUFFIN CROSSING** [Item 16]

This report sought approval to advertise the installation of a proposed new Puffin Crossing under section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The Local Highways Manager reported that, while he had been contacted by the Police who were concerned that they had not been formally consulted, he had taken steps to remedy this and reassured Members that this would be done before the advertising took place.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee (Tandridge) **AGREED** that

- (i) authority be given to advertise the installation of a new Puffin Crossing under section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) as shown on the drawing at Annex A and, subject to no objections, or those being withdrawn, the crossing be installed.

Reason for Decision

To ensure the safety of highway users and especially pedestrians crossing Racecourse Road, therefore providing a safer environment.

[Meeting Ended: 1.10 pm]

Chairman