

**MINUTES: of the meeting of the Tandridge Local Committee held at 10.15am on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at the Dormansland Memorial Hall.**

**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 Jill Caudle
- \* Cllr Nick Childs
- \* Cllr Michael Cooper
- \* Cllr Martin Fisher
- \* Cllr Ken Harwood  
Cllr Marian Myland

\* = Present

[The Chairman opened the meeting by congratulating the Surrey County Council Contact Centre on its prize-winning performance. It was second only to Tesco Direct in the category Best Centre for Customer Service and Simon Pollock, the team manager, won a Special Judges Award.]

**44/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]**

Apologies were received from Mr Tony Elias, Mrs Sally Marks and Mr John Orrick. District Councillor Marian Myland was not present and there were no substitutions.

**45/10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2 JULY 2010 [Item 2]**

Agreed as a true record.

**46/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]**

There were none.

**47/10 PETITIONS [Item 4]**

There were none.

**48/10 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS [Item 5]**

There were none.

49/10 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS** [Item 6]

There were none.

50/10 **COUNTY COUNCILLORS' ALLOCATIONS FOR 2010/11** [Item 7]

This report set out the funding available to County Councillors from the delegated budget for 2010/11 and asked them to consider requests for received bids. Each County Councillor has £8,250 revenue and the Committee as a whole has a further £30,000 capital to spend on local projects meeting the agreed criteria. The constitution further allows Members to delegate authority to the Area Director to agree applications up to £1,000.

Mr David Hodge made a point that repeat applications should be discouraged and that a strong business case needs to be made before they should be considered.

**RESOLVED** that The Local Committee (Tandridge):

- (i) **CONSIDERED** new requests for funding from the Members' Allocations budget as set out in Annex A, and **APPROVED** the following:

Caterham History Centre	£950.00
Whyteleafe Business Association	£400.00
Thursday Lunch Club Venue Hire	£1,000.00
East Surrey Rural Transport Forum	£4,500.00

NOTE: Committee further agreed to underwrite the outstanding balance recoverable in the next financial year from Caterham Hill Parish Council £1,875.00

NOTE: A further bid was **TABLED** and **APPROVED** as follows:

Felbridge Footpath Kissing Gate	£250.00
---------------------------------	---------

- (ii) **NOTED** the following payments under delegated authority, also at Annex A:

Chaldon Fete Committee Sheds	£500.00
Whyteleafe Fun Day	£500.00

Reason for decisions

All projects under consideration have been sponsored by, and have the support of, the appropriate Local Member. Members are requested to consider them as a group and to decide whether or not to approve them. Applications for funding where the sum is less than £1,000 and the timing is crucial may, with the approval of the Members, be processed outside of the formal meeting but must be recorded in public at the next formal meeting.

51/10 **ADDITIONAL £92,000 CAPITAL BUDGET FOR HIGHWAYS IN 2010 / 2011** [Item 12]

[NOTE: Due to the East Area Children's Manager being delayed, this item was brought forward on the agenda.]

This report sought approval for the expenditure of a £92,000 capital budget for Highways in Tandridge in the 2010 /2011 financial year.

The attending officer reported that Schemes 1 – 5 of Annex [as tabled] may not be completed in this financial year but would become the first priority for next year. District Councillor

Michael Cooper spoke in support of the Shabby to Smart initiative in Caterham, which he felt was an example of good local partnership working in response to local need and he looked forward to the other schemes in Caterham being completed. Mr Michael Sydney was equally supportive of the work Highways was doing with the Dormansland Road Action Campaign group who were actively fundraising towards the completion of a crossing in Dormansland. He was therefore concerned that matters of insurance, liability and responsibilities were all properly worked out. District Councillor Martin Fisher promoted the idea that the facts concerning the Highways funding situation should be fully understood by the public and widely circulated. The five schemes were subsequently approved.

The Local Highways Manager agreed to assess Church Road, Horne to see whether it was eligible to be added to the carriageway resurfacing locations, funding allowing, and the Chairman asked him to list the top three locations that did not make it onto the shortlist to hold in reserve.

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

(i) **APPROVED** the use of the £92,000 capital funds for Tandridge as set out in Annex A

Reason for decisions

The schemes in Annex A provided a list of highway works aimed at balancing the needs of local communities and the need to improve the highway network.

52/10 **HIGHWAY SCHEMES IN TANDRIDGE PROGRESS REPORT** [Item 13]

The report sought to update the Local Committee on the progress of Highway schemes and works being progressed in the 2010 / 2011 financial year.

As this was the last Committee meeting that the current LHM would attend before taking up a new position as Parking Manager, the Chairman thanked him for his hard work and his efforts on behalf of the Local Committee over recent months. However, there was also recognition that he would still regularly attend Committee in his new capacity. The Chairman therefore requested that the Parking Team provide an overview to Committee in the form of a bullet point list of those works agreed by Committee with an update on progress.

The Local Committee (Tandridge) **NOTED** the report for information.

Reason for decision

This item was for information only.

53/10 **CHILDREN'S SERVICES REPORT** [Item 8]

This report sought to update the Committee on the restructure within Children's Services and to provide some context to the current work in South East Surrey.

The East Area Children's Services Manager reported that the paper under discussion was a very general overview and said that he would welcome comments from Members as to what they would like to see in future reports.

The Chairman noted the work around Community Safety by Children's Service officers attending the Community Incident Action Group, where all partners were able to share confidential information that helped to inform actions subsequently taken to address anti-social behaviour, as this works well in Tandridge and is to be encouraged. Members commented on the statistical evidence and asked that it be based on numbers per 1000 head of population to make it easier to understand and that it be kept locally focussed on Tandridge. They were also

keen to understand the pressures resulting from high profile protection cases. Mr David Hodge was interested in more detailed objectives, particularly around tackling the Looked After Children (LAC) cycle of care, increasing opportunities for fostering and recognising the need for challenging foster carers. The attending officer went on to talk about partnership working and said that he met regularly with the Chief Superintendent of Police to look at protection issues. The Joint Area Review (JAR) restructure had resulted in some links being lost but that he was working on reviewing and re-establishing them. He also gave an overview of staffing issues and said that he is currently carrying only six vacancies in the South East. He summed up by saying that he thought it was important to work closely with Members in order to benefit from local intelligence and made a commitment to keep Members informed of how the locality team would deliver services in the local area on a regular basis.

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

- (i) NOTED the content of the report

Reason for decisions

This report was for information only.

[NOTE: Committee adjourned for refreshments at 11.50 am and reconvened at 12.10 pm]

54/10 **PETITIONS** [Item 9]

There were none.

55/10 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** [Item 10]

There were none.

56/10 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS** [Item 11]

There were none.

57/10 **WINTER PERFORMANCE REPORT** [Item 14]

Under the terms of the Policy Development and Review, this report sought responses from the Local Committee prior to the report's submission to the Transport Select Committee and Cabinet.

There was some initial discussion about the severity of the weather last winter and impact of decisions taken by central government that left SCC unable to deploy all their stock in the local area and concern to ensure that this did not happen in future.

The Chairman ascertained agreement that the best way to respond would be to go through the general principles [pages 47 –50] in the recommendations and to pick up issues in each section and record them.

Comments on the Draft Winter Performance Report to Cabinet were recorded as follows:

Committee took the approach to review each of the recommendations to Cabinet and to agree the principle and thereafter to comment on the content in relation to local issues.

The results were as follows:

- (a) Agreed but called for an increase in the budget.

#### Overall Budget

- (b) Agreed in principle to the increase in winter maintenance
- (c) Agreed
- (d) Agreed

#### Salt Management

- (e) Agreed maintenance of stock levels however needed to be clear, so as not raise expectations, that grit bins would only be filled once per year and noted that it would be helpful to write to the Parish Councils communicating the situation fully.
- (f) Agreed

#### Grit Bins

- (f) Committee considered this to be not applicable because of the lack of clarity on budgets. This could only be done effectively when costs were known.
- (g) Committee wanted clarity on timescales for completing the assessment of criteria.
- (h) Also requires some mechanism for purchasing further stocks when refilling is required.
- (i) Agreed
- (i) This was rejected by Committee on the grounds that it could raise expectations unrealistically and that the figures were not convincing.

#### Gritting Runs

- (j) Considered not applicable because it would be dependent upon available budgets that were as yet unclear.
- (l) Noted that 50 tonnes had been reduced to 20 tonnes and taken together with
- (m) Duly agreed.
- (n) Agreed
- (o) Agreed
- (p) Agreed. Cost identified as £4,500.

#### Farmers and Contractors

- (q) Agreed but also wanted assurance that those who had expressed an interest had been contacted. Members agreed to share information with the task group.
- (r) Agreed.
- (s) Agreed and welcomed

#### Communication

- (t) Agreed and considered extremely important. Suggested that weblinks to the District and Parish websites would be useful. Also clarity about indemnity for people clearing footpaths outside commercial premises and private dwellings.
- (u) Agreed
- (u) Understood that this was due to be expanded on in the final report but keen that there should be enough officers staffing the contact point.

Section: Local Committees asked to consider the following:

#### Grit Bins:

- (a) Local Committee to take decision following the assessment process.
- (b) Needed some clarification but agreed in principle
- (c) This was already happening with the assistance of Parish Councils
- (d) Timescale unrealistic in the light of the scoping exercise which is still ongoing for Tandridge and Reigate. Request that the list of locations be ordered in a more meaningful way, eg by Parish and alphabetically by road.

Gritting Routes:

- (e) Agreed and Committee was pleased with progress so far and identified a number of routes that could be changed from P1 to P2. Members wanted some assurance that routes would not be deleted from the P1 list unless the ensuing replacements were guaranteed.
- (f) This was dependent upon funding and therefore it was considered to be unrealistic to identify a top 10 list of routes. There was some discussion about grit bins and priority routes and the attending officer made a note of these and agreed to update the local map showing the alternative routes, which would be available to view in the local office in Oxted.

In relation to (e) above the following amendments were suggested by Members and noted by the attending officer. He also took note of further comments made outside of the formal meeting.

- Mr Michael Sydney requested that Watery Lane be removed and Brickfields/Miles Lane Outwood bus route be added as Priority 1.
- District Councillor Michael Cooper cited Tupwood Lane where the north end was important but the south end less so.
- Mr David Hodge said the Church Lane Tatsfield could be downgraded to Priority 2 since the primary school had been moved.
- District Councillor Martin Fisher suggested that Barrow Green Road could be downgraded to Priority 2 and that Bluehouse Lane to Oxted School be upgraded to Priority 1 in a circular route via Gresham Road and the Health Centre.
- District Councillor Jill Caudle was concerned that Stanstead Road was not Priority 1.
- District Councillor Nick Childs pointed out that a 100m section of Byers Lane A22 was not marked as Priority 1. Lagham Road Ambulance Station also needed to be included. He was also concerned about the impact of downgrading routes before the others were put in place and wanted reassurances that the area would not be worse off as a result.

He was told that the proposals for Priority Roads would go to the Asset Team shortly.

The Chairman asked for the final map to be brought to the December meeting and that the updated list be sent to the Parish Councils with maps as part of the communication strategy.

**RESOLVED** that the Local Committee (Tandridge) NOTED the content of the draft report and SUBMITTED comments to the task group before it went to Cabinet.

NOTE: Comments [attached as Annex A] were forwarded on 24 09 2010 prior to Cabinet on 28 09 2010.

**[Meeting Ended: 1.05 pm]**

---

**Chairman**