

MINUTES: of the meeting of the Tandridge Local Committee held at 10.15 am on Friday 9 December 2011 at the District Council Offices in Oxted.

County Council Members

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

District Council Members

- * Cllr Nick Childs
- * Cllr Michael Cooper
- * Cllr Ken Harwood
Cllr Gordon Keymer
Cllr David Lee
- * Cllr Marian Myland

- * Cllr Jill Caudle (Substitute)
- * Cllr Rose Thorn (Substitute)

* = Present

55/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Mr David Hodge gave his apologies and District Councillor Gordon Keymer sent apologies and nominated District Councillor Rose Thorn as his substitute; District Councillor David Lee also sent apologies and nominated District Councillor Jill Caudle as his substitute.

56/11 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2011 [Item 2]

Agreed as a true record.

57/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were none.

58/11 PETITIONS [Item 4]

There were none.

59/11 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS [Item 5]

There were none.

60/11 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 14]

There were none.

61/11 **TANDRIDGE RURAL YOUTH PANEL** [Item 7]

The Tandridge Rural Youth Forum comprises six local young people: Josie Bush; Tabby Andrews; Emily Charman; Jess Hubbard; Jade Potter and Ella MacNeill, who are actively involved in promoting young people's issues in the District. They explained that they came from different rural areas and attended different schools but had been meeting since June, twice a month, except for the school summer break, and had been making decisions that affect voluntary run youth groups. They attended Committee with the intention of delivering a presentation on their achievements to date. Hard copies of their slide presentation were distributed to Members and the young people talked them through it.

They explained how they had organised, judged and presented a voluntary youth club award; helped run the voluntary youth club event and organised a variety of activities. They had set up an equipment bank so that voluntary youth clubs could share with each other, and had contributed ideas to an information pack for voluntary youth clubs.

Members were keen to support them in future activities but this was overshadowed by the uncertainties surrounding the Youth Transformation process [Note: Item 18] as the group's existence depended on officer support and it was not yet clear what form that might take.

Mr Skellett suggested that the attending officer bring a report to the next informal meeting on 27 January 2012 with a view to updating Members on what would be required to support the young people in the continuation of their community project and how this might be achieved.

The Chairman thanked the young people for attending and for their enthusiasm in supporting their local community.

62/11 **COUNTY COUNCILLORS' ALLOCATIONS FOR 2011/12** [Item 8]

This report set out the funding available to County Councillors from the delegated budget for 2011/12 and asked them to consider requests for received bids. Each County Councillor had £8,410 revenue and the Committee as a whole had a further £35,000 capital to spend on local projects meeting the agreed criteria. The constitution further allowed Members to delegate authority to officers to agree applications up to £1,000.

In March 2011 Mr Skellett had suggested allocating £600 capital to each division for the purchase of grit bins, or other winter maintenance resources, to support local communities in the event of severe weather conditions prevailing. As this was largely dependent upon the parish councils' involvement, it was not possible to fully commit all of the funding and the unused reserve was returned to the capital budget. However, the underlying principle was felt to be sound and Mr Skellett suggested that a further £4,000 revenue be allocated to each division for an extension to the Community Pride Scheme. This was duly agreed and the Highways Manager (East) agreed to meet with Local Members to prioritise local issues at the earliest opportunity in order to take this forward.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee (Tandridge):

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

Citizen's Advice Bureau	£4,320
Oxted Band	£4,500
Lingfield Nature Reserve	£3,610

PLUS a further bid tabled by Mr J Orrick as follows:

St Mary's Hall £3,000

(ii) NOTED any payments made under delegated authority, also at Annex A as follows:

Home Start £100
Lingfield Chamber of Commerce £500

(iii) AGREED that £4000 per division be set aside for Community improvements. Members to meet with the East Area Highways Manager to discuss how this should be spent.

Reasons for Decisions

All projects under consideration had been sponsored by, and had the support of, the appropriate Local Member or, for District-wide bids, the Chairman. County Members were requested to consider each of them on their individual merits and to decide, as a group, whether or not to approve them.

[NOTE: As the agenda was unevenly balanced between Transportation and Generic items, it was agreed to bring forward information items out of sequence to make more effective use of time.]

63/11 **HIGHWAYS SCHEMES PROGRESS REPORT** [Item 12]

This report sought to update the Local Committee on the progress of Integrated Transport and maintenance schemes on the highways in Tandridge district from a programme of works agreed in March 2011.

Mrs Sally Marks expressed disappointment at the delays to the anti-skid surface in Halliloo Valley Road. Standing water continued to be a problem in Godstone Road on the Caterham by-pass and temporary signage had gone missing. The Area Highways Manager (AHM) agreed to follow up on these issues. He also reassured Mr John Orrick that outstanding white-lining in Caterham Hill division was currently being actioned. Mr Tony Elias raised concerns that the refuge on the A25 had not yet been connected to the grid and requested Highways to bring pressure to bear on Skanska to complete the works as quickly as possible. He also reported problems with The Avenue in Nutfield and looked forward to progress in Little Common Lane. Mr Nick Skellett reported great improvements in Limpsfield High Street and the AHM agreed to meet with him to discuss issues on common land on Moors Hill. District Councillor Michael Cooper reported local satisfaction with the mini-roundabout on Harestone Valley Road but said that it highlighted other problems in the immediate area that needed to be addressed. These included the state of the road, the position of the taxi ranks and the lack of enforcement of parking on double yellow lines. The AHM said he would follow this up with Transport Development Control (TDC) with a view to bringing a report to a future meeting. He also agreed to pass on the enforcement concerns to the Parking team.

The Local Committee NOTED the report for information.

64/11 **LONDON TO PARIS CYCLE ROUTE** [Item 15]

Committee heard that, over recent years, an Anglo-French partnership had been planning a signed cycle route linking London with Paris in time for the London Olympics. The route had been given the name 'Avenue-Verte'. It is a project involving Surrey County Council, Transport for London, West Sussex CC, East Sussex CC and French partners, with East Sussex CC acting as the lead for the English Authorities. A partnership agreement had been signed committing the County to providing the section of route that passes through Surrey.

The route selected passes through Reigate and Banstead and a short section of Tandridge. The route in Tandridge passes through Chaldon before entering the London Borough of Croydon. There is no construction required, just signing to be provided. The Avenue-Verte logo developed by the partner authorities will appear on approximately 35 new signs, potentially 9 in Tandridge, fixed to existing street furniture. The signing will be in place before April 2012.

Funding had been allocated from the Environment and Infrastructure's Safer Smarter Travel budget to cover the costs of implementing the scheme.

The AHM reassured Members that any large events would be advertised well in advance and that safety issues would be prioritised. However, the route was more likely to be regularly used on a more modest scale by enthusiasts and tourists.

The Local Committee NOTED the report for information.

65/11 **A25 GODSTONE ROAD, BLETCHINGLEY – SPEED LIMIT ASSESSMENT** [Item 13]

This report sought to update Committee on the outcome of the recent speed limit assessment along the A25 Godstone Road, Bletchingley following a deferral for further information from the last Committee meeting in September.

The findings were in favour of extending the 30 mph limit to a point where the village gates are now sited and Mr Tony Elias, as local member for Godstone, requested that Highways liaise with the parish council before taking any action so that the existing signage is not adversely compromised and subsequently proposed a further recommendation be added to reflect this. Mr Skellett seconded the proposal and recommendation (vi) was formally approved. Mr Elias also pointed out the inconsistencies in speed limits at three locations in Nutfield where the current 50 mph limit was illogical. The AHM agreed to add these to the list of next year's schemes for investigation as the current year's budget was fully committed.

It was RESOLVED that the Local Committee agree:

- (i) to note the result of the speed limit assessment undertaken;
- (ii) that, based upon the evidence, the speed limit should be changed to 30mph;
- (iii) that a prominent gateway feature be constructed at the start of the new 30mph speed Limit;
- (iv) to authorise the advertisement of a notice in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effects of which will be to implement the proposed speed limit changes and revoke any existing traffic orders necessary to implement the changes, and subject to no objections being upheld, the Order be made; and
- (v) to authorise delegation of authority to the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Local Committee and the local Divisional Member to resolve any objections received in connection with the proposals.
- (vi) that construction of the signs should be implemented only after consultation with Bletchingley Parish Council.

Reason for decision

The recommendation to reduce the speed limit on the A25 Godstone Road, Bletchingley would have the effect of extending the existing 30mph to include the residential properties in the

service road that have access onto the A25 along this section. The Police had no objection to the extension of the 30mph speed limit but had asked that a prominent gateway feature be installed. An additional recommendation was proposed to take into account the work that had already been done by the Parish Council to install village gateway signs.

[NOTE: Committee adjourned for refreshments at 11.35 am and reconvened at 12.00 noon]

[NOTE: Mr Elias left at 11.35 am]

66/11 **PETITIONS** [Item 9]

There were none.

67/11 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** [Item 10]

There were three formal questions attached as an Annex to the minutes along with their responses, from Mrs Leonie Goodwin requesting a crossing at Caterham School; Mrs M Capel in respect of a footpath extension in Chaldon (which was the subject of a report to this Committee) where the outcome appeared to have been pre-empted, and from Miss L Bangs and Mrs P Erskine who raised objections to the process surrounding a development in Lingfield division. There were also two informal questions or comments on the Chaldon footpath.

68/11 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS** [Item 11]

Mr Nick Skellett raised concerns about road safety in the vicinity of Limpsfield Grange School which was particularly vulnerable in winter, and requested an assessment of that part of Bluehouse Lane be carried out to help pedestrians. The AHM explained that it was being investigated currently and a report would be brought to Committee as soon as possible.

District Councillor Michael Cooper raised concerns about the crossover at Junction 6 of the M25 at Godstone where confusion over the priorities had resulted in a number of accidents in the past year. He asked whether signage could be improved to better direct traffic flow. The AHM agreed to look into it and to add it to the list for a feasibility study from next year's budget.

69/11 **ROOK LANE, CHALDON – PROPOSED FOOTWAY EXTENSION** [Item 14]

A feasibility study had been carried out in 2008 to investigate options for addressing the parking issues in the vicinity of St Peter & St Paul's School in Rook Lane, Chaldon. The study recommended that the existing footway to the east of the school could be extended to provide an additional area where parents could park to safely drop off/collect their children. Public consultation carried out in October 2011 indicated strong support for the proposal.

Mr John Orrick, as local member, took Committee through the history of the proposed scheme, which had been listed as a priority by his predecessor, Peter Langham, now retired. Lack of funding had prevented the scheme being progressed until the Parish Council, somewhat controversially, agreed to part fund it. Mr Orrick gave his view on the benefits of the scheme, pointing out that it had the support of the school and the Police. The results of the Highways consultation also came out in favour of the scheme. Mr Skellett suggested that a site visit would be useful to fully understand the geography; however, District Councillor Jill Caudle said she was persuaded by the evidence and urged Committee to come to a decision. Recommendation (ii) was subsequently amended to include the words 'in principle'. Committee agreed that the outcome of the consultation survey was compelling. The AHM

reported that the cost of the scheme had had to be revised and, as a result, requested the addition of a further two recommendations. This was agreed.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee (Tandridge) AGREED:

- (i) to note the results of the public consultation regarding the proposed extension of the footway in Rook Lane, Chaldon; and
- (ii) that, in principle, the extension of the footway in Rook Lane, Chaldon be approved for construction.
- (iii) to note that a recent indicative pricing of this scheme has highlighted a financial shortfall of approximately £13,000
- (iv) that due to a financial shortfall, the £15,000 Committee funding be augmented by a further £13,000 Committee funding, either from any underspends this financial year or from next year's allocation.

Reason for decision

To provide a new length of footway to the east of St Peter & St Paul's School where parents can park to safely drop off/collect their children. The two further recommendations were proposed by the East Area Highways Manager in light of new information regarding costings.

70/11 **GODSTONE ROAD, LINGFIELD SPEED MANAGEMENT MEASURES** [Item 16]

[NOTE: The Chairman declared an interest in this item and, although the report was for information and there was no constitutional imperative, he asked the Vice-chairman to take the chair in the interests of transparency and impartiality.]

The Local Committee, at the meeting on 5 March 2010, had given permission to consult and advertise the Traffic Orders but, as the Committee did not wish to pre-empt the outcome of the planning process, it had been resolved that this should not commence unless or until planning permission was granted. Planning permission having been granted by a Planning Inspector as late as January 2011, consultation finally commenced in early 2011. This report summarised the measures taken, the outcome of the consultation and the decisions made. It should be noted that the Committee's constitutional responsibility was restricted to the granting of the original traffic regulation order.

The scheme itself had proved to be controversial and there was a great deal of local opposition but planning permission had been granted with the proviso that a traffic calming scheme be implemented. The local authorities involved have taken care to ensure that they have met their obligations at each stage of the process in respect of this proposal. Exceptionally, a concession had been won on behalf of local residents to monitor and review the scheme and this was the subject of the debate at Committee, where a final recommendation was added, requiring officers to bring a progress report to Committee for information in 12 months' time.

RESOLVED that the Local Committee Tandridge NOTED:

- (i) The traffic calming consultation took place from 1 March to 31 March 2011 with a public meeting on 24 March;
- (ii) The formal Traffic Order consultation took place from 8 June to 7 July 2011;
- (iii) As agreed at the meeting on 5 March 2010, the decision on this matter was taken by the Area Highways Manager in consultation with the Divisional Member and Chairman/Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee.
- (iv) It was agreed to proceed with the installation of the speed reduction measures but, in the light of the comments received during the public consultation, for a period of one

year in the first instance, so that the impact can be monitored and amendments made if necessary;

- (v) The costs of all of the above are to be met by the developer of the site.
- (vi) That the results of the monitoring be reported back to the Local Committee for information 12 months after the measures are installed.

71/11 PUBLIC FOOTPATH No. 130 (GODSTONE) DIVERSION ORDER APPLICATION
[Item 17]

An application had been received from Mrs P Chernin – Venhovens of Leigh Mill House, Eastbourne Road, Godstone to divert Public Footpath No. 130 where it crosses her property. This report sought a decision to reject the application to divert Public Footpath No. 130 Godstone, in light of the number of objections received. The report had been brought to Committee previously in June and again in September when a decision had been deferred pending a site visit so that Members could more fully understand the implications.

Five local residents registered to speak against the proposed diversion and Mrs Chernin-Venhovens and her representative were given an equal opportunity to respond.

While the Committee expressed some sympathy for the applicant, following a detailed debate, the decision was put to the vote, which was carried by five votes to three in favour of the officer recommendation to reject the application.

Reason for Decision

Officers were of the view that the criteria for making a diversion order had not been met.

72/11 LOCAL PREVENTION FRAMEWORK [Item 18]

This report was an update from the Youth Task Group (YTG) which had completed a needs assessment workshop, invited bids from pre approved providers from the framework and assessed those bids against the needs and priorities identified by the task group.

The focus of the work of the YTG had been to advise on commissioning outcomes for preventing young people in Tandridge becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) or becoming involved in the criminal justice system in Tandridge.

At this point in the commissioning process it had been anticipated that a clear recommendation for award of contract to an approved provider would be submitted to the local committee for decision. However the YTG task group were not satisfied that the solutions proposed by the provider organisations were a sufficiently good fit with the needs and priorities identified in Tandridge. But there was an imperative to ensure that there would be no break in provision to young people from 1 April 2012. Committee was therefore asked to delegate authority to allow the process to be progressed in the most efficient way possible.

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

- (i) to delegate authority to the Assistant Director for Young People in conjunction with the Committee Chairman and the Chairman of the Youth Task Group to pursue further options for the prevention of NEET and offending in Tandridge with a view to having resources in place from 1 April 2012; and
- (ii) to bring an update progress report back to Committee at the next formal meeting on 2 March 2012.

Reasons for decision

The recommendation provided the opportunity for further options to be explored that would support the council's priority to achieve "zero NEET", that is for 100% of young people aged 16 to 19 to be in education, training or employment.

[NOTE: Committee ended with a presentation to the committee clerk, Janet Johnson, to mark her last committee meeting. Mr Skellett thanked her for her efforts over the last 10 years and expressed his regret at losing an experienced member of staff.]

[Meeting Ended: 2.00pm]

Chairman