



**Minutes of meeting**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)**

**Date:** FRIDAY 18 JUNE 2010

**Time:** 2.00PM

**Place:** ELLENS GREEN MEMORIAL HALL

**Members present:**

**Surrey County Council**

Mrs P Frost (Farnham Central) (Chairman)  
Mr S Renshaw (Haslemere) (Vice-Chairman)  
Mr S Cosser (Godalming North)  
Mr D Harmer (Waverley Western Villages)  
Ms D Le Gal (Farnham North)  
Mr P Martin (Godalming South, Milford and Witley)  
Mr D Munro (Farnham South)

**Waverley Borough Council**

Mr Maurice Byham (Bramley, Busbridge and Hascombe)  
Mrs Elizabeth Cable (Witley and Hambledon)  
Mr Brian Ellis (Cranleigh West)  
Mr Stephen Hill (Farnham Castle)  
Mr Robert Knowles (Haslemere East and Grayswood)  
Mr John Ward (Farnham Shortheath and Boundstone)  
Mr Keith Webster (Milford)  
Mr Bryn Morgan (Elstead and Thursley)\*

\*substitute

**All references to Items refer to the Agenda for the meeting.**

**19/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS (Item 1)**

Apologies were received from Dr A Povey, Mr J Lord, Mr A Lovell and Mr T Gordon-Smith (for whom Mr B Morgan substituted), also from Ms D James (substitute for Mr Lovell).

**20/10 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: 12 March 2010 (Item 2)**

The minutes were agreed to be a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**21/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)**

Declarations of personal interest were declared as follows:

- From Mr D Munro in relation to Item 14 on the grounds that he lives on the road being discussed.

**22/10 PETITIONS (Item 4)**

There were no petitions.

**23/10 FORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS (Item 5)**

Two questions were presented and responses are set out at **Annex 1**.

**24/10 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (Item 6)**

Two questions were presented and responses are set out at **Annex 2**.

**25/10 LOCAL COMMITTEE PROTOCOL ON PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (Item 7)**

The Committee recognised the importance of having appropriate means for public engagement and approved the protocol without amendment.

**Resolved** to confirm the provisions of its Local Protocol on Public Engagement as set out in Annex 1 of the report.

**Reason for decision:**

To maintain the level of public interest in the Committee's business achieved by the arrangements set out in the Protocol.

**26/10 ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK GROUPS REPORTING TO THE LOCAL COMMITTEE 2010-2011 (Item 8)**

The Committee supported widening the remit of the task groups to discuss a broader range of local issues than just transport. Members questioned if appropriate officer support will be available to aid this new role. There was a discussion about how best to include Parish Councils in the working of the task groups and it was recognised that this would best be determined by each group. The Committee supported the new Vice-Chairman replacing Jonathan Lord on the Local Transport Plan Task Group.

## **Resolved**

- (i) That the Local Transport Plan (LTP) Task Group should continue for the Council year 2010-2011 reporting to this Committee.
- (ii) That the following Local Task Groups should continue for the Council year 2010-2011 reporting to the LTP Task Group on funding priorities and directly to the Committee on other matters: Farnham; Godalming, Milford and Witley; Haslemere and Western Villages; Cranleigh and Eastern Villages.
- (iii) That the Terms of Reference for Task Groups set out at Annex 1 of the report should be confirmed.
- (iv) That the Committee should continue to nominate members to the joint Surrey County Council/Hampshire County Council Task Group.
- (v) To agree the membership and chairmanship of the task groups for the Council year 2010-2011 and that representation from relevant partner agencies should be sought.

## **Reason for decision:**

The work of task groups has been invaluable in considering the implications of complex issues where priorities have to be established within limited budgets and taking into account the wishes of local residents expressed through public consultation. The task groups give the opportunity of the involvement of representative bodies other than Committee members and to develop partnership working.

## ***EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS***

### **27/10 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL BUDGET 2009-2010: OUT-TURN REPORT (Item 9)**

The Committee supported the County Council's reduction in new capital schemes to focus on the maintenance of the existing road network. The Local Highways Manager highlighted that the Cabinet will decide if the Local Committee can carry forward its £35,000 underspend. The Committee recognised that if the funding is carried forward it would best be spent on a range of small projects rather than one larger project, or to gain larger funding contributions from developers.

Members supported the Highways Authority proposed closure of the central reservation on the A3 which allows drivers to turn right into Lea Coach Road. Members recognised that this would inconvenience some residents, but they agreed that the road safety assessment demonstrates a need to close the gap. The Committee were concerned by the details of the scheme, in particular that it does not include proposals to increase the safety of those joining the A3 from Lea Coach Road.

## **Resolved to:**

- (i) Note scheme progress and outturns.

- (ii) Consider how any carry-forward from the 2009/10 budget should be used if it becomes available.
- (iii) Note that the Highways Agency is consulting Surrey County Council on closing the A3 central reserve crossing at Lea Coach Road, Thursley .
- (iv) Ask the County Council to object to the proposal on the grounds that, although the Committee supports the proposed closure itself, the problems of traffic exiting Lea Coach Road and turning south towards Hindhead need to be resolved as a part of this scheme by provision of an alternative route.

**Reason for decision:**

The Committee requires regular updates on progress and had an opportunity to comment on the proposed closure of the A3 central reserve crossing at Lea Coach Road, Thursley.

**28/10 CAPITAL MAINTENANCE SCHEMES PROGRAMME 2010-2011 (Item 10)**

Members noted a couple of factual inaccuracies in the report: the D113 and Waverley Lane are both in Farnham. The Local Highways Manager agreed to investigate if Green Lane should be included in the programme. It was noted that Church Street has been delayed for six months due to gas works. Members requested that the Local Highways Manager provide the Committee with further information about the rules for utilities companies digging up the road.

**Resolved** to note the major maintenance programme for Waverley in 2010/11.

**Reason for decision:**

The Committee requires to be kept informed of the programme.

**29/10 AMENDMENTS TO PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN SOUTH STREET, GODALMING (Item 11)**

The Committee shared the concerns of residents over access to South Street, including private accesses and garages. Members questioned how the County Council got the changes to parking restrictions in April 2010 so wrong, but recognised the swift response of officers to address the situation.

**Resolved**

- (i) To agree the proposed amendments to on-street parking restrictions in South Street, Godalming as described in the report and shown in detail on a drawing to be tabled at this Committee meeting as Annex A.
- (ii) That the intention of Surrey County Council to make an Order under the relevant parts of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 be

advertised, to give effect to the proposals in the above recommendation.

**Reason for decision:**

The proposed amendments are made in the interest of improving road safety, accessibility and reducing instances of obstruction.

**30/10 TRAFFIC PRESSURES IN FARNHAM: AN UPDATE (Item 12)**

The Committee received a verbal update on the progress that has been made with developing a Freight Strategy for Farnham. Members were informed that further enforceable restrictions are likely to be put in place. In response to the public question about traffic problems on the Trinity Hill Estate (see Annex 3), the Freight Officer explained that he was aware of the issue. He recognised that the HGV training is a problem, but that it is a public road they are using. He agreed to work with the HGV training company to try and resolve the issue. The Committee also discussed the traffic flow data and linking it with the air quality data to identify trends.

Members noted their concern and disappointment that a meeting with Hampshire County Council and other district councils has still not been undertaken regarding cross border issues. The Committee did note that the Borden eco-village has been put on hold and that there are likely to be few new schemes because of the reduction in public expenditure.

**Resolved to:**

- (i) Note the update provided above.
- (ii) Support in principle the establishment of a Freight Quality Partnership for Farnham and ask officers to take forward the necessary arrangements.
- (iii) Ask the Local Task Groups to monitor lorry routing problems in their areas and develop possible solutions.

**Reason for decision:**

To provide a further progress report in response to the petition received at the meeting on 11 September 2009.

**31/10 RESPONSE TO PETITION: CRANLEIGH ROAD, EWHURST (Item 13)**

Members recognised that better coordination between Surrey County Council and Waverley Borough Council is needed on road sweeping and gulley cleaning.

**Resolved** to note the proposed response.

**Reason for decision:**

The Committee is required to respond to petitions.

32/10 **RESPONSE TO PETITION: A287 FRENHAM (Item 14)**

Mr D Munro declared an interest on the grounds that he lives on the road being discussed.

**Resolved** to note the proposed response.

**Reason for decision:**

The Committee is required to respond to petitions.

33/10 **FORTHCOMING UTILITY WORKS AND ROAD CLOSURES IN WAVERLEY (Item 15)**

Members welcomed the list of utility works and road closures, but emphasised that it would be helpful if the location was more specific. The Local Committee will receive the report at each meeting and the Local Task Groups will consider any issues in more depth.

**Resolved** to note the report.

**Reason for decision:**

The Committee has asked to be informed of forthcoming work.

34/10 **CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED UPDATED SPEED LIMIT POLICY (Item 16)**

The Local Committee raised significant concerns about the proposed new Speed Limit Policy. Members were concerned at the timing; because the policy would create a huge expectation that changes could be implemented, at a time when there is no funding to do so. Any policy change would significantly increase the pressure on officers to make changes to speed limits.

The perception of speeding is a significant issue and the Committee recognised the importance of any changes to speed limits being made on the basis of sound evidence.

Some Members did welcome the degree of flexibility that the policy would provide and suggested that it would allow the Committee to make changes when they wanted to. Overall, the Local Committee felt that the proposed new policy would unjustifiably raise the expectations of the public.

David Munro contended that this is a bad policy and that the Local Committee (Waverley) should recommend to the County Council that the policy is not adopted at this time. This was seconded by Pat Frost. 14 members voted for the recommendation, with 1 voting against.

**Resolved** to recommend to the County Council that the proposed draft speed limit policy be not adopted at this time.

**Reason for decision:**

The proposed new policy unjustifiably raises the expectations of residents that significant changes to speed limits will be implemented.

**35/10 ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SAFER WAVERLEY PARTNERSHIP (Item 17)**

The Borough Inspector highlighted that this year there have been substantial reductions in all crimes, with the exception of a small increase in Domestic Abuse. The Area Director for South West Surrey noted that an increase in the reporting of Domestic Abuse is to some extent a positive. Members recognised the good work of Surrey Police. The significant improvements in road safety and the reduction in those killed or seriously injured in road accidents were also praised.

The Local Committee discussed No Cold Calling Zones, including the processes for establishing and monitoring them. Members questioned what is being done to address identity theft. David Harmer stated that he would inquire further about this issue as a member of the Surrey Police Authority.

**Resolved**

- (i) To note the contents of the report and the activities of the Partnership in the year 2009-2010.
- (ii) That its comments on the work of the Partnership and on priorities for the future should be noted.
- (iii) That Pat Frost will represent the Committee at the Executive Board meetings of the Waverley Strategic Partnership.

**Reason for decision:**

The Local Committee wishes to receive periodic reports on the work of the Safer Waverley Partnership, its achievements and priorities and to consider its contribution to these.

[At this point the Chairman left the meeting and the Vice-Chairman took the chair.]

**36/10 LOCAL COMMITTEE BUDGETS 2010-2011 (Item 18)**

**Resolved to:**

- (i) Note the actions carried out under delegated authority.
- (ii) Retain the existing principles for the allocation of the Committee's revenue and capital budgets for 2010-2011.
- (iii) Delegate to the Area Director (Guildford and Waverley) the authority to approve budget applications (and refunds) of up to and including £1000, subject to these being reported to the Committee at the following meeting.

- (iv) Delegate responsibility for expenditure of the County Council's local crime and disorder funds in Waverley to the Area Director (South West Surrey).
- (v) Approve the applications for expenditure annexed to this report and note the grants set out in Annex 2.

**Reason for decision:**

The Committee is required to agree arrangements for the allocation of its budgets.

**37/10 COUNTY COUNCIL FUND FOR SMALL DISADVANTAGED AREAS (Item 19)**

Members discussed the priority areas in Waverley and Binscombe was highlighted as an area for particular consideration for this fund. The Committee discussed establishing a Task Group to assess applications. It was decided that this should be formed of County and Borough Council Members. Steve Renshaw, Keith Webster and Steve Cosser will form the group.

**Resolved:**

- (i) To promote the availability of the fund amongst relevant organisations and partnerships in Waverley.
- (ii) To invite Local Task Groups to develop relevant applications from within their areas.
- (iii) To establish a Task Group to assess applications received from Local Task Groups and other sources and to make recommendations to the Committee for formal decision.
- (iv) To receive a report at its next meeting (17 September 2010) containing recommendations on which project(s) to submit to the panel as its application(s) for possible funding.

**Reason for decision:**

The announcement of the fund represents an opportunity for the Local Committee to develop its role in promoting improved outcomes for the most disadvantaged residents and communities in Waverley. The process agreed will enable the Committee to develop some robust applications for consideration by the countywide funding panel.

**38/10 JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY INTERIM REVIEW AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION (Item 20)**

The Committee strongly endorsed the proposed revisions to the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy. Members recognised the significant achievements being made across the County by the Surrey Waste Partnership. The Committee was updated on the recent implementation of food waste collections in Waverley, which should notably increase the



recycling rate in Waverley; it was suggested, however, that educational efforts are necessary to prevent the generation of food waste, rather than relying on collection.

The Committee discussed the potential impact of the proposals being put forward by the new coalition government. In particular, Members requested further information about the detail and justification for the proposal to require weekly waste collections. It was felt that nothing should be done to discourage or discontinue the existing levels of recycling and waste collection across the Borough, currently provided by a mix of fixed and mobile sites.

**Resolved** to endorse the effective joint working of the Surrey Waste Partnership and the proposed changes in the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

**Reason for decision:**

The Committee had an opportunity to contribute to the current consultation.

39/10 **HEATHROW AIRTRACK: OBJECTIONS TO THE TRANSPORT AND WORKS ACT ORDER 1992 (Item 21)**

The Committee were informed that the Public Inquiry which had been planned for Spring 2010 will now not start until at least October 2010. Members raised concerns that the scheme would result in overloading trains with too many passengers, particularly on the service between Portsmouth and Waterloo. The County Council's Project Manager for the Airtrack Scheme noted that a consultant had assessed the impact of an indicative timetable and did not highlight a significant impact on services in Waverley. It was recognised that Guildford would be more likely to be affected by increased passenger numbers, although this had been projected at less than 5%; members remained sceptical, however, of the view that there would be no significant impact on the service at the other stations in Waverley on the Portsmouth line as a result of increased passenger numbers.

**Resolved** to endorse the County Council's current objections to the Heathrow Airtrack scheme.

**Reason for decision:**

The Committee had an opportunity to comment on the current status of the County Council's objections to the Heathrow Airtrack scheme.

40/10 **LOCAL COMMITTEE FORWARD PROGRAMME (Item 22)**

The Committee considered the forward plan of work.

**Resolved** to note the proposed contents of the Forward Programme.

**Reason for decision:**

To enable to Committee to plan its programme of reports.

**The meeting closed at 17.15 pm**

..... (Chairman)

**Contact:**

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## **ANNEX 1**

### **ITEM 5: FORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

#### **1. From Mr Tim Bloomfield (Ewhurst Parish Council)**

Local residents have long been concerned about the speed of traffic along the Horsham Road in Ellen's Green. The speed limits were put into place a few years ago; these are currently twofold: 40 mph to the eastern half, and 50 mph to the western. The Parish Council wishes to ask the Local Committee whether the 50 mph section could be changed to 40 mph, for the following reasons :

- As a member of Community Speed Watch, it became obvious that drivers were lured into a false sense of security at the two tight bends in the road being under the 50 mph rule: driving at this speed at either of these corners would incur severe over-steering, as has been witnessed on many occasions.
- The location of the 50 mph stretch: the limit changes from 40mph to 50 mph very close to a tight bend close to the Wheatsheaf Pub: drivers enter this corner far too fast, and vehicles slowly exiting the car park are in danger of collision (as has happened in the past).
- The start of the 50mph stretch coming from Cranleigh is close to another tight bend by the Somersbury Lane junction, where vehicles cut across to access the lane with difficult sight lines.
- A high number of large HGVs use this stretch of road, it being the only easterly route from Cranleigh to Horsham and beyond, driving too fast.
- A high number of large HGVs turn across the road to access and egress commercial sites off Somersbury Lane and Furzen Lane.
- The location of a commercial site close to the bend near the Somersbury Lane entrance, with vehicles slowly entering and exiting the site.
- Residents on the road are anxious when exiting or entering their driveways due to speeding vehicles.

If a 40mph limit were to be instigated for the whole stretch of the road through the village it would mean that drivers who are not knowledgeable of the area would be advised to drive carefully.

Whilst requesting this speed limit, we would also like to raise the question of the flooding which regularly occurs further along this road, in the unrestricted area by the entrance to Baynards Park. Recent records will show this results in many accidents, either with vehicles 'aquaplaning' or skidding into the ditch, particularly during the icy weather in the winter when the area became an ice rink. We would request that investigations be made to improve the drainage in this area before the onset of the autumn rain and winter freeze.

#### **Committee Response**

Revised speed limits constitute an Integrated Transport Scheme (ITS), and as such this request will be referred to the Cranleigh and Eastern Villages Task Group for prioritisation against other suggested schemes in the area. However, the funding for ITS schemes will be extremely limited in the coming years, as explained at Item 9 on the agenda for this meeting. In the interim,

officers are asked to obtain Police views on the suggested lower limits to inform further decisions.

Officers will investigate the flooding issue described at the entrance to Baynards Park, and take all practicable measures to improve the existing drainage system.

**2. From Mr Chris Meeks (Friends of the Earth, Waverley and Guildford Group)**

Since resurfacing work was undertaken at Meadow, Godalming some months ago, many local people have waited for the reinstatement of all cycle lanes on this stretch of highway. How much longer do we need to wait before they are reinstated ?

A valuable safety feature of these cycle lanes was the use of different coloured surfacing where they crossed Kings Road, Catteshall Road and the entrance to Wey Court; these lanes were originally created as an integral part of the pedestrian lights scheme at Meadow.

**Committee Response**

The southbound cycle lane along much of Meadow and Guildford Road was reinstated when the road was resurfaced. However, the cycle lanes between the petrol station north of Wey Court and Kings Road, and associated coloured surfacing, have yet to be completed. Work on these will now be expedited.

## **ANNEX 2: MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

### **1. From Ms Diane James**

Roads in and around Ewhurst identified as having a high degree of potholes and surface damage have recently been the subject of a degree of repair by Surrey Highways contractors. Does Surrey Highways consider as adequate, satisfactory and financially justifiable these surface repairs where no finishing edging sealant is used to surround the repair, where the tarmac is not forced and flattened into the hole and where the quality of the in-fill tarmac is substandard to that already in place, all of which ensures that the repair will not last ?

### **Committee Response**

Surrey County Council's specification for routine pothole repairs is as follows:

- Using handtools, manually prise away any loose material within the hole and around its perimeter to achieve a sound key for repair materials.
- Sweep the hole to clear all debris.
- Apply bituminous bond coat to all surfaces of the repair, vertical faces to be painted to surface level.
- Hand lay hot bituminous paving material, mechanically compact to the same level as the surrounding carriageway surface.
- Sweep the immediate area and clear any remaining debris before leaving site.
- Take photograph of pothole before work, after application of bond coat and on completion.

All materials are to conform with appropriate British and European Standards.

A surface sealant is not applied around the edge of the repair once it is completed. This practice has been discontinued by the County Council and utility companies since the narrow band of bitumen traditionally used to finish a repair has been proved to be a potential hazard for cyclists and motor cyclists. In certain circumstances a temporary fill material is used and subsequently a permanent repair is undertaken.

Repairs are inspected as part of the County Council's inspection quality control process and the contractor is notified where repairs have failed, or are not of an acceptable standard. In addition, repairs will be reviewed at the next routine highway safety inspection.

The above specification and monitoring arrangements are designed to effect economic and lasting repairs.

## **2. From Mr Steve Cosser**

In connection with the recent road traffic accident at the Meadrow/Wey Court junction in Godalming, resulting in the very tragic death of cyclist and prominent local volunteer, Sheila Mitchell, will the Committee please:

1. Confirm or otherwise the public statement made by a local resident that this is the fourth fatality at the Meadrow and Wey Court and Catteshall Road junction.
2. Give an assurance that it will, following the conclusion of the Police accident investigation, respond positively to the many calls from local people and organisations to undertake an urgent safety review of this complex junction area.
3. Ensure that the results of that review and the County Council's proposals to address any issues arising are made publicly available.

### **Committee Response**

The County Council holds Police traffic accident records dating back to 1 January 1989, but not beyond. Since that date four fatal accidents have been recorded along the entire length of Meadrow, from the roundabout junction with Bridge Road in the south-west, to the point where it changes to Guildford Road in the north east (at Manor Inn):

March 1994: vehicle driver, at the junction with Hallam Road.

December 1997: Vehicle driver, 10 metres north east of the junction with Wyatts Close.

July 2001: Vehicle driver, at the junction with Hallam Road

December 2003: Pedestrian, 20 metres south west of the junction with Llanaway Road

The Police do not provide Surrey County Council with their fatal accident investigation reports, but will notify us if they consider any aspect of the highway was a factor in any accident. All fatal accidents are considered by Accident Working Groups (AWG), comprising County Council highways officers and Police Casualty Reduction Officers. The County Council also monitors Police traffic accident reports, and where three or more accidents occur at a given location within a period of 18 months, the site and accidents are referred to the AWG for consideration. The object of the AWG is to identify any potential highway safety issues and recommend any corresponding works.

## **ANNEX 3**

### **INFORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The meeting was preceded by an informal public question time. The matters raised are summarised below. This summary does not form part of the formal minutes of the meeting.

#### **1. From Julia Potts (Trinity Hill Estate, Upper Hale)**

There is concern about traffic problems on the Trinity Hill Estate, particularly Spring Lane, Trinity Hill, Folly Lane and Drovers Way. It is being used as a bus route through the estate and an HGV training route, resulting in significantly more traffic. Residents are requesting the support of the Local Committee to resolve the situation.

The Chairman stated that the Local Committee shared the residents' concerns and would try to help. The Chairman highlighted the proposed Freight Partnership in Farnham as one part of the solution.

The Local Highways Manager agreed to investigate if the buses are stopping on the estate.

#### **2. Valerie Dixon Henry (Ewhurst Parish Council)**

Mrs Henry requested that a footway in Pitch Hill is reinstated.

The Local Highways Manager agreed to investigate the situation.

#### **3. Martin Lockwood (Ewhurst)**

Mr Lockwood questioned if the Committee agrees with Waverley Borough Council's policy of setting 20mph speed limits in villages.

The Chairman explained that this is not a policy of Waverley Borough Council and that Waverley Borough Council is not responsible for setting speed limit policy.

#### **4. Monica Roach (Ewhurst)**

Mrs Roach highlighted that Waverley Borough Council spreads grit on the pathways on the Glebe housing estate in Ewhurst. However, Surrey County Council does not grit the entire road leading up to the estate, stopping short by about 100 metres.

The Local Highways Manager agreed to discuss the issue with Waverley Borough Council.