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Minutes of the Local Committee (Woking)  
Meeting held at 6.30pm on 3 December 2008  
at  
Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Woking

Members present:

Mrs Val Tinney	Chairman
Mrs Elizabeth Compton	Vice Chairman
Mr Andrew Crisp	
Mr John Doran	Cllr Tony Branagan
Mr Geoff Marlow	Cllr Bryan Cross
Mrs Diana Smith	Cllr Ian Johnson
Mr Shamas Tabrez	Cllr Glynis Preshaw
	Cllr Richard Wilson

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**Part One – In Public**

[All references to items refer to the agenda for the meeting]

**58/08 Apologies for absence [Item 1]**

Cllr Derek McCrum and Cllr Simon Bellord gave their apologies for absence.

**59/08 Minutes of last meeting- held on 20 October 2008 [Item 2]**

The minutes of the last meeting of the Local Committee (Woking) held on 20 October 2008 were agreed and signed.

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## 60/08 Declarations of interests [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest.

## 61/08 Petitions [Item 4]

### Petition 1

In accordance with Standing Order 64 a petition was received on pedestrian improvements on White Rose Lane. Mr Bird presented the petition which had 250 signatories. The petition referred to the section of road between Jack and Jill steps and the Old Woking road which has no footpath. Mr Bird explained that pedestrians are at considerable risk and children are not permitted to walk along this narrow winding piece of road. It was felt that the traffic calming along this stretch has not helped as drivers go into the gutter, where pedestrians may be, to avoid the speed cushions.

Mrs Tinney noted that for a footpath to be constructed land acquisition would be required. She clarified with the petitioner that they had spoken to the people who have front gardens along the stretch of road and he confirmed that there had been some resistance, but not by all.

Paul Fishwick, Local Highways Manager responded:

I will firstly comment on the White Rose Lane section from opposite Jack and Jill steps to Toad Hall. The carriageway is fairly narrow along most of this length and widens at the bend outside 44 and Toad Hall. Over all of this length, except outside Toad hall, the highway boundary is either just behind the kerb or up to 1 metre behind the kerb, which is not sufficient width to create a 2-metre footway. Therefore, land acquisition would be required and possible accommodation works with six separate landowners, as the carriageway width should not be reduced over this length, as it would create single line working.

The section outside High Barn and Toad Hall could be constructed to a suitable footway.

As land acquisition is required this would take many years and some landowners may not agree as they have small front gardens now.

Turning to the Woking Borough Council owned land beyond Toad Hall, Woking Borough Council have stated the following: 'Officers believe that the proposal to construct a footpath route on Council owned land at White Rose Lane Nature Reserve should be supported in principle. This is subject to agreement over the choice of materials and exact location in order to minimise disturbance to mature trees. Arrangements for provision of finance for future maintenance of the footpath would also need to be determined.'

However, the above does not provide a quick solution therefore a possible option could be to use Footpath 55 and then the Hoe Stream Path, as indicated on the attached plan. This route takes walkers to the rear of the school crossing the Hoe Stream at the back of the playing field.

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The Hoe Stream Path is managed by Woking Borough Council, but this route maybe a little muddy during the 'winter' period and therefore require an some improvements. Woking Borough Council has indicated that this could be an alternative route but any improvements to the Hoe Valley Path would need to be approved by them.

## **Petition 2**

Youth provision in Knaphill, as first submitted to Local Committee on 20 October 2008.

Mrs Diana Smith, the divisional member of the petitioner asked that the Local Committee endorse the petition received at 20 October 2008 meeting. Mrs Tinney stated that Surrey County Council's Executive is responsible for making policy on Surrey County Council's Youth Development Service. The Chairman asked for comments which would be included in a report from the Local Committee to the Executive.

Members were not opposed to the thrust of the petition, but felt they could not endorse the petition as it stood, and made comments including:

1. there are no costings associated with it
2. how is walking distance defined
3. how many new houses would warrant an additional youth facility
4. many young people would not want to go back to school grounds to use sporting facilities.

Diana Smith commented that she recognised that the petition was mapping a grass root "Youth Offer" for Knaphill, and would like members to endorse it as a basis for a wider vision about youth provision across the county, with each community having their own requirements. Diana then proposed a motion,

Andrew Crisp proposed some amendments which Diana Smith agreed to. Diana Smith therefore proposed the amended motion as follows to be included in the report to the Executive, which was seconded by Andrew Crisp.

The Local Committee (Woking) endorses the view that Surrey County Council should take a leadership role in providing the statutory "Youth Offer", and asks for the vision put forward in the Knaphill Youth Petition be referred to the Youth Project for consideration as an example of the provision the Children and Young People's Commissioning Partnership should work towards.

## **RESOLVED**

The Committee agreed the motion to go to the Executive.

## **62/08 Written public questions [Item 5]**

No written public questions were received.

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## **63/08 Written Members' Questions [Item 6]**

A copy of the questions and answers can be found in annex 1 of these minutes. Supplementary questions and responses are below:

Question 1. Cllr Johnson asked a supplementary question on behalf of Cllr McCrum, regarding the detail of ditch clearance and whether the method of removal would be sympathetic. Andrew Crisp also asked for confirmation that the work would be properly supervised by the County Council.

The Local Partnerships Team undertook to liaise with Estates and Property Management to provide a written answer to these supplementary questions outside of the meeting.

Question 2. In response to a supplementary question regarding why the number of vehicles stopped was not a serious problem, Paul Fishwick confirmed that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed and the mean speed did not show that action needed to be taken at this time.

In response to a further supplementary question from Cllr Wilson regarding whether it would be possible to have a 20mph limit around school, Paul Fishwick confirmed that at the moment policy does not allow it, but that the policy is currently being looked at.

Question 3. No supplementary question

Question 4. No supplementary question

Question 5. Mr Geoff Marlow asked to be kept informed of discussions that Local Highways Team has regarding his patch. Paul Fishwick clarified that they have a number of discussions with Police daily and it would not be practical to keep Members informed of all those discussions.

## **Information Items**

### **64/08 Updates on the Accessibility Strategy and Information on Pegasus [Item 7]**

Mary Foster and Holly Beaman from the Strategy and Policy Projects Service attended to present this item.

Holly Beaman introduced the Accessibility Project, which is looking at how Surrey County Council is improving access to services for Surrey, and then took comments and questions.

Val Tinney suggested it would be useful to ask for comments on the project from the public through Surrey Matters and borough and district magazines.

The key issues that Members raised for Woking were:

1. Access to St Peters Hospital from all parts of Woking, especially for appointments before 10.30am

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2. Getting to the leisure centre
3. Ensuring that people with learning difficulties, and other disabilities, have easy to access information
4. Easy access to information regarding services, and Andrew Crisp noted that the new Surrey County Council website was a good example
5. Using the theory behind Self Directed Support, the question was asked whether we should be looking at providing money to people who can then spend it on accessing services in a way that suits them best

Holly Beaman noted that the team were working closely with the PCT on access to non-emergency healthcare.

Mary Foster presented the report on Pegasus review. It was set up as a five year pilot in 2005. The report is suggesting that the scheme continues for a further 2.5 years after the current contract finishes. During this time a feasibility study will be undertaken looking at the service and equality for all primary school children.

Members were concerned about the amount of down time of the buses during the school day and in the holidays. It was noted that this will be looked at in the feasibility study, but is partly to do with the current terms in the contract for third party hire, which they hope to make more favourable in a new contract. It was also noted that the buses are specifically designed for primary aged children which can limit their wider use.

Schools not currently involved in Pegasus are able to make use of the buses as a third party, and Mary Foster undertook to look at the marketing of the Pegasus buses more widely.

John Doran proposed the following motion be included in a report to the Executive. This was seconded by Andrew Crisp.

This Committee notes the success of Pegasus in Guildford and asks that Woking is the next area to be considered for this service.

## **RESOLVED**

The committee noted this report and agreed the following motion be put forward in a report to the Executive.

This Committee notes the success of Pegasus in Guildford and asks that Woking is the next area to be considered for this service.

## **65/08 Community Highways Officers [Item 8]**

Paul Fishwick introduced this report and informed Members of the contact information for the Community Highways Officers:

Email: [wah@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:wah@surreycc.gov.uk)

Tel: 03456 009009

Website: [www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk) and click on the 'Report It' link

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Members expressed their thanks to the two Community Highways Officers and the work they do for Woking.

Woking Borough Councillors asked whether it would be possible for borough members on the committee to be invited to seminars, such as the one referred to in the report. Paul Fishwick agreed to take this back to his management team. It was agreed that the report, plus contact details, would be circulated to all Woking Borough members.

## **RESOLVED**

The committee noted this report.

### **Executive Functions – For Decision**

#### **66/08 Woking Cycle Town Strategy [Item 9]**

Paul Fishwick and John Masson introduced the report.

Members discussed the issue of removing the access restrictions at the eastern end of Commercial Way. Paul Fishwick explained that he has had an officer meeting with stakeholders and there was full support. It was noted that the current restrictions have not been enforced for some time.

Cllr Cross confirmed that the shops want the restrictions lifted. In response to a concern raised, it was confirmed that there would be room for deliveries to shops. Regarding the area outside the old Post Office, it was noted that the market has encroached on highway land, and once the market stalls have moved back there will be sufficient space for pedestrians and cyclists. It was noted that the cyclists would be on the market side.

Diana Smith raised a concern regarding lifting the restrictions at the eastern end of Commercial Way. It was suggested that most people have been obeying the restrictions which is why there has not been any problems to date despite the lack of enforcement. Diana asked officers to see whether it would be possible to only allow access for Blue Badge holders during the current restricted hours. Paul Fishwick undertook to look at this.

In response to a question from Andrew Crisp regarding the western end of Commercial Way, it was noted that it would not be possible to extend the restricted hours from 8am – 6pm due to car parking for businesses.

John Doran queried how to ensure people don't go past Chapel Street. Paul Fishwick confirmed that there would be very good signage in the area.

In response to Diana Smith regarding cycle safety training for children and adults, it was noted that there was a request for Members' Allocation funding for Bikeability under Item 10. Training would be given to adults through Cycle Woking events.

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In response to Cllr Johnson about a section of pathway along Station Approach, it was noted that South West Trains are a key partner on Cycle Woking and work on this is ongoing.

## RESOLVED

- (i) The parallel cycle and pedestrian crossings shown on Drawing Nos. 12746 and 12747, including the traffic calming measure in Goldsworth Road, be approved for detailed design and construction.
- (ii) The modified Traffic Regulation Orders enabling cyclists to proceed in either direction and at any time in Commercial Way and Chapel Street, be advertised and made, subject to any objections being determined, and the Notices of the proposal to introduce parallel pedestrian and cycle crossings and a traffic calming measure in Goldsworth Road be published.
- (iii) A Traffic Regulation Order under the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to implement the changes to the existing restrictions and proposed restrictions in Commercial way and Oriental Road as shown on drawing numbers 12755 and 12756 be advertised.
- (iv) A Traffic Regulation Order under the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to restrict access for motor vehicles into Commercial Way from Chapel Street to 7 days a week (Monday to Sunday 1030hr to 1600hr). and revoke the existing restriction at Chobham Road / Commercial Way to allow motor vehicles to access the eastern end at all times be advertised.
- (v) The Local Highways Manager be authorised to consider and determine any objections, in consultation with the Chairman and Divisional Member.

## **67/08 Allocating Local Committee Funding: Members Allocations [Item 10]**

Carolyn Rowe introduced this report.

Local Committee received a tabled amendment with two additional allocations.

Regarding St Mary's School, Geoff Marlow asked for the amount requested to be increased to £3000 following discussion with the school as they had left out some costings from the quote. It was agreed that the school be asked to show, as part of the audit trail how the community have made use of the facilities.

Regarding Bikeability, it was noted that the following conditions would be put in the Service Level Agreement. That the letter which goes out to the schools regarding this funding states that:

- i. it is for those children on free school meals
- ii. the funding is one off

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- iii. the school will need to include Bikeability training in the base budget or will need to raise the funds within the school in future years.

The Local Partnership Team will need to agree this letter with the Safer and Smarter Travel Team.

### RESOLVED

The committee agreed the following allocations:

1	Creating Something Devyne in the Community	£750
2	St Mary's Church of England Primary School – Swimming pool changing facilities	£3,000
3	Woking Sea Cadets – Canoes	£2,000
4	Christmas Street Lighting in West Byfleet	£1,977
5	Pyrford Playgroup	£345
6	Bikeability (with the above conditions)	£10,000

### 68/08 Allocating Local Committee Funding: Members Allocations [Item 11]

#### RESOLVED

Agreed the forward programme as set out in the report with the addition of a report on funding for highway maintenance in Woking.

### 69/08 Exclusion of Press and Public

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**Chairman**

[The meeting ended at 8.25pm]



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## Annex 1

### LOCAL COMMITTEE (WOKING)

#### MEMBER QUESTIONS 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2008

**1. Question from Councillor Derek McCrum, Woking Borough Council:**

What is the current situation concerning the ditch around the flood plain of South Woking from the farm at Moor Lane to the former Unwin's Printing Works in Old Woking?

**Answer from Estates and Property Management, Surrey County Council:**

Ditch Maintenance: - maintenance of the ditch is the responsibility of Estates Planning & Management service within SCC. The smallholding estate at Moor Lane is managed by our consultants Humberts and ditch clearance is scheduled to go ahead next spring. Prices have been obtained from contractors and an order is expected to be placed in the next couple of weeks but because of the time of year the work will be scheduled for next spring.

**2. Question from Bryan Cross, Woking Borough Council:**

Let me know what action will be taken following the recent speed monitoring exercise carried out in Sythwood by the Police and Sythwood school children can he also assure me that this is being taken seriously and that action will be taken before there is a road accident in the vicinity of the School?

**Answer from Surrey County Council's Local Highways Manager:**

A school speed watch was held on Sythwood between the 6 and 8 October 2008 with 60 students from Sythwood Primary School taking part.

Sythwood is subject to a speed limit of 30mph and normally, the threshold speed that vehicles being stopped are set at 35mph or over. However, this was lowered to 34mph or above in this instance due to the vast majority of vehicles travelling below 35mph.

Over the two days a total of 64 vehicles were stopped, with the highest speed recorded at 42 mph, 4 vehicles were travelling over 40 mph.

From the data collected there is no serious speeding issue in Sythwood, however the road will continue to be monitored.

**3. Question from Bryan Cross, Woking Borough Council:**

Let me know when the tree roots that are causing a hazard to children and adults who walk on the path alongside Sythwood Primary School and its playing fields will be removed.

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## **Answer from Surrey County Council's Local Highways Manager:**

Nick Roach, Neighbourhood Officer for Woking Borough Council has provided the following statement: "This issue has been ongoing for sometime and I believe it has now reached a conclusion. The trees within the school grounds next to the path are going to be (if have not already been) removed and Woking Repairs Service will repair the path.

(The delay has been due to the path being on WBC Housing land but is a well used right of way for the public, thus there seemed to be the potential for it to be adopted by SCC Highways. In addition, the cause of the damage was a row of Leylandi trees on the edge school border next to the path)".

The Local Highways Manager stated that the question over adoption of the path would require further discussion.

## **4. Question from Bryan Cross, Woking Borough Council:**

Let me know the progress on a pedestrian crossing in Sythwood adjacent to the Salvation Army building.

## **Answer from Surrey County Council's Local Highways Manager**

The County Council's Local Transport Plan 'Assessment Pool' and programme does not indicate any pedestrian crossing scheme for Sythwood (as at 1 December 2008). If a scheme were to be included it would be the subject of a bid submission by the County Councillor for the area.

## **5. Question from Geoff Marlow Surrey County Council:**

The Neighbourhood Police for Byfleet, West Byfleet and Pyrford have started delivering a leaflet called Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team Newsletter. In the first issue and on page 2 it says "PC Phil Beach surveyed the Oakcroft Road/Old Woking Road junction with Casualty Reduction Officer Chris Wilkes who came up with a number of suggestions which he presented to Surrey County Council. We understand the council is reluctant to change anything but will review the siting of yellow lines." Apparently this was about inconsiderate parking at school drop off and pick up times for The Marist School.

Will the County Council please give me a copy of the suggestions made by PC Chris Wilkes? and the response given to the police, and was there a reason for not telling the Member for The Byfleets about these communications?

## **Answer from Surrey County Council's Local Highways Manager**

The County Council has not received any written correspondence regarding this location. The Casualty Reduction Officer from Surrey Police approached Kevin Patching of Surrey County Council suggesting that double yellow lines could be

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placed on one side of Oakcroft Road, allowing vehicles to park on the opposite side.

However, although the issue of parking around this junction has been raised previously whenever officers have been out to this site there has not been a problem. There has been parking close to the junction but not actually on it.

In the last 'round' of amendments, proposed double yellow lines around the junctions of Oakcroft Road / Trevoise Avenue and Oakcroft Road / Oakcroft Close were agreed by this committee and these will be implemented in the near future.

The A245 / Oakcroft Road junction will be monitored and if parking at this location does become an issue, then the introduction of double yellow lines would be recommended for inclusion in the next Annual Waiting Restriction Review item that would be presented to this Local Committee.