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## DRAFT

Minutes of the meeting of the  
**Surrey HEATH LOCAL COMMITTEE**  
held at 6.30 pm on 3 October 2013  
at Camberley Theatre, Knoll Road, Camberley.

### Surrey County Council Members:

- \* Mr David Ivison (Chairman)
- \* Mr Bill Chapman
- \* Mr Denis Fuller
- \* Mr Chris Pitt (Vice-Chairman)
- \* Mr Adrian Page
- \* Mr Mike Goodman

### Borough / District Members:

- \* Cllr Vivienne Chapman
- \* Cllr Rodney Bates
- \* Cllr Valerie White
- \* Cllr Josephine Hawkins
- \* Cllr Paul Ilnicki

\* In attendance

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#### **13/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ilnicki and Gandhum.

#### **14/13 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]**

The minutes of the last meeting (held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2013) were agreed and signed by the Chair.

It was noted that no response had been given to the public question raised over Church Road and this would be chased up.

#### **15/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **16/13 PETITIONS [Item 4/13]**

No petitions were received, although notification of a petition for traffic calming at The Avenue, Camberley was given and this would be tabled at the next meeting.

#### **17/13 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]**

A written question was submitted by Mr. Paul J. Chapman, Frimley Green. The question and supplementary question are attached as Annex B.

### **18/13 MEMBER QUESTION TIME [Item 6]**

No written member questions were received.

### **19/13 HIGHWAYS UPDATE [Item 7]**

Andrew Milne updated the Committee on the progress made with the delivery of proposed highways schemes, developer funded schemes, and revenue funded works this financial year.

Members noted that further funds had been spent on Community Enhancement since the report date – namely heritage lighting at Frimley Green, Deepcut, Bagshot and Lightwater and Hanging Baskets and Bulbs at Windlesham.

#### **The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) agreed to:**

- (i) Note the progress with the ITS highways and developer funded schemes
- (ii) Note the progress with budget expenditure
- (iii) Note that a further Highways Update will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.

### **20/13 SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT ON PIRBRIGHT BENDS SPEED LIMIT [Item 7a]**

Pursuant to Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman decided that the following item of business was urgent:

- i) Presentation from Andrew Milne, Area Manager, Highways on the Pirbright Bends Speed Limit.

This item was considered urgent by the Chairman as, following the 'Pirbright Bends – Speed limit Changes' report presented to Surrey Heath Local Committee on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013, there has been a requirement to seek the Local Committee's approval to amend the legal order for this scheme.

Members discussed the speed limit anomaly that would result from the implementation of the scheme and agreed that appropriate speed limits were required. Although against street clutter, Members agreed that the proposed way forward would improve the consistency of approach and reduce signage.

#### **The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) agreed to:**

- (i) **Note the contents of the report**
- (ii) **Agree to authorise the change to the legal order allowing the speed limit terminal signs to remain in their existing location.**

**21/13 LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND - CYCLE LINK, BISLEY TO KNAPHILL [Item 8]**

The Bisley to Knaphill cycle route was withdrawn from the agenda and will be discussed at the next meeting.

**22/13 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL BOROUGH REPORT [Item 9]**

The Surrey Fire and Rescue Service was unable to attend the meeting so the item was deferred until the next meeting.

**23/13 MEMBERS ALLOCATIONS - 6 MONTH UPDATE ON EXPENDITURE [Item 10]**

Members were provided with an updated schedule on spend to date on their Members Allocation allowance. Each County Council Member has a total of £12,876 to spend on small projects that make a difference in their division.

Members also had £35,000 to spend on capital allocations – these were agreed to be for larger community projects and members have allocated amounts to Frimley Cricket Club, Bisley Village Hall, Camberley Judo Club, Lightwater Pavillion and Heatherside Defibrillator.

Members were also delighted to note that the Surrey Heath area had been successful with two bid applications for Community Improvements Funds (CIF). These had been awarded by the Leader of the County Council to Frimhurst Enterprises and the Surrey Re-use Network.

**24/13 FORWARD PLAN [Item 11]**

The Forward Plan is produced for each meeting of the Local Committee (Surrey Heath) so that members can review the forward plan. The reports that are currently anticipated will be received by the committee were outlined.

The next meeting of the Local Committee will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 (moved from 12<sup>th</sup> December as a number of members could not make this date). The venue will remain as Deepcut Community Centre and the agenda will include the two deferred items from this meeting (Bisley to Knaphill Cycle link and Fire and Rescue Service report).

**The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) noted the forward plan.**

**Annex A - Public Questions**

**Annex B - Written Public Questions**

Meeting ended at: 7.55 pm

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**Chairman**

## Annex A

### Surrey Heath Local Area Committee Open Public Question Time

**1. Cllr Tim Dodds, Surrey Heath Borough Council**

What plans do you have for the improvement of the length of Red Road, Camberley?

**Reply from Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW)**

The Red Road is of key concern due to the number of accidents along the stretch. This has been partly addressed with the introduction of a 50mph speed limit and vehicle activated speed signs. A meeting has been held to look at options for further improvements and a number are being investigated. We will, of course, consult extensively on available options.

**Reply from Mike Goodman, SCC**

Red Road is a major issue for residents and we have been working with the Cabinet Member, John Furey, to ensure that options are considered. One scenario that we are looking at is to have no right turn from Macdonald Road and a roundabout installed at Lightwater Road, but we mustn't shut off other potential solutions.

**Reply from Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW)**

The above is a conceptual idea and we would need to look at modelling and costs as we need to ensure that it would resolve issues and not create further problems. To give a very indicative idea as to costs, this could be in the region of £300,000 to £600,000, depending on work required and underground utility services.

**2. Mr K Malcolm, Cedar Lane, Frimley**

My wife was injured in an accident at Cedar Lane Car Park on Saturday evening. There is no lighting by the ticket machine as the lights do not come on until 9pm, she tripped on a post in the darkness and suffered a fractured wrist. We are concerned for safety in this area, but cannot find out who owns the car park.

**Reply from Denis Fuller, SCC**

This is a private car park – I will link with you over who owns it and how to contact them to make a complaint.

**3. Tina Carney, Bagshot resident**

There is a real issue with College Ride, by Pennyhill Park Hotel as HGVs and delivery vehicles use the footpath / bridleway as a roadway. Parked vehicles make access very difficult in this narrow road.

**Reply from the Chair**

I know the area in question and this is the second time that this has been brought to my attention. I will write to the Managing Director of

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Pennyhill Park. I believe that this is a public Right of Way, so should not be used for traffic / parking in this way.

**Reply from Valerie White, SHBC**

I know that residents have tried to deter vehicle access by closing the gate, but they just open it. College Ride is a narrow road and this gate should not be used for deliveries as they have a separate delivery entrance.

**4. Carol Gregorious, Chobham Parish Councillor**

There are problems with Chobham car park. This used to offer free parking but is now charged by the Borough Council. Workers cannot afford the daily charges, so now park on residential roads instead, leaving the car park half empty and our roads congested! This must only bring in a low revenue, with high operational costs – but with a high impact locally.

**Reply from Vivienne Chapman, SHBC**

The Executive are reviewing the out of town car parks and I will take this up with them as an issue.

**5. Cllr Tim Dodds, Surrey Heath Borough Council**

Surrey Heath is a green Borough, but what can we do about trees and shrubs that block sightlines on junctions? What are the standards for cutting back and what should we report?

**Reply from Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW)**

We are very lucky to have such a green Borough, but vegetation can grow quickly. Please do report all concerns to the Highways team. Most cuts are programmed in, but we do have capacity to address safety issues. However, some junctions historically have poor sightlines and we do not want to have to cut down trees unnecessarily.

**6. Murray Rowlands, Camberley Resident**

I know from the Citizens Advice Bureaus in the area that there are difficulties with crisis loans from SCC. CAB's can help with food and furniture but no longer have funds to hand out. Does the new crisis loan system give the same assistance to residents as before?

**Reply from Vivienne Chapman, SHBC**

The Borough Council gives grants to the CAB to aid residents.

**Reply from the Chair**

We will need to look at this issue of crisis loans and come back to you outside of the meeting.

**7. Jeremy Wilson, The Avenue, Camberley**

The Avenue in Camberley is increasingly being used as a high speed rat run, to and from the town centre, which is making life a misery for residents and posing a significant danger to children attending Lyndhurst School and Camberley Infants.

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In March this year, 57 residents of The Avenue petitioned that they had had enough of the increasing volume and speed of traffic, with 65% of those petitioned, favouring 'speed platforms' similar to those in Southwell Park Road, to police speed along the entirety of The Avenue.

In the last two years, The Avenue has had one fatality, in the tragic case of Monica (Paolo) Hart, one child hit by a van and both incidents were attended by helicopter ambulance.

Do we really have to wait for another fatality and after six months, aren't the residents due a response to their petition and their demands for speed platforms?

**Reply from Denis Fuller, SCC**

This road is of concern and I have taken this up with Officers on behalf of residents. I am not convinced that speed humps are the answer and I would prefer a 20mph speed limit, but these are not supported by Central Government.

**Jeremy Wilson, The Avenue, Camberley**

There are a number of different problems in different areas along the Avenue, with parked cars and a bad camber on a corner. The speed needs to be policed. However, residents are not keen to see flashing signs or chicanes but want speed humps like those in Southall Park Road.

**Reply from Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW)**

I am aware of this issue and residents concerns, but was not aware that this was subject to a petition. We would normally try to work with residents over a range of potential traffic calming solutions. There is an ongoing access and movement study for the Town and this area falls under this. Traffic modelling will be used to look at different restrictions and options. The Avenue is one of a number of roads with issues. It can be difficult for even experienced highways officers to accurately measure speeds and speeding can sometimes be a perception issue – the last two surveys recorded speed as 30mph along this road. Physical measures can be used as limits are sometimes not upheld by motorists – but residents limit this by cutting back on what they want. Speed tables on such a long stretch of road would take the entire capital budget of this Committee – removing funding from elsewhere.

**Reply from the Chair**

We will have a further look at this situation and report back.

**8. Cyril Pavey, Local resident**

The A30 is a nightmare already – Do County Councillors have any early thoughts on the proposed Camberley Town Centre development and the impact this might have on traffic? The plans shown at the

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exhibition just covered the retail offer and not traffic and traffic flows around the Town.

**Reply from Vivienne Chapman, SHBC**

The Town Centre Plan will involve a series of consultations – the first being the retail offer, with roads following in a second consultation.

**Reply from the Chair**

The County Council has statutory processes for consulting over any major road changes. In this case, there is currently not a specific highways issue to consult on yet. The County Council is also asked to comment on every planning application.

**9. Question read by the clerk on behalf of Denise Taylor, Keswick Drive, Lightwater**

I would like a speed restriction to 30mph be discussed for Lightwater Road (Lightwater). The speed limit is too high (40mph) in a residential area – many cars exceed this. My daughter was knocked over on this road and I know she has not been the only one. Several school buses collect children here. Lightwater Road is also very narrow. Two lorries cannot pass each other without one resorting to the curb/pavement unless they wait to pass each other using Colville Gardens/Derwent Road or Lightwater Meadow as a 'pass by'. I have had two near misses where I have been slowing to turn right into Derwent Road only to have cars approaching too fast from behind, around the blind bend coming out of the village, and needing to overtake me on the wrong side to avoid a collision with my car. I am only grateful nothing was coming in the opposite direction at the same time!!

**Reply from Valerie White, SHBC**

As a regular user of this road, I agree that 40mph is too high. We have also discussed this at a Parish level and would support a reduction in speed limit.

**Reply from Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW)**

Highways can review this in consultation with safety management and the Police and bring a report. This road does connect with Red Road and could be considered as part of a package scheme for the area or can be considered on its own.

**10. Tina Carney, Bagshot resident**

Some areas have 20mph in villages – especially outside schools. What are Councillors thoughts on this?

**Reply from the Chair**

Reduced limits can work in some areas – but enforcement can be an issue. Statistics show that there are very few accidents outside schools, so a blanket policy of introducing them throughout Surrey would not be the most effective use of limited resources.



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**11. Carol Gregorious, Chobham Parish Councillor**

Is the junction at the High Street and Chertsey Road in Chobham on the list of priority roads?

**Reply from Andrew Milne, Highways Area Manager (NW)**

I will investigate and let you know.

Further Public Questions and Comments were raised during the meeting under specific items on the agenda:-

**Item 7 - Highways Update**

**Katia Malcaus Cooper, Lightwater**

The recent census caused chaos on the Red Road and the A31 – nobody seemed to know it was happening or why.

**Reply from the Chair**

This was a Police initiative that aimed to gather data on journeys being travelled.

**Item 9 - Surrey Fire and Rescue Service Report**

**8. Murray Rowlands, Camberley Resident**

The report does not mention the recent strike action and the cover that was arranged. I would have liked to ask a question about the Fire Service bringing in cover – which was not done anywhere else.

**Rodney Bates, SHBC**

The report mentions Junior Citizens, but states that this did not take place this year. I would like to know the reasons and whether this will be undertaken in future.

**Item 11 - Forward Plan / Date of the next meeting**

**Cyril Pavey, Local resident**

Would the Committee consider holding meetings during the daytime?

**Reply from the Chair**

I am willing to discuss this, but we did decide that evenings were best for community engagement.

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## ANNEX B – TABLED ITEM 5

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**Item 5 – Written Public Questions****Q. Written question from Mr. Paul J. Chapman, Frimley Green.**

"Given the traffic chaos witnessed in Frimley Green recently due to the temporary lights placed on the mini-roundabouts around the green that mimic the mitigation measures proposed for the PRB development, will the council promise to look again at the potential traffic problems and carry out their own investigations into the mitigations proposed, to prevent Frimley Green and nearby areas becoming gridlocked with traffic?"

**A. Written response provided by Andy Stokes, Principal Transport Development Planning Officer on behalf of the Committee**

The Princess Royal Barracks Planning Application considered the likely impact of the development on the junctions of Wharf Road and Sturt Road on Frimley Green Road.

In order to adequately accommodate the development impact it is proposed that traffic signals be installed, replacing the existing roundabouts. The installation of permanent traffic signals at this location has been carefully considered by Surrey County Council, who is content that they can be satisfactorily accommodated.

Temporary traffic lights are often less efficient than a permanent installation which are carefully programmed to ensure that a maximum amount of 'green time' is available, and where safe to do so, allowing differing streams to negotiate the junction at the same time.

The County Council will not be carrying out its own investigations into the use of traffic signals at these junctions, it will however ensure at the appropriate time that the permanent signals are designed and installed to operate safely and as efficiently as possible.

**Q. Supplementary question from Mr. Paul J. Chapman, Frimley Green**

Whilst I appreciate that temporary lights are less efficient than permanent ones, the settings seemed reasonable (although there was no pedestrian crossing) and yet the lights caused chaos. This was before the additional traffic of the new development. I would urge that consideration be given to mitigation works before the new development goes ahead.

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**A. Response from Chris Pitt**

This did cause chaos and I agree with you. The lights were also in place over the weekend with no-one working there – leading to congestion and loss of business.

**A. Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager (NW)**

The temporary lights were installed by BT, not SCC – but we do have responsibility for managing temporary works on the Highway.