

Minutes of the meeting of the
Spelthorne LOCAL COMMITTEE
held at 6.30 pm on 18 March 2013
at Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames TW18 1XA.

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Mr Richard Walsh (Chairman)
- * Mrs Carol Coleman (Vice-Chairman)
- * Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos
- * Mrs Caroline Nichols
- * Mrs Denise Turner-Stewart
- * Mr Victor Agarwal
- * Mr Ian Beardsmore

Borough / District Members:

- * Borough Councillor C Davis
- Borough Councillor G Forsbrey
- * Borough Councillor I Napper
- * Borough Councillor Jean Pinkerton
- * Borough Councillor Joanne Sexton
- * Borough Councillor Richard Smith-Ainsley
- * Borough Councillor Robert Watts

* = present

16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

No apologies were received.

17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

Minutes from the Local Committee held on 21st January 2013 were agreed and approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest.

19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 4]

There were no Chairman's announcements.

20 PETITIONS [Item 5]

No petitions were received.

21 MEMBER QUESTION TIME [Item 6]

There were no member questions.

22 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME [Item 7]

One public question was received. The question and answer is set out in Annexe 1 to these minutes.

There was a request from the Committee for officers to inform the committee what facilities at the Spelthorne Junior School are not being used and how many square meters the unused area covered.

Cllr Ian Beardsmore said that he would support a bid from the school for funding from the Leader's Community Improvement Fund, if a suitable project was identified for the site.

23 RESPONSE TO A PETITION [Item 8]

The Chairman welcomed Nick Healey, Highways Area Team Manager (NE), who responded to a petition received at the 21st January meeting from Mr Atma Singh Dhaliwal (a total of 163 signatures submitted online), which read:

"We the undersigned PETITION Surrey County Council to install a Pedestrian or Zebra Crossing on Town Lane (opposite Town Farm Way)."

Officers have observed the pattern of pedestrian movement at the site in question. It is suggested that a School Crossing Patrol would be the most appropriate technical solution, subject to risk assessment, priority and availability of funding. The divisional member for Stanwell and Stanwell Moor endorsed this suggestion, from his own observations.

In response to a question from a committee member regarding point 3.1 in the report: 'The personal injury accident record along the road does not justify significant investment in new pedestrian crossing facilities', Nick explained that no pedestrian accident had been recorded at this site.

A School Crossing Patrol will now be considered, subject to risk assessment, priority and availability of funding.

24 SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE LOCAL PREVENTION COMMISSIONING 2013-15 [Item 9]

The Chairman welcomed Leigh Middleton, SCC Contracts Performance Officer, who presented the report. Leigh explained that the proposed improvements came about from lengthy discussions at the Local Committee's Youth Task Group, using information covering all of Spelthorne.

The Chairman requested that in future, the Committee should be notified of any Spelthorne Youth project, however funded, that was under threat of closure.

The Committee commented that it was a good report that young people had contributed to, but it was agreed that more detail would be required in future.

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) AGREED:

- a) The allocation of £20,000 to Personalised Prevention Budgets (see 1.3a for details).
- b) The local needs specification (Annexe A) to be considered by providers focusing on the identified needs of Spelthorne and the geographical neighbourhoods prioritised by the Youth Task Group. **Bids will be scored according to the details contained in the contract documents to be sent out.**

25 DATA OVERVIEW OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SPELTHORNE [Item 10]

The Chairman welcomed Kerry Randle, SCC Area Education Officer, who presented the report. Kerry was accompanied by two colleagues from Babcock 4S. This item was not a decision item.

The report was to inform the Local Committee members of the planned support being provided to schools in the borough of Spelthorne.

Local Committee members queried several aspects of the report, including floor standards and 'suppressed data' (it was explained that suppressed data is a Department for Education requirement). There were also queries regarding Key Stage 5 and whether the figures reflected pupils in Spelthorne, or the many pupils who travel outside of Spelthorne for sixth form education.

Members requested more Spelthorne specific data on all key stages and more comparison and context, including contextual information on data from surrounding areas (for example, London and pupils from London who attend Spelthorne schools). There was also a request for more aspirational information and predictions of what Spelthorne needs to aim for.

There was a proposal for a new recommendation which was agreed (see ii).

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) AGREED

(I) TO NOTE THE CONTENT WITHIN THE REPORT FOR INFORMATION ONLY PURPOSES.

- (ii) **That in future, a more comprehensive report with back data and with an identification of where councillors can assist, is brought to the Local Committee.**

26 SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE PUBLIC SAFETY PLAN UPDATE [Item 11]

The Chairman welcomed Steve Owen-Hughes, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, who presented the report. This item was not a decision item.

The report was to inform the committee on the items in the next Public Safety Plan Action Plan, covering the period 2013-16 and currently under development. This process includes a review of the 2 year action plan for 2011-13 and also the proposals for a 3 year action plan from 2013-16.

Consultation will take place later in the year regarding the two Spelthorne station closures at Sunbury and Staines Upon Thames (this station is in Stanwell). The intention is to have one central location in Spelthorne. Once a new location has been decided upon, the new station will be built before the others close. There will be one full-time pump, i.e. day and night.

The Committee thanked Steve and his colleagues for their work at the Olympics and wanted it recorded that SF&RS has done a 'fantastic job'. Regarding community engagement work, Steve confirmed that this will continue.

THE LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE) AGREED TO:

- (i) Note the progress to date on items in the Action Plan for 2011-13
- (ii) Provide feedback on proposed Action Plan for 2013-16.
- (iii) Consider those items that will be the subject of further public consultation at the appropriate time.

27 HIGHWAYS UPDATE [Item 12]

Nick Healey, Highways Area Team Manager (NE), presented the report to update the Committee with progress of the 2012-13 Highways programmes funded by the Local Committee's respective capital and revenue budgets. Nick confirmed that there is now a complete programme in place for 2013-2014.

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) agreed:

- (i) To authorise the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to decide Divisional Programmes for next Financial Year, in the event that individual Divisional Members have not indicated their priorities by 31st March 2013 (paragraph 2.15 refers).

28 LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING [Item 13]

Sandra Brown, SCC Team Leader – East, Community Partnerships Team, presented the report and tabled revised officer recommendations.

[AT 10pm a guillotine was proposed, to extend the meeting past 10pm. Mr Ian Beardsmore proposed and it was seconded by Mr Richard Walsh. Agreed.]

An amendment to the Report was noted by Members:
Page 72, paragraph 2.4, should say Sunbury, not Shepperton.

Revised Officer Recommendations

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) AGREED:

- (i) The items presented for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 revenue funding as set out in section 2 of the report and summarised below:

MEMBER	ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT
Denise Saliagopoulos	Spelthorne Borough Council	Christmas lighting project	£5,714.12
Caroline Nichols	Surrey County Council – Highways	Peregrine Road streetlight	£3,800.00
Caroline Nichols	Surrey County Council – Highways	Tree works in Sunbury	£3,200.00
Caroline Nichols	Unique	ADHD support group	£3,000.00
Ian Beardsmore	Home-Start Spelthorne	Volunteer training and family support group	£2,300.00
Richard Walsh			£918.01
Caroline Nichols	Spelthorne Borough Council	Hanging baskets –	£1,800.00

		Halliford and Lower Sunbury	
Denise Saliagopoulos	Spelthorne Borough Council	Hanging baskets – Leacroft	£1,232.00
Denise Turner-Stewart	Spelthorne Boxing Club	Provision of boxing classes	£1,000.00
Richard Walsh	Spelthorne Borough Council	Rubber mats at Skate Park	£1,500.00
Victor Agarwal	Stanwell HUB	Teenage families project	£1,500.00

- (ii) **Agreed the award of a further £918.01 from Richard Walsh’s allocation to Home Start Spelthorne’s Volunteer Training and Family Support Group project, as detailed in the table above.**
- (iii) **Noted the revised award of £1,000 from Denise Turner-Stewart’s allocation to Spelthorne Boxing Club for the Provision of Boxing Lessons, as detailed in the table above.**
- (iv) **Noted the expenditure previously approved by either the Community Partnerships Manager or the Community Partnerships Team Leader under delegated powers, as set out in section 3 of the report.**
- (v) **Noted any returned funding and/or adjustments, as set out within the report and in the financial position statement attached at Appendix 1.**
- (vi) **Agreed the award of £6,430 from Victor Agarwal’s allocation, to extend the resurfacing works to Town Lane.**
- (vii) **Noted the increase of £500.02 from Denise Turner-Stewart’s allocation to the Victoria Parade and Kingston Road improvements, to £1,500.02.**

29 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [Item 14]

To be held on Monday 24th June 2013 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Spelthorne Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines TW18 1XB. (6.30pm – 7pm: Informal Public Question Time.)

The meeting, which commenced at 7pm, ended at 10.10pm.

ANNEXE 1: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (ITEM 7)

Meeting ended at: 10.10 pm

Chairman

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SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE – 18th March 2013

AGENDA ITEM 6

MEMBER QUESTION TIME

There were no member questions.

AGENDA ITEM 7

WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1. Mr John Carruthers will ask the following question:

The old clinic in the grounds of Spelthorne Junior School in Feltham Hill Road Ashford Mx has been lying empty and derelict for at least fifteen years, if not twenty years. An asset of the County Council that is unused, costs to upkeep, actually is deteriorating, and a complete waste of resource. The County cannot afford this.

There have been attempts over the years to bring it back into useful life, such as the Junior School specifically wanted to use it, needed it, but always for one given reason or another the Premises Section of the County Council have blocked any positive action. Why? What is behind this apparently deliberately negative attitude that seems determined to waste County Council resource. What County benefit do the Premises section see in their lack of action?

Please may I have a positive reply with a time frame for bringing this building back into useful life.

Clare Neave, SCC Property Services, will give the following answer:

“Some years ago we undertook a condition survey on this property that identified circa £120,000 worth of works, including underpinning, in order to bring the property back into use. This cost will have increased since the original survey and that coupled with almost no access to parking has meant that the property is uneconomical to bring back into use, with little market without parking.

As I understand it the school has sufficient floor area within its existing accommodation and is therefore unable to obtain capital funding for the property.

I agree that it seems a terrible waste but sadly the physical site restrictions and costs involved don't stack up to a good business case to reuse.

We of course happy to discuss further and revisit the matter if there is merit in doing so.”

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