

Minutes of the meeting of the
Spelthorne LOCAL COMMITTEE
held at 6.30 pm on 17 March 2014
at Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames. TW18 1XA.

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Mr Richard Walsh (Chairman)
- * Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos (Vice-Chairman)
- * Mr Ian Beardsmore
- * Mrs Carol Coleman
- * Mr Robert Evans
- * Mr Tim Evans
- * Mr Daniel Jenkins

Borough / District Members:

- * Cllr Chris Frazer
- * Cllr Ian Harvey
- * Cllr Jean Pinkerton
- * Cllr Joanne Sexton
- * Cllr Richard Smith-Ainsley
- * Cllr Spencer Taylor
- * Cllr Robert Watts

* In attendance

84/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Councillors Ian Harvey and Joanne Sexton.
Councillor Friday acted as a substitute for Councillor Sexton

85/13 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

Minutes from the Local Committee held on 16 December 2013 were agreed
and approved as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

86/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest.

87/13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 4]

The Chairman did not make any announcements.

88/13 PETITIONS & LETTERS OF REPRESENTATION [Item 5]

Three petitions were received:

1. Petitioner Mr Cherrett

"We call upon the Surrey County Council Local Committee in Spelthorne to make a public statement on the flooding in Greenlands Road and Leacroft, Staines-upon-Thames in the week beginning 10th February 2014.

What information did the County Council receive in advance of this flooding, from whom, and when? What action did the County Council take in response to this warning? What has the Council subsequently discovered about the causes of the flooding? What action is the Council taking to prevent further incidents like this happening again?"

The petition had 201 signatories.

2. Petitioner Mr Paul Marks (presented by Mr Cherrett)
For Spelthorne Borough Council "To compel Thames Water and the Environment Agency to review and mitigate the River Ash flood risk"

The petition had 424 signatories.

3. Petitioner Mr Aldrin Fernandes
"To ban HGV vehicles on Cadbury Road (A244)"

The petition had 48 signatories. The petitioner was not present at the meeting.

The Chairman thanked the people who signed the petitions and said a formal response to the petitions will be presented by officers at the next Local Committee on 30 June 2014.

89/13 PETITION RESPONSE: (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 5a]

A formal response to the petition received from Sabera Wahab regarding the provision of a bus service from Sunbury Cross Roundabout, Staines Road East to Hampton and Kingston was received as Item 5a. The petitioner was not present at the meeting.

90/13 MEMBER QUESTION TIME [Item 6]

Six Member questions were received, three from Cllr Saliagopoulos, two from Cllr Coleman and one from Cllr Robert Evans. The questions and answers are set out in Annexe 1 to these minutes.

Cllr Saliagopoulos asked a supplementary question. "Please provide assurance that the matter will be investigated as a priority". Cllr Saliagopoulos and Cllr Walsh agreed to talk to officers at a meeting on 18 March and to write to the Environment Agency and Thames Water after that meeting.

Cllr Coleman asked a supplementary question to question 5. "Please provide assurance that savings could not have been made elsewhere, for example, managers' cars?" An assurance was given that every possible saving had been looked at by officers.

Cllr Robert Evans asked a supplementary to question 6. "Will the Highways Agency listen to residents, can we make suggestions and what is the timescale?" Richard Bolton, Local Highways Services Group Manager confirmed that the Highways Agency was open to suggestions and they were currently looking at six potential solutions. He agreed to respond to Cllr Evans concerning the timescale.

91/13 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME [Item 7]

The Local Committee received written questions from three members of the public in advance of the meeting: one from Mr McLuskey, one from Mr Carruthers and one from Mr Seaman. The questions and answers are set out in Annexe 1 to these minutes.

Mr Seaman asked that paragraph 3 of the answer to Question 3 be amended to read "If following....."

92/13 DATA OVERVIEW OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SPELTHORNE (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 8]

The Chairman welcomed Kerry Randle, Area Education Officer – NE and Michael Youlton and Maria Dawes from Babcock 4S. Maria Dawes presented the report and a full discussion ensued.

Cllr Tim Evans raised a number of queries on the report and Maria agreed to clarify these points with Cllr Evans.

It was suggested that the Local Committee acknowledge the tremendous effort put in by teachers and staff. The Chairman agreed to write a letter to that effect.

It was noted that there was a need to focus on early literary skills in Early Years and that this should be reflected in the conclusion to the report. Cllr Watts asked for the budget for the 'Action Plan'. Maria agreed to send the figures to Cllr Watts.

Maria acknowledged that Spelthorne is an unique borough and whilst there are some positive trends and Spelthorne is moving in the right direction there is still more work to be done and a need to move more rapidly. She suggested that an education action group be set up. It was agreed that paragraph 9.13 be added to the report, as follows:

9.13 – "It is recommended that an Education Action Group is established, with representation from Schools, LA services and local councillors, to commence further detailed discussion in order to identify required actions to support improvements being achieved at a more rapid rate."

93/13 HIGHWAYS UPDATE (FOR DECISION) [Item 9]

The Chairman welcomed Richard Bolton, Local Highways Group Manager who presented the report. After a full discussion, the officer's recommendations on the report were agreed

THE LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE) AGREED:

(i) to authorise the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Member(s), to undertake all necessary procedures to deliver the agreed programmes.

94/13 OPERATION HORIZON FIVE YEAR CARRIAGEWAY MAINTENANCE PLAN (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 10]

Richard Bolton, Local Highways Group Manager presented the report.

The committee requested that contractors be co-ordinated to ensure best value. It also asked whether it was possible to re-arrange the priority of a number of projects. Richard Bolton said there may be some flexibility and councillors were requested to contact Highways with any queries.

95/13 ON STREET PARKING REVIEW OF SPELTHORNE (REVISED REPORT) (FOR DECISION) [Item 11]

The Chairman welcomed Jack Roberts, Engineer, Parking Strategy and Implementation Team who presented the report. It was noted that any objections submitted by the public would be considered by the next task group.

THE LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE) AGREED THAT:

(i) bus stop clearways as described in paragraph 3.8 and the proposed amendments to on-street parking restrictions in Spelthorne, as described in the report and shown in detail on drawings in Annexe A;

(ii) the Local Committee allocates funding as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report to proceed with the introduction of the parking amendments;

(iii) the intention of the county council to make an order under the relevant parts of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to impose the waiting and on street parking restrictions in Spelthorne, as shown on the drawings in Annexe A are advertised and that if no objections are maintained, the orders are made;

(iv) that if there are unresolved objections, they will be dealt with in accordance with the county council's scheme of delegation by the parking strategy and implementation team manager, in consultation with the Chairman/Vice chairman of the Local Committee and the appropriate County Councillor. An additional Member may be invited for comment.

96/13 ROAD SAFETY POLICY UPDATE (FOR DECISION) [Item 12]

The Chairman welcomed Duncan Knox, Road Safety Team Manager and Rebecca Harrison, Sustainability Community Engagement Team Leader. Duncan presented the report.

A number of suggestions were put forward by the committee. Duncan agreed to consider these suggestions before updating the policies and resubmitting them to cabinet for approval.

THE LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE) AGREED:

- (i) to review, and provide comments on the draft policies.

97/13 LOCAL COMMITTEE & MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS FUNDING - UPDATE (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 13]

This Item was for information only. Members noted the amounts spent from Members' Allocation and Local Committee capital budgets.

98/13 FORWARD PROGRAMME 2014/2015 (FOR DECISION) [Item 14]

The Chairman requested that the Local Committee consider the Forward Programme. Cllr Coleman requested that the Feltham Road lorry ban be included on the agenda for the June Local Committee. The possibility of setting up a workshop on cycling was discussed and it was suggested that Cllr Coleman contact Duncan Knox and Members to establish whether there was any interest in this proposal.

THE LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE) AGREED:

- (i) the Forward Programme 2014 / 15 as outlined in Annexe 1.
- (ii) to consider any further themes for Member briefings during 2014/15.

Annexe 1

99/13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [Item 15]

To be held on Monday 30 June 2014 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Spelthorne Borough Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-Upon-Thames TW18 1XB.

(6.30pm – 7pm: Informal Public Question Time)

The meeting which commenced at 7pm, ended at 10.25pm.

Meeting ended at: 10.25 pm

Chairman