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Minutes of the meeting of the
Reigate AND BANSTEAD LOCAL COMMITTEE
held at 2.00 pm on 22 September 2014
at Reigate Town Hall, Castlefield Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 0SH.

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Mrs Dorothy Ross-Tomlin (Chairman)
- * Mr Bob Gardner (Vice-Chairman)
- * Mrs Natalie Bramhall
- * Mr Jonathan Essex
- * Mr Michael Gosling
- * Dr Zully Grant-Duff
- * Mr Ken Gulati
- * Mrs Kay Hammond
- * Mr Nick Harrison
- * Ms Barbara Thomson

Borough / District Members:

- * Cllr Michael Blacker
- * Cllr Julian Ellacott
- * Cllr Ms Sarah Finch
- * Cllr Norman Harris
- * Cllr Richard Mantle
- * Cllr Roger Newstead
- * Cllr Graham Norman
- * Cllr Tony Schofield
- * Cllr Mrs Joan Spiers
- * Cllr Mrs Rachel Turner

* In attendance

37/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (AGENDA ITEM ONLY) [Item 1]

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Richard Mantle, Councillor Mrs Kay Hammond and Councillor Mrs Joan Spiers

38/14 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (AGENDA ITEM ONLY) [Item 2]

The following correction was made to the minutes:
Councillor Michael Blacker attended the previous meeting.

Subject to the above amendment, the minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

39/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (AGENDA ITEM ONLY) [Item 3]

None received.

40/14 PETITIONS (AGENDA ITEM ONLY) [Item 4]

Two petitions were received.

Traffic light pedestrian crossing on Pendleton Road, Redhill

The Committee received a petition signed by 800 residents, agreeing with the statement: "support for a light controlled crossing at the intersection of Abinger Drive and Pendleton Road in Redhill."

The Committee **NOTED** the response of the Highways Manager.

Reigate High Street 20mph Speed Limit

The Committee received a petition signed by 700 residents agreeing with the statement: "to support for a reduction in the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph in Reigate High Street".

The Committee **NOTED** the response of the Highways Manager to the petitions attached as Annex A.

Annex A

41/14 FORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS (AGENDA ITEM ONLY) [Item 5]

One formal public question was received. A response was tabled and is attached to the minutes as **Appendix B**.

[Cllr Alex Horwood asked a supplementary question "Given that Surrey County Council is aware of this issue already, how is the Local Committee going to improve parking?] The Highways Manager committed to providing an answer to this question at a later date.

Annex B

42/14 FORMAL MEMBER QUESTIONS (AGENDA ITEM ONLY) [Item 6]

One Member question was received from Cllr Barbara Thomson. A response was tabled and is attached to the minutes as **Appendix C**.

[Cllr Thomson asked a supplementary question " Please can the Head of Service, Early Years and Childcare Service clarify whether the last paragraph of the report refers to January 2015. Please can the Head of Service, Early Years and Childcare Service also keep Cllr Thomson updated on support for the Dovers Green Play group?"]

The Head of Service, Early Years and Childcare Service confirmed that the last paragraph of the report did refer to January 2015 and that he would keep Cllr Thomson updated on support for the Dovers Green Play group.

Annex C

43/14 EARLY YEARS AND CHILDREN'S CENTRES UPDATE (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 7]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Phil Osborne, Early Years and Childcare Service Manager

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

Members were informed that the quality and availability of Early Years provision in Reigate and Banstead was in general very good. However, the service would like to do more work with disadvantaged families in the borough. Members requested that more focused support is provided for vulnerable families.

The level of qualifications for group leaders are excellent at 87% at level 3 and above and are good for other paid staff at 49%. Members stated that they would like to see a higher percentage of staff gaining a Level 3 or above qualification.

Members discussed supporting organisations with identifying children with special needs which would assist with buying in additional staffing. Members noted that 20% of children are not achieving and queried the reasons for this and stated that they wished to see the gap lowered.

Members noted that work is being undertaken on a project to provide better information services for families moving into the area. Early Years are also working with services for Young People to gain more information about young parents and their needs.

Members were informed that the service is looking to expand places for 2 year olds in the boroughs and districts in Surrey. The Chairman requested that the Committee be kept updated on developments for the Early Years Service in the borough.

The Committee:

NOTED the report.

44/14 LOCAL COMMITTEE TASK GROUPS 2014/15 - VACANCIES (FOR DECISION) [Item 8]

The Local Committee AGREED: to appoint the below representatives from Reigate and Banstead Borough Council to the Youth Task Group, the Local Sustainable Transport Fund Task Group and the Redhill Parking Task Group for 2014-15.

The membership of these task groups for 2014-15 to be as follows:

Youth Task Group – Councillor Julian Ellacott, Councillor Mrs Rachel Turner and
Councillor Ms Sarah Finch

Local Sustainable Transport Fund Task Group – Councillor Ms Sarah Finch, Councillor Julian Ellacott and Councillor Michael Blacker

Redhill Parking Group – 3 councillors were nominated to the 2 places on the group.

The Committee took a vote: Councillor Tony Schofield received 10 votes
Councillor Julian Ellacott received 9 votes
Councillor Ms Sarah Finch received 2 votes

It was therefore agreed that Councillors Schofield and Ellacott would represent the Committee on the Task Group for 2014/15.

45/14 SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - LOCAL UPDATE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 9]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Steve Goodsell Firefighter and Eddie Roberts Area Manager East Area Command

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

It was noted that East Surrey Hospital is still generating many Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA) calls, and Members wished to know how the service was responding to this. Ongoing work was taking place with East Surrey Hospital around this to reduce the false activations that are attended.

Members noted that the number of fire safety visits in the borough had reduced, it was explained that visits were taking time to complete. Members were reassured that the service was focusing on vulnerable groups, with volunteers delivering enhanced safety checks.

Members asked what the latest was with the Banstead Fire Station, the committee was informed that Epsom Fire station is moving 1 fire engine to Banstead Station. Members noted that the reporting structure for Firefighters in this area would be changing and that there would be reporting by borough area. Members were also informed that in mid November Firefighters would be moving into Banstead Fire station to provide support for Purley Fire Station when that closes.

Members noted that attendance to fires is increasing in the borough and requested that these figures be incorporated into next year's report.

The Committee:

- (i) RECOGNISED the achievements of the borough teams within the Reigate & Banstead borough.

- (ii) SUPPORTED the borough team's commitment to deliver initiatives to reduce risk and make the Reigate & Banstead Borough safer through the delivery of the borough/station plan.

- (iii) NOTED the targets and initiatives set within the Reigate & Banstead Borough Plan for 2013/14 and support the Fire and Rescue Service in the delivery of this plan.

46/14 TRAVEL SMART - APPROVAL OF BUS CLEARWAYS AND CYCLE IMPROVEMENTS (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION - FOR DECISION) [Item 10]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Marc Woodhall Sustainable Transport Manager and Alison Houghton Senior Transport Officer (Infrastructure)

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

Members discussed the installation of 50 bus stop clearways to allow people greater accessibility at bus stops with buses being able to pull up and away smoothly. This would also improve buses being able to keep to schedule.

Members asked if residents would be consulted on the introduction of the clearways, officers confirmed that residents would be written to.

The Committee:

- (i) AGREED the proposed bus stop clearways are introduced at the existing bus stops along the improved quality bus corridors (Redhill-Merstham (bus routes 430/435), and Earlswood-Whitebushes (bus routes 420/460, 430/435, 424) as specified in Annexes A and B to the report submitted.

- (ii) AGREED the proposed cycle route improvements to the National Cycle Route (NCR 21) be approved for construction.

- (iii) AGREED the proposed cycle route improvements to St Annes Drive (Redhill) be approved for construction including the conversion of the western footway between Noke Drive and the traffic island near Warwick School to shared pedestrian and cycle use.

- (iv) AGREED the proposed improvements submitted by the Reigate and Redhill Business Travel Forums outlined in Annexes H and I to the report submitted, be approved to proceed to delivery.

(v) AGREED to delegate authority for decision making on the final round of business travel forum schemes to the Head of Travel and Transport in consultation with the Chair of the Reigate and Banstead Local Committee and the LSTF Task Group.

(vi) NOTED the progress of the 2014/15 Travel SMART Wayfinding programme for Redhill.

47/14 REDHILL BALANCE NETWORK - APPROVAL OF BUS ONLY RIGHT TURN FROM PRINCESS WAY INTO LADBROKE ROAD (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION - FOR DECISION) [Item 11]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Paul Fishwick, LSTF Project Manager

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

Members noted that the works on Redhill Balance Network would be moved back until February 2015 because of safety concerns and the Christmas shopping period.

The Committee:

- (i) NOTED the update provided and the latest programme of works in Annex A of the report submitted.
- (ii) AGREED to the creation of a bus only right turn into Ladbroke Road once the new junction is constructed, Annex B of the report submitted.
- (iii) AGREED that if objections are received to advertisement of the legal notices and traffic orders, the Area Team Manager is authorised to try and resolve them in consultation with the Chairman, vice chairman, Divisional Members and Project Manager, and decide whether or not they should be acceded to and therefore whether the orders should be made, with or without modification.

48/14 HIGHWAYS SCHEMES UPDATE (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION - FOR INFORMATION) [Item 12]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: John Lawlor, Area Highways Manager

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

Members noted that Highways had been allocated a large portion of pipe repairs, officers were working to improve customer contact in this area.

Members queried whether blocked gullies are logged as blocked and were informed that this was the case. Funding that is being received locally was being used to target areas that needed more cleans. Highways would be receiving more historical information about silt levels.

Members were informed that Highways were in regular contact with Thames Water and that they hoped to start to bring local flood groups and farmers together in Reigate and Banstead.

Members wished to know whether Street Works worked closely with Highways to carry out inspections. The officer informed Members that inspections are coordinated with Street Works.

Members asked what the process was for adding broken pipes to a list for action. Members were requested to contact Terry O'Neil to report any issues. Members requested a list of broken pipes per division for the next informal Local Committee.

Councillor Gosling raised questions regarding Woodmansterne Road, officers were requested to respond to the councillor directly.

Councillor Gulati raised the issue of flooding of Outwood Lane and Holly Lane that occurred in June 2014 and the planned resurfacing of Woodmansterne Lane, officers agreed to find out and come back to the councillor.

Members noted that a list of works to address flooding damage have been compiled and asked officers to come back with dates of these works to the Committee.

The Committee:

NOTED the contents of the report.

49/14 MEMBER ALLOCATIONS (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 13]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Rowena Zellej, Local Support Assistant

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

The Committee **NOTED** the amounts that have been spent from the Members' Allocation (revenue) and Local Committee capital budgets, as set out in Annex 1 of the report submitted.

[The Chairman reminded Members that all funding must be committed by the end of February 2014.]

50/14 CABINET FORWARD PLAN (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 14]

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

51/14 LOCAL COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 15]

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

Meeting ended at: 4.55 pm

Chairman

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE & BANSTEAD)****DATE: 22 September 2014****PETITION:****Traffic light pedestrian crossing on Pendleton Road, Redhill**

We, the undersigned, petition to provide a Traffic Light Pedestrian Crossing for Pendleton Road, Surrey, to ensure safety of parents, children, teenagers and all residents, whilst crossing the road to attend two separate schools and other areas within the local community.

Officer response:

The petitioners are seeking the provision of a controlled (traffic light) pedestrian crossing in Pendleton Road midway between The Pendleton public house and Abinger Drive.

Background

A location plan is provided at the end of this response.

Pendleton Road connects the A23 and the A217, providing a link between Redhill and Reigate. It is bounded by common land along much of its length. Two schools are located in Pendleton Road: St John's Primary School at the A23 end and Reigate School at the A217 end. St John's Primary has increased in size in the past few years through the addition of bulge classes, and the school encourages children to walk to school where possible. The Borough has implemented a "cinder" path along the common on the north side of Pendleton Road that children use to walk to the school. Pupils walking to Reigate School have to walk on the north side of Pendleton Road as there is no footway on the southern side between Abinger Drive and the school. There are controlled crossing facilities outside both schools.

Pendleton Road is subject to a 30mph speed limit between the A23 Horley Road and a point approximately 55 metres south of Abinger Drive, where the speed limit changes to 40mph. A 20mph speed limit operates outside St John's School at the start and end of the school day during term time. A speed survey was carried out within the 30mph speed limit section of Pendleton Road by the Police in September 2012. Mean speeds of 32mph south-westbound and 33mph north-eastbound were recorded, with the corresponding 85th percentile speeds of 37mph and 40mph.

Pendleton Road forms part of a bus route and there are a pair of bus stops located by Abinger Road. The pedestrian crossing facility sought by the petitioners would also assist users of these bus stops.

In the past 3 years there have been no recorded personal injury collisions in the section of Pendleton Road between The Pendleton public house and Abinger Drive.

Previous Reports to Local Committee

A report was taken to the Reigate and Banstead Joint Transport Committee (the predecessor to the Local Committee) in July 2001 concerning a range of proposals for Pendleton Road. This report included a proposed crossing facility near Abinger Drive. The schemes included in the report were prioritised and a phased approach was adopted for implementation as funding became available.

A petition was presented to Reigate and Banstead Local Committee in March 2009 requesting funding of a crossing in Pendleton Road near the junction with Abinger Drive. As a result, in July 2009 Local Committee approved the inclusion on the Integrated Transport Schemes (ITS) forward programme of a pedestrian refuge near Abinger Drive, with 'in principle' funding allocated for design and construction in 2012/13.

Initial feasibility design was carried out for a pedestrian refuge in Pendleton Road north-east of Abinger Drive. Issues were identified with visibility due to the geometry of the road, the need to relocate a bus stop and the impact on common land. Due to reduced budgets for Integrated Transport Schemes, funding was not forthcoming to progress further the proposed pedestrian refuge near Abinger Drive. However, the request has remained on the ITS list for consideration for future funding.

Current Position

A review of the feasibility design has shown that the 1.2 metre width of the proposed pedestrian refuge would not meet current design standards. A minimum width of 1.6 metres is required to provide sufficient space for a pedestrian with a pushchair or for a mobility scooter to wait without encroaching onto the carriageway.

There is no Local Committee funding allocated in the current programme to carry out further design at the present time. However, funding has been identified from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) budget to enable a feasibility study to be carried out. Options that can be considered include:

- An alternative location for a pedestrian refuge
- Kerb build-out with priority give-way and pedestrian crossing point
- Controlled pedestrian crossing

Any measures near Earlswood Common would need to be sensitive to the local environment and would be dependent upon agreement with Reigate and Banstead Borough Council. Early discussions have taken place to seek their views on the use of common land to facilitate the provision of a crossing. The Borough has indicated its support in principle. Any proposal which requires the use of common land would require an application to Secretary of State for common land assent.

In addition to the money allocated for the feasibility study, the divisional Member for Redhill West and Meadvale has secured £20,000 from s106 monies held by Reigate and Banstead Borough Council and a further £40,000 of LSTF funding. This is likely to be sufficient to fund the construction of either a pedestrian refuge or kerb build-out, but would only be approximately half of the sum required to implement a controlled pedestrian crossing. If the feasibility study recommends a controlled pedestrian crossing as the preferred option, with the support of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and divisional Member, Local Committee will be asked to consider the allocation of additional funding from its ITS budget to contribute towards the implementation costs. The divisional Member has also indicated that she would be

willing to use other funding sources available to her to contribute towards the cost of delivering the crossing.

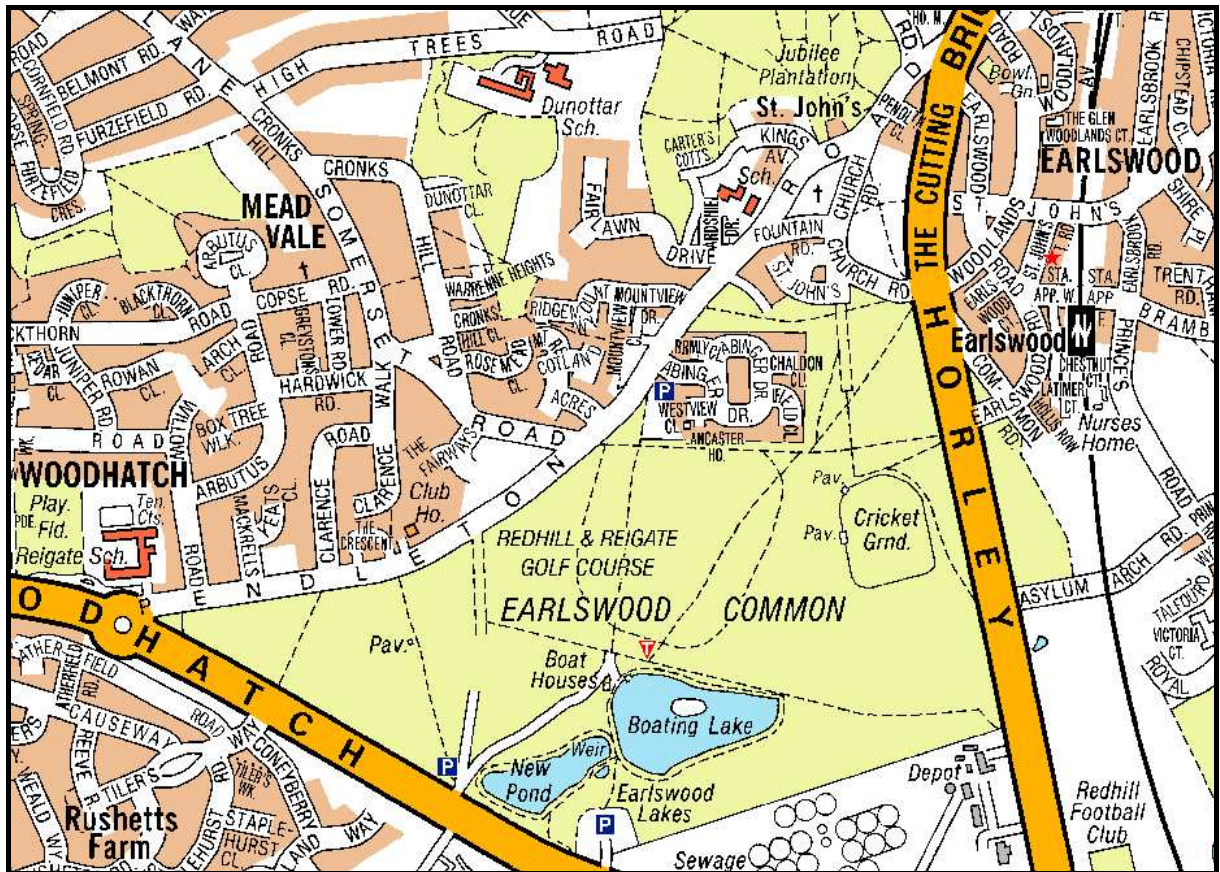
Next Steps

LSTF monies will be used to fund a feasibility study into the provision of a pedestrian crossing facility in the vicinity of Abinger Drive. The findings of this study will be reported to the Local Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and divisional Member.

A significant budget has been identified to enable a scheme to be implemented, but it would be insufficient to fund in full the construction of a controlled pedestrian crossing. Subject to the outcome of the feasibility study, Local Committee may be asked to consider allocating funding from their Integrated Transport Schemes budget towards the provision of a controlled pedestrian crossing.

It should be noted that if common land is required to enable a scheme to be progressed, this will require the consent of the Secretary of State.

Location Plan



PETITION: Reigate High Street 20mph Speed Limit

Reigate Methodist Church, which has a well attended Community Centre at the rear of its premises, has become increasingly concerned about traffic flow in Reigate High Street after one of its elderly members was knocked down and injured crossing the High Street. The Methodist Church is petitioning for a reduction in the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph in the High Street.

Officer response:

The A25 Reigate High Street forms part of the strategic road network and is the southern arm of the one-way system in Reigate town centre. It provides a link between Redhill to the east, Dorking to the west, the M25 to the north and Gatwick to the south. It also serves as a diversion route when there are problems on the M25 or M23. Traffic volumes are therefore high.

Reigate High Street is a vibrant shopping centre comprising both national chain stores and independent retailers. There are a number of large office premises and the Borough Council offices to the north of the High Street in addition to local schools and Priory Park located nearby. As a result, there are significant pedestrian movements both along and across the High Street.

There are currently signalised pedestrian crossing facilities at either end of the High Street and a further signalised crossing in the High Street near the pedestrian access to Morrisons supermarket. There are also informal crossing points where kerb build-outs have been provided together with dropped kerbs and tactile paving.

A review of the collision data collected by the Police shows that in the 3 year period June 2011 to June 2014, there have been 4 recorded personal injury collisions in the High Street. All these collisions resulted in slight injuries and 3 of the collisions involved pedestrians. This is the latest data available and does not include the incident to which the petitioner refers.

In July 2014 Surrey County Council adopted a new speed limit policy. Under the policy, 20mph speed limits can be introduced by signing alone where existing mean speeds are at or below 24mph. Where the existing mean speeds are above 24mph, then traffic calming measures will be required. The policy sets out an assessment process that has to be followed, which includes seeking the views of the Police.

There is no current traffic speed data available for Reigate High Street. The first stage of the speed assessment process is to carry out a one-week automatic traffic survey of vehicle speeds. It is proposed that this survey be funded from the Local Committee's revenue budget. The results of the survey will be reported to the Local Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and divisional Member who will make a decision, in consultation with the Area Team Manager, on how to proceed, based on the results of the survey and subject to the allocation of funding if required. It should be noted that there is no capital funding allocated at the current time to progress a 20mph speed limit in the High Street.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE & BANSTEAD)

DATE: 22 September 2014

SUBJECT: WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS

DIVISION: Horley West Ward



1. Question from Cllr. Alex Horwood

There is currently a severe shortage of parking spaces at Meath Green Infants School, situated in Kiln Lane, Horley, Surrey, RH6 8JG.

Directly adjacent to the school, there is some open land, which is owned by Surrey County Council. As a temporary measure, could this land be used in order to ease the congestion on Kiln Lane as well as on the access road managed by Estates and Mallard Close, from which it feeds off?

Answer from Chairman on behalf of the committee:

The County are aware that the traffic situation at the infant school is as advised by Cllr. Horwood. The position remains much the same as set out by Linda Kemeny Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning, Surrey County Councillor - Woking South West, in her response to Cllr. Horwood on the 25 October 2013, when a similar question was raised by the Cllr regarding the parking at the school.

It is confirmed that the land still remains in the ownership of Surrey County Council and there are no plans at present to develop or dispose of its interest and currently the site is secured in order to deter incursion by third parties to avoid unauthorised access and nuisance to the surrounding residents.

The only funding available is to meet Basic Need i.e. the expansion of school places and in this instance the Schools and Learning directorate have confirmed that there is no planned or forecast expansion envisaged for Meath Green Infant School and accordingly there is no source of funding available to meet such a project to create additional car parking spaces for teachers and a drop off point for parents.

Any proposal by the school to create additional parking on this land would need to incorporate appropriate security fencing and gates to enable the area to be closed off outside of school hours in order to deter incursions. It is also considered most likely, that the application would come under close scrutiny and may be challenged by planners on the grounds that it would conflict with planning and highways policy in respect of the provision of parking and drop off points at schools.

Contact Officer: Keith Brown Schools and Programme Manager, Tel: 020 8541 8651

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**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE & BANSTEAD) DATE: 22 September 2014****SUBJECT: WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS****DIVISION: Earlswood and South Reigate****1. Question from Councillor Barbara Thomson**

"Can I have an update on the position of Dovers Green Playgroup, i.e. helping and supporting them to find new premises and the reasons for the closure?"

Answer from Chairman on behalf of the committee:

Dovers Green Playgroup were issued with six months notice to terminate the lease for the building on the site of Dovers Green Primary School, in June 2014. The decision rose partly as a result of an Ofsted investigation of an incident at the playgroup, and partly due to the school's governing body considering the future of the school and all the provision on its site. Whilst the outcome of the incident was "unfounded", the current owner found the whole matter very distressing and decided that she no longer wanted to continue to own and manage the playgroup. At this time, the governors became concerned about the impact that the investigation was having within the community and within the school.

In consultation with the county council, the governing body took the view that the playgroup is located in an outdated portakabin which does not reflect the high standard of other facilities on the school site. Therefore, the governing body took the opportunity to plan for the future and gave notice on the lease, which was issued by Surrey County Council (SCC). The governing body acknowledged it was a difficult decision, but believed it to be the best way to meet the needs of an expanding school and for the local community.

The current position is that, whilst there were initially two members of staff who indicated a willingness to take on the ownership of the pre-school, only Miss Rebecca McSorely is going to take this forward and is in the process of setting up a limited company. A new location has been identified at Mead Vale Village Hall, which Miss McSorely considers as being suitable premises.

Staff from SCC's Early Years and Childcare Service (EYCS) are visiting the hall in order to look at whether any refurbishment is required. A lease is being arranged with the hall committee and the new provision will be registered with Ofsted.

Miss McSorely will carry on operating the playgroup on the existing site until the lease expires on 6 December 2014 and EYCS will be liaising with the school and SCC's property services, to agree an extension of the lease until the end of the autumn term so that children and their families have no disruption to their early education. There is also a requirement for the existing building to be returned to its original condition on the termination of the lease and a suitable time period for this to take place will be negotiated as part of the agreement on the extension of the lease.

At this point in time, there are strong indications that everything will be in place for the playgroup to move to new premises in readiness to open for the spring term in January 2014 and children will be able to continue to attend at Dovers Green until the end of this term.

Contact Officer:

Phil Osborne - Head of Service, Early Years and Childcare Service
Children, Schools and Families Directorate
Tel: 01372 833861