Minutes of the meeting of the Tandridge LOCAL COMMITTEE
held at 10.15 am on 9 December 2016
at Tandridge District Council Offices, Station Road East, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 0BT.

Surrey County Council Members:
* Mr Nick Skellett CBE (Chairman)
* Mr Michael Sydney (Vice-Chairman)
  Mr David Hodge
* Mrs Sally Ann B Marks
* Mr John Orrick
* Mrs Helena Windsor

Borough / District Members:
* Mr Chris Botten
* Mr Pat Cannon
* Mr Michael Cooper
* Mr Martin Fisher
* Mr Rod Stead
* Mrs Lesley Steeds

* In attendance

84/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Mr David Hodge and Mr John Orrick. Mr Orrick subsequently arrived during Item 14.

As the Chairman was aware that some committee members needed to leave the meeting early, he changed the order of the published agenda to take items 10 and 11 first after item 3.

85/16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

The minutes of the previous meeting on 23 September 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

86/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

Mr Chris Botten declared an interest in Item 4 – petition received from Burstow Primary School – as he will be the Chair of Governors from January 2017.

Mr Michael Sydney declared a personal, but not prejudicial, interest in Item 11 – application to divert footpath 415- due to his position on the High Weald Joint Advisory Committee.
PETITIONS [Item 4]

This item was heard following items 10 and 11. Mr Pat Cannon left the meeting during this item.

1 petition was received. A copy of the petition and response, as well as the supporting comments made by signatories, and a letter of support from the Acting Headteacher is annexed to the minutes.

1 – Safer school run for Burstow Primary School.

Mrs Catherine Coulson, a parent at the school, initiated this petition. As she was unable to attend the meeting, Claire Hodgson, Acting Headteacher at Burstow Primary School, presented the petition on her behalf.

Mrs Hodgson’s presentation included the following points:

- The school is by a busy crossroads, with shops on both sides of the road.
- HGVs often come through, and many deliver to the local shops. As a result, many people park on the yellow lines near the corner of the road.
- The current situation is dangerous, and is a daily problem at drop-off and pick-up times.
- The accident that happened in July is typical of the road.
- The school are keen to work with the county council to explore the issues more closely, and look at possible solutions.

Burstow Parish Councillor, Mrs Liz Cutter, also addressed the committee. She agreed that the parking needs to be looked at, but was pleased that the county council was not planning to increase the railings. She asked that the county council look into the issues raised.

The Area Highway Manager acknowledged the concerns, and referred the committee to the observations made by council officers on a visit to the school. Some suggestions have been put forward to improve the situation, as detailed in the response, and Highways want to work with the school and parents going forwards. The officer explained that at this point they cannot promise a larger scheme, but they will work on the suggestions in the petition response, and in the longer term, it could be possible to review the junction.

Members acknowledged the problems outside the school. The divisional member explained he had held a useful meeting with the school, with some positive ideas to discuss further with the Education Department within the county council.

Members were keen to see more enforcement of parking on double yellow lines.

The committee agreed the response provided.

FORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]

1 public question had been received, from Mr Simon Morrow, District Councillor for Warlingham East, Chelsham and Farleigh, and Warlingham
Parish Council Chairman. A copy of the question and the response is annexed to the minutes.

Mr Morrow asked about the county council’s plans for the field on Chelsham Road, Warlingham. The site is within the greenbelt. He hoped that next year would see some positive news about this site.

The Chairman referred Mr Morrow to the response.

89/16 MEMBERS QUESTIONS [Item 6]

1 member question had been received, from county councillor Mr Nick Skellett. A copy of the question and response is annexed to the minutes. Mr Skellett asked about the traffic and parking problems being caused by the closure of Woodhurst Lane and Southlands Lane.

Mr Skellett was pleased to note in the response that the closure of Woodhurst Lane had been lifted.

Mrs Sally Marks asked a question informally. Mrs Marks invited the Caterham Rotary to consider supporting an application for Members Allocations funding to put towards a Christmas party for the residents at Hillcroft Court Caterham. Residents had been forced to leave their homes due to the June 2016 floods. Mr Chris Botten confirmed that Caterham Parish Council has already committed £200. Mr Rod Stead, who sits on the Rotary Club, agreed to discuss this with the Rotary.

90/16 DECISION TRACKER (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 7]

Members asked for an update on work to redirect HGVs away from villages, and requested that the SCC Traffic Planning Engineer attends a future informal meeting. The Chairman agreed to circulate an update to the newly co-opted district members. The Area Highway Manager agreed to circulate any updated information to the committee.

Mr Michael Cooper, who is also Chairman of the Caterham Town working group that is working on the Caterham Masterplan would be pleased to work with the county council on the issues on Croydon Road, Caterham.

Mr Chris Botten noted the update regarding Le Personne residential home, and suggested that if the feasibility study indicated a high cost, then introducing a 20mph speed limit may be more desirable. The Area Highway Manager noted this request, and Mr Rod Stead’s request that the Chair of Trustees at the home are consulted. Members were disappointed that this issue had not yet been resolved.

Members were surprised to see the Whyteleafe gullies had not previously been classified as high priority.

91/16 MEMBERS ALLOCATIONS SUMMARY (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 8]

The Chairman reminded county council members that the February deadline for funding was approaching, and to speak to the Local Support Assistant about possible projects.
92/16  HIGHWAYS UPDATE 2016-17 (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION)  [Item 9]

**Officers attending:** Zena Curry, Area Highway Manager, Anne-Marie Hannam, Senior Traffic Engineer

The Chairman referred members to a paper on Horizon 2 he circulated at the meeting. He stated that the number of roads needing attention was high, and therefore to allocate the 20% available to the committee, he had asked the Area Highway Manager to put forward recommendations for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to agree.

The Area Highway Manager confirmed that there were 74 schemes prioritised on the list. Due to the urgent problems on Titsey Hill, this scheme would be included. This would take up about 1km of the circa 2km that the committee had discretion to agree.

**Resolution:**

The Local Committee (Tandridge) resolved to agree to:

i) Note the contents of the report;

ii) Authorise the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to finalise the list of local priority schemes for inclusion in the Horizon 2 Roads Major Maintenance Programme (HRMM) by 31st January 2017, following consideration of the selection of schemes under the influence of the Local Committee at the informal Local Committee meeting on 25 November 2016

**Reasons for decisions:**

To update the Local Committee on the progress of the highway works programme in Tandridge.

93/16  HIGHWAYS FORWARD PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2018/19 (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION)  [Item 10]

As the Chairman was aware of some committee members needing to leave the meeting early due to other engagements, this item was taken after Item 3.

**Officers attending:** Zena Curry, Area Highway Manager, Anne-Marie Hannam, Senior Traffic Engineer

The Area Highway Manager introduced the report, and explained the forward programme is based on the assumed budget, but the actual budget will not be finalised until March. A further report will be brought to the Local Committee in March once the final budgets are known. The Area Highway Manager referred members to table one in the report, which sets out the assumed levels of funding for the committee highway budgets, and to annex 1, which sets out the proposed schemes. There is the opportunity for virement during the year if required. The Chairman explained that there is flexibility within the programme, and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman will always consider suggestions from members.

**Member discussion – key points:**
• A22 – Whyteleafe - Members asked for clarification on the ‘anomaly’ listed in annex 1. Officers explained that the traffic order behind the positioning of the signs needed to be amended.
• Members were concerned that the sum for drainage and ditches was inadequate. The officer explained that there are other budgets for capital funding of this held centrally, which are not included within this report. There will be the opportunity for the committee to respond flexibly to local needs with in-year virements of funds.
• Members welcomed the investment at Halliloo Valley Road / Woldingham Road / Bug Hill, and asked that strong negotiations are started with the landowner, so that the works are not delayed.
• Members suggested Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding, where secured, could help to enhance funding for the forward programme.

The Local Committee (Tandridge) resolved to agree to:

General

(i) Note that the Local Committee’s devolved highways budget for capital works has been reduced as set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan, to £272,294 in 2017/18 and to £226,912 in 2018/19, and that it has been assumed that the revenue budget for 2017/18 remains the same as for 2016/17, at £195,303;

(ii) Note that a further report will be presented to the March 2016 meeting of the Tandridge Local Committee to agree a revised programme should the devolved budget vary from these amounts;

Capital Improvement Schemes (ITS)

(iii) Agree that the capital improvement schemes allocation for Tandridge be used to progress the Integrated Transport Schemes programme set out in Annex 1;

(iv) Authorise that the Area Highway Manager, in consultation with the Local Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman, be able to vire money between the schemes agreed in Annex 1, if required;

(v) Agree that the Local Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Area Team Manager, together with the relevant local divisional Member are able to progress any scheme from the Integrated Transport Schemes programme, including consultation and statutory advertisement that may be required under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, for completion of those schemes. Where it is agreed that a scheme will not be progressed, this will be reported back to the next formal meeting of the Local Committee for approval.

(vi) The Area Team Manager, in consultation with the Local Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman, be able to vire money between the capital improvement schemes (ITS) and capital maintenance (LSR) budgets, and vice-versa, if required;

Capital Maintenance Schemes (LSR)
(vii) Agree that the capital maintenance schemes allocation for Tandridge be divided equitably between County Councillors to carry out Local Structural Repair, and that the schemes to be progressed be agreed by the Area Maintenance Engineer in consultation with the Local Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and local divisional Members;

Revenue Maintenance

(viii) Authorise the Area Maintenance Engineer, in consultation with the Local Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and relevant local divisional Member, to use £195,303 of the revenue maintenance budget for 2017/18 as detailed in Table 2 of this report;

(ix) The Area Maintenance Engineer, in consultation with the Local Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman, be able to vire the revenue maintenance budget between the identified work headings in Table 2;

(x) Agree that £5,000 per County Councillor be allocated from the revenue maintenance budget for Highways Localism Initiative works, and that if bids for this funding have not been received by the end of May 2016, the monies revert to the relevant Member to use to fund Community Enhancement works;

(xi) Agree that Members should contact the Area Maintenance Engineer to discuss their specific requirements with regard to any Community Enhancement allocation and arrange for the work activities to be managed by the Area Maintenance Engineer on their behalf;

(xii) Agree that the revenue maintenance gang be managed on Members’ behalf by the Area Maintenance Engineer.

Reasons for decisions:

To agree a forward programme of highways works in Tandridge for 2017/18 – 2018/19, funded from the Local Committee’s devolved budget.

94/16 APPLICATION TO DIVER TRANSMIT THE 415 DORMANS LAND (OTHER COUNTY COUNCIL FUNCTIONS) [Item 11]

Officer attending: Debbie Prismall, Senior Countryside Access Officer, Legal Definition

As the Chairman was aware that some members of the committee needed to leave early he amended the order of the agenda, so this item was taken after items 3 and 10.

Public Speakers:

Mr Eric Richardson, representative of Swites Wood Ltd, had registered to speak in objection to the application. Mr Richardson made the following points:

- The current path goes nowhere.
- It is little used and obsolete.
• The county council’s ecologist objects to the proposed diversion, and yet the officer recommendation seeks to override this objection.

Mrs Maureen Young, Chairman of Dormansland Parish Council, had registered to speak in objection to the application. Mrs Young made the following points:
• Concern for the disturbance to wildlife
• Worried that the proposal will increase anti-social behaviour
• Concerned that deer will not be able to jump both fences and may be injured/killed.

Mr Tony Pearson, Local Footpath Secretary, had registered to speak in favour of the application, on behalf of the Ramblers, and arrived during the member discussion. Mr Pearson made the following points:
• The Ramblers were consulted on this proposal in 2015 and indicated their support.
• However since then the Ramblers only support the proposal with reluctance. The Ramblers fully support taking walkers off the roads, however they consider there could be a better solution than the one being proposed.

Member discussion – key points:
• The local ward member, Mrs Lesley Steeds, asked for the application to be refused. She was not satisfied the proposal met the criteria for a diversion, and was concerned about the ecological impacts of the proposed footpath. She stated they would disadvantage those walking with dogs, and that the overhanging branches, and high stile, made it difficult to negotiate. She was concerned the proposed diversion could lead to an increase in antisocial behaviour from vandals, or motorbikes.
• The divisional member, Mr Michael Sydney, agreed with Mrs Steeds. He commented it was a seemingly expensive request, and he would expect the High Weald AONB Joint Advisory Committee would agree with him.
• Members commented that the footpath seems very little used, and were surprised there was no information on this within the report.
• Concerns were expressed about the steep drop at the entrance, and the presence of culverts and overhanging trees. The exit of the current footpath onto the busy road make this path appear seldom used.
• Members asked the officer to confirm that if the application is refused, the current footpath remains. The Countryside Access Officer confirmed this.

The Countryside Access Officer referred members to the written statement made by the Ramblers, as set out in the report.

The Senior Countryside Access Officer explained that other options have been explored, but this proposal takes walkers off a busy road where there have been past incidences of accidents. The stile would be replaced with a kissing gate to improve access. The land could be stepped to ease the steep bank. There are no counters recording the use of paths.

The committee voted on the proposal:
Votes for the recommendation in the report: 0
Votes against the recommendation in the report: 9
Abstentions: 1

Resolution:

The Local Committee (Tandridge) resolved, by 9 votes against, 0 votes in favour and 1 abstention, to REFUSE that:

A Diversion Order is made under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980, to divert Public Footpath No. 415, Dormansland onto the line shown A – D – E – F on Drg. No. 3/1/129/H13.

Reasons for decision:

The committee were not satisfied that the criteria for making a diversion order had been met; with particular concern about the ecological implications, ease of navigating the proposed route and potential for vandalism.

95/16 APPLICATION TO DIVERT FOOTPATH 381 LINGFIELD (OTHER COUNTY COUNCIL FUNCTIONS) [Item 12]

Officer attending: Debbie Prismall, Senior Countryside Access Officer, Legal Definition

Public speakers:

Parish Councillor Mrs Liz Lockwood had registered to speak on behalf of Lingfield Parish Council in objection to the application. Mrs Lockwood made the following points:

- The current footpath provides direct, level, and road-free access for walkers.
- Anyone with a buggy, mobility difficulty, or heavy luggage is disadvantaged through this proposal. A lift is needed to enable these residents to access both sides of the platform and the continuing footpath.
- Lingfield has a high proportion of local residents who have mobility difficulties.
- This proposal is a backwards step.

Mr Tony Pearson, Local Footpath Secretary, had registered to speak in objection to the application, on behalf of the Ramblers. Mr Pearson made the following points:

- The footpath was closed on a temporary basis, and residents were led to expect the development of a bridge with lift access. This is what residents want to see.
- The existing route provides a useful link for walkers. The proposed diversion is a large detour.
- The committee should reject this application and ask Network Rail to come up with a better solution.

Member discussion – key points:
• Members confirmed with officers that refusing the diversion application would not cause the existing footpath to be reopened.
• Members commented that this temporary closure has now been going on for a long time. It was felt that there must be a way of making the level crossing safer, perhaps using lights or other warning system. Members noted that Network Rail were working towards a national programme of level crossing closures.
• Members expressed concern about the lack of disabled access being proposed, and concluded that the officer recommendation to refuse the application was correct, as this was an inadequate solution for Lingfield residents.

Members voted on both of the officer recommendations:

Votes in favour of recommendation (i): 9
Votes against recommendation (i): 0
Abstentions: 0.

Votes in favour of recommendation (ii): 9
Votes against recommendation (ii): 0
Abstentions: 0.

The Chairman proposed an additional recommendation to write to Network Rail to express the committee’s dissatisfaction with their failure to propose an acceptable solution. Mrs Marks seconded this proposal.

Resolution:

The Local Committee (Tandridge) resolved to agree that:

(i) The application from Network Rail dated 3 November 2016 to divert Public Footpath No. 381, Lingfield onto the existing station footbridge, shown A – C – E – F – G – B on Drg. No. 3/1/29/H60a is refused.

(ii) Network Rail is asked to explore other options for a diversion onto an alternative route accessible for those with mobility difficulties and pushchairs, including a new footbridge with lifts or improving the level crossing.

(iii) The Chairman writes to Network Rail expressing the committee’s dissatisfaction with their failure to secure a satisfactory solution for residents.

Reasons for decision:

The application seeks to divert the at-level crossing onto an existing stepped footbridge. The footbridge is not accessible for those with mobility difficulties and those with young children in pushchairs and also involves a 360 metre detour if travelling in a west to east direction or vice versa.

96/16 COMMUNITY SKILLS INITIATIVE (SERVICE MONITORING AND ISSUES OF LOCAL CONCERN) [Item 13]

Officer attending: Keir Shiltz, Team Manager, Commissioning and Prevention, Children, Schools and Families
The officer introduced the report. The initiative aims to bring vulnerable people into the workforce, and this collaboration with Kier Highways is intending to support these vulnerable people, as well as addressing areas of skills shortages in the highways sector. Candidates will receive intensive support and training, with access to the Kier Highways apprenticeship scheme following successful completion of this pre-apprenticeship course.

**Member discussion – key points:**

The Chairman confirmed that the proposal coming to the committee would be secured specifically for Tandridge residents, and that the works they undertook would be within the district. He confirmed that he had seen the results of the scheme and been impressed. Local Committees are being asked to support this initiative, in order for it to progress next year, assuming that suitable candidates will be identified, and an operational base agreed.

Mrs Marks asked the Team Manager to make contact with the Community Foundation for Surrey, who may be able to assist with transport costs for the candidates.

The Team Manager confirmed that the candidates will be identified through the youth service and wider Early Help service. Case workers will be asked to identify candidates, and this could include those in looked after care, homeless, or in the criminal justice system.

**Resolution:**

**The Local Committee (Tandridge) resolved to agree to:**

(i) Endorse the development of the S-Skills initiative in Tandridge;

(ii) Invite members to consider allocating a proportionate contribution towards the expected total cost of £3750 to sponsor 1-3 Tandridge participants on this initiative, from their Localism Initiative/Community Enhancement Fund.

**Reasons for decisions:**

Vulnerable young people and adults within our communities often require different routes to employment. It is particularly important to find sectors where their inherent and latent skills can be developed and valued by the employer and where the employer has the necessary incentives to supply the extra support necessary.

The highways sector is one such area where their ageing workforce, who are primarily resident outside of the county, needs to be replaced and therefore there is a real desire to diversify the approach to recruitment and training.

Surrey County Council is committed to maximising the Social Value gained from every pound it spends through its contracted and directly delivered services.

The Local Committee’s Youth Task Group, (comprising county and district councillors and officers) have discussed the proposals and indicated their support for the initiative.
Officer attending: Tor Peebles, Flood Risk Management Strategy and Partnerships Team Leader

Mr John Orrick arrived during this item.

The Team Leader introduced the report. He confirmed that there had been a positive first meeting of the Caterham Flood Action Group in early December. All gullies in the area are due to be cleared during January and February. Every single gully in Caterham on the Hill has been visually inspected. The Flood Action Group are being invited to identify blocked gullies they have seen. The officer noted the positive community spirit and commitment within the Caterham on the Hill community. The officer confirmed that the county council is working with the other Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) to look at opportunities for mitigating the impact of flooding. Funding has been secured for feasibility studies, and the county council will be seeking further contributions from the other RMAs.

The Area Highway Manager acknowledged past issues with the quality of gully cleansing. The contract has been reviewed and more quality control measures put in to address this. This includes spot checks, and new auditing methods and procedures. There are issues with parked cars blocking access to gullies. The Area Highway Manager confirmed that the council can now suspend parking and enforce this to allow for gully cleansing. However because this is expensive to do, it will only be implemented in roads with a history of problems.

**Member discussion – key points:**

- Members commended the Team Leader for the considerable amount of work that had been undertaken by county council officers and partner agencies.
- Members asked what would happen if there was a repeat of the June rainfall tomorrow – would the consequences be the same? The Team Leader confirmed that the Money Pit is not large enough to take that volume of water. Maintenance has been carried out on the drainage, however the flood risk itself has not changed.
- Park Road in Caterham is one road which could benefit from action to ensure gully clearing is not hampered by parked cars.
- The Atkins report provides crucial information on how water flows through the district and signposts towards possible solutions.
- Mr Botten thanked the Team Leader for attending the Caterham Parish Council public meeting, and commended all the officers who attended. Mr Botten requested that use is made of the Parish Council’s knowledge and resources. They could contribute towards the cost of parking suspension, and could use the Parish Warden to help identify blocked gullies. The focus should be to widen the focus on broader resilience to a range of emergency situations, such as power cuts. The Team Leader agreed to take these points forward in discussion with the Parish Council.
Members discussed how Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) contributions from developers can help support the work to mitigate flooding risk and impact. Mr Martin Fisher confirmed that flooding work was a priority for the district council’s use of CIL.

Members asked for clarification on where overall responsibility for drainage sits. The Team Leader confirmed that DEFRA has overall responsibility, and individual RMAs take on specific responsibilities.

Members asked that progress is reported back to the committee at regular intervals, and asked for an update on progress with the Caterham Bourne to be brought to a future informal meeting.

Mr John Orrick proposed that further reports come to the Local Committee for monitoring on a 6 monthly, or annual basis. Mr Nick Skellett seconded this proposal.

Resolution:

The Local Committee (Tandridge) resolved to agree to:

(i) Note the findings of the section 19 investigation.

(ii) Note the current, future and completed work by the Risk Management Authorities.

(iii) Support the activities of the Flood Action Group.

(iv) Receive 6 monthly updates on progress

Reasons for decisions:

The impact of flooding to its victims reaches far beyond the physical impact on property and possessions; it can also affect the physical and mental health of individuals and communities. The approach to mitigating the impact of flooding is therefore holistic in nature, with the method taken in Caterham and the rest of Surrey being resident-led through Flood Action Groups and concurrent Risk Management Authority (RMA) collaboration. This places residents at the heart of the work that will be carried out in the Caterham on the Hill catchment and will enable the relevant authorities to deliver an approach to flood risk management that will best serve the needs of its residents.

98/16 ON-STREET PARKING ENFORCEMENT UPDATE (SERVICE MONITORING AND ISSUES OF LOCAL CONCERN) [Item 15]

Officers attending: David Curl, Parking Strategy and Implementation Team Manager, Jacquie Joseph, Parking Services Manager Reigate and Banstead Borough Council, Gavin Handford, Head of Corporate Policy, Performance and Parking, Reigate and Banstead Borough Council.

Mrs Sally Marks and Mr Martin Fisher left the meeting during this item.

The Team Manager introduced the report. This is an annual update and summary of the accounts.
The Head of Corporate Policy, Performance and Parking welcomed the committee's feedback on where to increase enforcement activity, and acknowledged the desire to see more enforcement. Temporary workers were being recruited as a trial to see if this would generate sufficient income to cover their costs. At least one of these new officers will be dedicated purely to Tandridge. Reigate and Banstead Borough Council were also looking at their use of vehicles and staff working hours. He invited members to let him know of any roads they felt particularly needed more enforcement.

The Parking Services Manager confirmed that she is meeting with the Police to explore better joint enforcement.

Member discussion – key points:

- Members asked that the county council works together with Tandridge District Council on their off-street parking review, to secure the best result for residents and local businesses.
- Members requested the following additions to the list for more enforcement:
  - Croydon Road Caterham opposite the former Adult Education site.
  - Station Avenue, Caterham where cars are often seen parking on double yellow lines.
  - Redehall Road and Wheelers Lane Smallfield and Burstow School
- Members asked whether the Caterham Business Improvement District (BiD) could provide funding for greater enforcement. Increasing churn in small town centres is a key concern for businesses. Mr Michael Cooper asked that officers engage with the BiD on this. The Head of Corporate Policy, Performance and Parking agreed to send a member of his parking team to a BiD meeting.
- Members asked that broken pay and display machines are brightly covered so that people can quickly see this.
- Members asked that the officers report back to the committee in March with an update on the impact of the changes.

Resolution:

The Local Committee (Tandridge) resolved to agreed to:

(i) Note the contents of the report.

Reasons for decisions:

Waiting and parking restrictions that are suitably/adequately enforced will help to:

- Improve road safety
- Increase access for emergency vehicles
- Improve access to shops, facilities and businesses
- Increase access for refuse vehicles and service vehicles
- Ease traffic congestion
- Better regulate parking

The Local Committee can contribute towards these objectives in partnership
with the enforcement team.

Meeting ended at: 1.00 pm

______________________________________
Chairman
SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL COMMITTEE (TANDRIDGE)
DATE: 9 DECEMBER 2016

SUBJECT: PETITION – SAFER SCHOOL RUN AT BURSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL, SMALLFIELD
DIVISION: LINGFIELD

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:
To consider a petition containing 231 signatures – by Mrs Catherine Coulson.

Following on from a recent accident outside Burstow Primary School in which a mum was knocked over. The School Run does at sometimes feel very daunting, the school has over 400 students, that makes for a lot of precious lives to look after, getting to and from school. There are measures in place by the school which help but more needs to be done. Railings are needed that reach round the corner of the Wheelers Lane junction onto Redehall Road up to the Lollipop Lady. I also feel a Pedestrian Crossing at the Width Restriction in Wheelers Lane is essential especially as many parents and children visit the local shops after school. I passionately feel that road safety needs to be addressed, before someone else, possibly a child is hurt. School Runs are one of the busiest times of the days for parents and carers and it needs to be safe for all of us.


The comments received in support of this petition are attached, as is a letter of support from the Acting Headteacher.

RESPONSE:

Burstow Primary School is located at a crossroads junction, with Redehall Road the main road running through Smallfield running north to south, Plough Road running west and Wheelers Lane running east. Burstow Primary School is accessed via Wheelers Lane.

There is currently a 20mph zone on Redehall Road and a section of Wheelers Lane. This is supported with traffic calming in the form of a raised table at the crossroads junction, speed cushions on Redehall Road on the approaches to the school and a pinch point/priority give-way on Wheelers Lane outside the school. The school currently has a School Crossing Patrol on Redehall Road just north of the junction with Wheelers Lane.

A review of the recorded personal injury collisions in the vicinity of the school between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2016 (the latest date for which data is available) has been carried out and the results are given below.
A collision involving a parent outside the school resulted in a serious injury and is included in the table above. Surrey Police recorded the driver carrying out a poor turn or manoeuvre and driving carelessly as contributing factors in this collision. The collision involving a slight injury contained in the table above occurred in Plough Road near to the crossroads junction; this collision involved 2 vehicles and occurred on a Saturday.

Following the recent collision outside the school a Road Safety Outside Schools meeting was held on 18th October 2016, from 8am until 9:30am. The following was observed during this meeting;

- A large proportion of parents and pupils parked outside the shops on Redehall Road and crossed Redehall Road away from the existing School Crossing Patrol, on occasion crossing between parked cars.

- A number of drivers, including those using the local shops and parents dropping children off at the school, parked on the existing double yellow lines at the crossroads. A number of these drivers also carried out three point turns in Wheelers Lane outside the school.

- A number of parents and pupils did not use the pinch point/priority give-way facility on Wheelers Lane, instead choosing to cross Wheelers Lane closer to the crossroads junction.

- Due to the existing traffic calming and congestion during the school peak time vehicle speeds are reduced.

- A large number of vehicles, including HGVs, turn right out of Plough Lane on to Redehall Road during the school peak.

The recommendations following the outcome of this Road Safety Outside Schools meeting were as follows;

- Refresh 40m of double yellow lines outside the Post Office in Wheelers Lane.

- Ask Reigate and Banstead Borough Council (who operate on-street parking enforcement for Surrey County Council in Tandridge under an agency agreement) to carry out enforcement of the existing waiting restrictions.

- Work with Burstow Primary School to highlight to parents/carers the importance of using the existing School Crossing Patrol rather than crossing Redehall Road outside the Post Office.
- Carry out a review of the existing signage on the approach to the school.

The petitioners are requesting additional pedestrian guard railing is installed on Wheelers Lane and Redehall Road, and the installation of a pedestrian crossing at the pinch point/priority give-way.

Pedestrian guard railing is provided to prevent pedestrians walking into the carriageway at certain locations. It is not a measure that is successful at preventing vehicles from mounting the footway, and in certain locations becomes a maintenance liability due to frequent damage from vehicles.

The existing footway at the crossroads is too narrow to install pedestrian guard railing. Existing pedestrian guard railing outside the school in Wheelers Lane has reduced the footway width to an extent which makes it difficult for pedestrians with pushchairs to use, resulting in pedestrians choosing to walk in the carriageway rather than use the narrow footway. To extend this guard railing to the crossroads could further encourage pedestrians to walk in the carriageway at this point.

Surrey County Council receives a vast number of requests for pedestrian crossings to be installed, especially outside schools, however the number of requests received outweighs the funding available. Therefore funding for such measures is prioritised where their introduction would achieve the greatest benefit in terms of helping to reduce the number of personal injury collisions. As shown from the review of recorded collisions, no personal injury collisions have occurred at the existing pinch point/priority give-way facility.

The collision that occurred in July 2016 was very unfortunate. However, the circumstances of this collision mean that it could have occurred at any location and there is no pattern of similar collisions at this junction. Despite this the County Council does take concerns about road safety seriously and road collisions across the County are continually monitored. If there should be any significant change or increase in the pattern of collisions then the matter would be referred to the relevant Road Safety Working Group for action to be determined. This group consists of Road Safety experts from both Surrey Police and the County Council as well as engineers from Surrey Highways.

For the reasons given above there are no plans to install pedestrian guard rail in either Wheelers Lane or Redehall Road, or a formal pedestrian crossing in Wheelers Lane.

The recommendations made following the Road Safety Outside Schools meeting will be progressed, during the 2017/18 financial year.

Contact Officer: Anne-Marie Hannam, Senior Traffic Engineer, South East Area Team
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Safer school run at Burstow Primary School - comments made by petition signatories

You take your life in your own hands, when school starts and ends

**June Champion**, Smallfield

This is definitely a dangerous junction. I believe railings should go on all 4 corners, directing the children to the lollipop lady crossing. Situation is not helped by the parents that insist on parking on the double yellow lines, where some children cross, with no thought for safety.

**Angela Gales-Sugg**, Horley, United Kingdom

I am fully supportive of railings on all four corners around the Burstow School. My husband walks my daughters to school & every day he takes his & my daughter's lives in his hands crossing the road. Cars/lorries speed down Plough Road towards Burstow School. Buses stop at the bus stop & cars go round the bus without any due care. Something has to be done. The local Council are not able to do anything as it's in the hands of Surrey County Council - well I hope this petition gets some action - something has to, as no-one else is listening! Good luck to you.

**Lisette Etheridge**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I believe railings should go on all 4 corners of wheelers lane, redehall road, plough road - its dangerous for adults, let alone children crossing. Something HAS TO BE DONE.

**Linda Collyer**, Horley, United Kingdom

I am the Acting Headteacher at Burstow Primary School and I was there to help the mum who got knocked down. She was on the pavement as the car came up onto where parents and children were leaving school. It was a miracle it was not a child. It is chaos with cars outside the school and at the crossroads at drop off and pick up time. There is no safe crossing point and parking along redehall lane and the corners of wheelers lane makes it a hazardous blind spot to get out from, if possible at all- which causes drivers to become impatient and take dangerous risks, like mounting the pavement to get passed parked or waiting cars. We have ideas about what could make this area of road safer for the families to get their children into school with much less of harm. Please help!!

**Claire Hodgson**, Horsham, United Kingdom

White vans parked completely on the pavement while they "pop" in the post office is totally unacceptable railings and a crossing will save lives there are also a lot of elderly residents who would benifit from a safe place to cross

**Tracy Richards**, Outwood, United Kingdom

Wheelers Lane becomes quite chaotic for both pedestrians and drivers during the school run. More needs to be done to protect all road users, especially the young children attending Burstow School.

**Theo Harris**, Horley, United Kingdom

It is only a matter of time before a child is injured or killed on this school run - one mum has already been knocked down. How long before the next bigger incident occurs?! It's time this was dealt with, properly.

**Catherine Bradshaw**, Surrey, United Kingdom

My children attend the school and the number of cars and difficulty parking around Smallfield needs to be addressed

**Rachel Green**, Smallfield, United Kingdom
There are so many issues with the crossings. A thorough investigation is needed into the best ways to improve the routes to school.

**Judy Shakhov**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I think Wheelers Lane should be made One Way, away from Redehall Road. The junction, Wheelers Lane / Broadbridge Lane also needs to be altered.

**Michael Daley**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

Not only does the school need safer conditions there is a pressing need to stop huge lorries using Redehall Road which is a small county lane, disallow abstract parking by parents collecting and depositing their children in Redehall Road, Wheelers Lane and the parking areas in front of the small parade of shops - that are intended for those who frequent the shops.

**Ann Hamlet**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I’ve seen the dangers first hand

**Megan Meliniotis**, South Croydon, United Kingdom

My friend asked me to

**Louise clay**, Lancing, United Kingdom

I believe every child and parent /carer has a right to a safer school run.

**Claire Payne**, Congresbury, United Kingdom

Without railings or crossings being put in place this is a serious accident waiting to happen. The lollypop lady we have does a great job but it’s far too busy for one person to watch all the junctions at one time. It’s a real shame it takes someone to be hit by a car and a petition to be signed to get anyone to look into it.

**Louise Masters**, Horley, United Kingdom

My boys attend this school. Something needs to be done quickly.

**Luke Masters**, Horley, United Kingdom

I have four small children and every time we cross the road near the school whether it be school run or just a leisure walk from home to the shop or the local park is life threatening and a huge cause for concern with inconsiderate drivers and poor visibility.

**Lavinia Masters**, Surrey, United Kingdom

I want more safety around my child's school, it's chaos mainly at pick up time.

**Carina Dyer**, Horley, United Kingdom

Eliminate risk of injury or death caused by speeding vehicles.

**Mike Wood**, Salfords, United Kingdom

My son attends this school and I 100% support this!!

**Steph Kilpin**, Horley, United Kingdom

My grandchildren go to the school, and I've seen first-hand the amount of accidents waiting to happen when I been at school pick up.

**rita clark**, Croydon, United Kingdom

We have to make our roads safer.

There is enough trouble in the world without irresponsible drivers.

**Julie Cheshire**, Spain
I'm tired of people parking on the junctions, double yellow lines, parking 2 abreast and speeding. I've been in the village 24 years and the traffic has doubled. Now we need the safety measures in place to prevent a death.  
**Donna Rowe**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

Safer school runs  
**Nigel Day**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

The crossing as it stands is dangerous, as are the pavements nearby where hedges are not cropped back frequently or drastically enough to ensure a safe route to and from school. There are many possibilities open to the council that would improve the situation.  
**Judy Shakhov**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

My son is going on Burstow Primary School  
**Desislava Zlateva**, Shipley Bridge, United Kingdom

This junction is daunting for an adult let alone a child. I have witnessed many an incident including people who have been parked outside of the coop drive over the pavement to get back onto the road. The whole thing needs railings and a permanent pedestrian crossing installed.  
**Jo Walford**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

Why are the railings in the middle of the pavement with unclipped bushes it means most people walk on the road.  
**David Lamb**, Outwood, United Kingdom

As I have my children going there too  
**Anita Limbachia**, South Godstone, United Kingdom

It's dangerous  
**Sally Baldwin**, Copthorne, United Kingdom

Something does need to be done to help pedestrians cross the roads leading to the school safely, it is only a matter of time before there is a fatality in the village!  
**Anthony Harris**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

There needs to be at least some zebra crossings, if not pelican crossings to the school, we have NONE! HOW can this be safe? It's a busy school in a busy village! Also to help elderly and others trying to use the local shops. Make Wheelers Lane one-way from crossroads to Doctors and you solve the problem of idiots parking on double yellow and blocking driveways! The redundant lane could then be used possibly as drop-off area for school or parking bays for shops. Blocking off one lane with extra paving on the corner and you would also make it easier for pedestrians to cross to the post office. Please, please do SOMETHING!! Before we have a fatality.  
**Tracey Davis**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I have a personal connection to this and would like change asap  
**Tolley Haycock**, NY, NY
It’s only a matter of time before someone is killed by the shops here, not only at school run time, the whole parking situation is ridiculous, confounded by speeding HGV’s and other vehicles. For God's sake DO something before someone gets hurt!!!

**Timothy Harris**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I feel the traffic situation and parking around that area is very dangerous. The shop parade should be made one way as vehicles come in both entrances which causes traffic to back up on the road causing havoc

**Anthony Ashby**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

Out rage ous accident

**Tina Watson**, Crawley, United Kingdom

My niece and nephew attend this schools and I like to think that all children attending along with parents, teachers and visitors are safe.

**Tammy Mcfadyen**, Winchester, United Kingdom

As a Mum of two young little ones I feel very strongly about road safety.

**Carrie Mellick**, Crawley, United Kingdom

I'm a friend of this mum and a mum myself - safety is the biggest factor and for a small significant change lives will be cared for- this could of been a fatality with blood on the councils hands. It's a danger that needs addressing

**Dawn McMurtrie**, Frinton-on-Sea, United Kingdom

I have a young child, his life matters, all lives matter and if there's something you can do at the council to prevent but choose not to then your conscience I hope will weigh heavily

**Nina Coomber**, Tonbridge, United Kingdom

This place HAS to be made safer for school children and parents. DON'T wait until another accident happens - which it will, sadly.

**Dianne Augustine**, Penarth, United Kingdom

It terrifies me whenever we have to cross the busy road for school runs. With a child in my arms and hanging on tightly to my son Thomas in Yr 1 who is lugging his sports bag, folder and water bottle, I am always weary whenever trucks, vans and cars zoom by without slowing down or giving way to parents with children and mothers with prams and even old people attempting to cross the roads to go to the shops by the green grocer, butcher or pharmacy. There are a few blind spots and we do need the barriers to extend further or a zebra crossing at least and probably a few more humps on all roads coming towards that junction.

**Patricia Lamb**, Outwood, United Kingdom

Road safety is a serious issue

**Jenny Bowden**, Horsham, United Kingdom

My sister & neices nearly got run over last week

**Julie Ashford**, Eastbourne, United Kingdom

Walking my children to school is very stressful some days due to inconsiderate parking, causing poor visibility when trying to cross very busy roads and junctions. With the added worry of feeling so vulnerable when walking along pavements on plough road and redehall rd.

**Katie tullett**, Smallfield, United Kingdom
My child attends this school and it can be very dangerous with too many cars competing for a small section of road.  
**Paul Boakes**, Horne, United Kingdom

Safety for our children must come first, I do believe if the school staggered start and end times with infants and juniors 10 mins apart it would ease congestion.  
**Janette George**, Horley, United Kingdom

My family home is in Smallfield so I know the village well. My daughter and I visit nanny lots and I want her & all other pedestrians to be as safe as possible. We must learn from accidents and put things in place to prevent reoccurrence, barriers and safe crossings are not too much to ask and if they go towards saving a life it really is a "no brainer"!  
**Jaime Barr**, Horley, United Kingdom

The minority of parents park carelessly and selfishly on this road!  
**Rebecca wynne**, Redhill, United Kingdom

It is such a dangerous crossing. It is only a matter of time before a child is seriously hurt!  
**Louise Boakes**, Coulsdon, United Kingdom

I'm signing for the safety of adults and children that attend Burstow primary school.  
**Anne-marie Oldmeadow**, Crawley, United Kingdom

Safety for children and parents are very important. My niece and nephew are at burstow and I collect them from time to time and there are far too many cars down such a small road.  
**Jenna Larner**, Surrey, United Kingdom

It is so busy and dangerous I often take my grandchildren and trying to get into Wheelers lane or the car park is just impossible.  
**denise wynne**, Horley, United Kingdom

I walk my son to school most days where Plough Road is often a speed track and the narrow pavement is further narrowed by overgrown bushes. The 4 way junction by the school is a cauldron of stressed out drivers driving dangerously a lot of the time. Thank God for the overworked lolly pop lady. Me and my son witnessed the aftermath of a lady picking up her child being knocked over last week and in my opinion another accident is just waiting to happen and something needs to be done.  
**Toby Hyde**, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I am signing this as my grandchildren attend Burstow. My granddaughter was nearly run over recently (as mentioned)  
**Lynette Devereaux**, Halling, United Kingdom

It was my friend who was hurt. That could have been a child  
**Charlene Joe**, Crawley, United Kingdom

Our children along with ourselves need to be safe  
**Michelle Souter**, Crawley, United Kingdom

It was my friend’s sister that got mowed down!  
**Liz Pitter**, Crawley, United Kingdom

My friend was hit last week by a car and really important that safety is improved x
Kerry Duval, Crawley, United Kingdom

Sadly, those who park on the double yellow lines and zig zags will persist in doing so as they have no regard for law or procedure. Only today there was a car pulled right into the gated entrance by the office with a very blasé driver at the wheel. The collision was awful but already people have carried on clogging up the junction and risking the pedestrian safety. Even with the extra parking being provided on the field people will be too lazy to park and walk the short distance. All we can do is campaign to put some street furniture in to limit the damage/injury to anyone else. Maybe we should get the kids out recording the registration numbers of persistent offenders to be passed on to Operation Crackdown as guilt may work?

Claire Ballard, Redhill, United Kingdom

It was my sister that was knocked down by a car

Michelle Brackpool, Crawley, United Kingdom

I'm so pleased you did this Cat, I was going to speak to the council so am so pleased to see your petition. I totally agree. The one railing needs to be extended to go round the corner and railings are definitely needed on the other corner of Wheeler's lane. I also think the curb needs to be raised as the car mounted the pavement very easily as the curb is almost non-existent on that corner. A higher curb would have definitely helped reduce the impact and the seriousness of the incident. The curbs on the other corners of that cross roads are also very low so cars can mount the pavement far too easily. Really hope something is done before someone else gets hurts!

Kelly Alam, South Godstone, United Kingdom

Many parents are careful and vigilant however there are many who double park, who stop in the middle of the road to let their children alight from cars and on a couple of occasions have seen cars mount the pavement to avoid traffic congestion. It is only a matter of time before there is a fatality by which time it will be too late.

Caroline Wren, Smallfield, Surrey, United Kingdom

Something needs to be done before someone is killed

chris mcmillan, Horley, United Kingdom

My son starts at this school in September, we will be walking.

Karen Dulake, Smallfield, United Kingdom

This road is very busy for such a small area. People are impatient. Someone else will be hurt soon if nothing is done about the situation

Laura Knox, Crawley, United Kingdom

I fear for my children's safety on the school run.

Claire Hirst, Smallfield, United Kingdom

We as parents / carers have our children's safety and wellbeing as our best interests. (As well as our own!) The school run should be safe, efficient and stress free and at the moment it's far from that... So let's make this happen. Railings, Zebra crossings and a general safety re think of the area are a must.

Mercedes Allworthy, Horley, United Kingdom

Children's safety is imperative and it's such a busy road!

Emma Grieves, Maidenbower, United Kingdom
Something needs to be done for everyone’s safety
Karen Sword, Hambrook, United Kingdom

I feel passionate about this cause and having been at the scene of the rta hope that something can be done
Hazel Clarke, Horley, United Kingdom

I collect my sisters little boy from this school and it really is dangerous.
Nicola Pinnell, Croydon, United Kingdom

My son attends Burstow Primary school..... I am concerned as a parent for the safety of all our children who walk or cycle to school, we must keep our roads and pavements safe!!!
Kaye Haite, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I totally agree that there could be more to do to make it safer for those kids
Freddie Mohoboob, Surrey, United Kingdom

I have 5 grandchildren living very close by and my son and daughter live there along with other Family members and it is a very busy area.
Hyde Yvonne, East Grinstead, United Kingdom

My daughter was with the lady and her niece when she was hit by the car. It very easily could have been one of the girls.
Andrea Tabb, Smallfield, United Kingdom

A highly dangerous stretch of road and fear for the safety of our children. Railings and a one way system down Wheelers lane is well needed especially at school times.
Jo danton, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I believe the question of child and adult safety at the junctions of Wheelers Lane and Redehall Road and Redehall Road and Plough Road needs to be addressed by the Council. There is a huge increase in the amount of traffic now travelling through the village and there have been many instances of lorries and cars mounting the pavements
Elaine Brown, Smallfield, United Kingdom

It is a busy junction and I worry another accident will occur.
Rosemary Coleman, London, United Kingdom

I’m signing because the parking on Wheelers Lane and surrounding roads at school drop off and pickup has become dangerous resulting in a pedestrian being knocked over as well several near misses
Caroline Johnstone, Smallfield, United Kingdom
I have children at Barstow and feel that safety measures need to be put in place
Claire Woods, Horley, United Kingdom

I saw the accident that was avoidable. So if we can get the traffic to slow down and for the public to be more aware of how dangerous the traffic is it can only be a good thing. The railings are needed as too many people put their kids lives at risk when crossing that road.
Joe Shore, Salfords, United Kingdom

The traffic around this area is ridiculous and people have no consideration when parking on wheelers lane, especially during the school times. It's a huge accident waiting to happen!!
Natalie Hazeltine, Smallfield, United Kingdom
I agree with this petition

Caroline I, Horley, United Kingdom

I do not want to see any child or even adult to get hurt!

Anisha Harrar, Willenhall, United Kingdom

We need to keep our school children safe

Loraine Chappell, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I absolutely agree. The road layout does require a serious review. The junction is almost impossible to negotiate during the school drop off/collection hours and it really is unfortunately a case of not 'if' another accident takes place but 'when'. I also feel that a restriction for roadside parking just outside the chemist between the times of 8.30 and 8.50 would strongly work in favour of reducing the problem of congestion and often confusion for both drivers and pedestrians during the school run hours.

Sonia Sangha, Horley, United Kingdom

I have 2 children at the school and the parking and driving by some parents is shocking.

Nicki Orsborn, Horley, United Kingdom

My youngest goes to Burstow school and motorist generally travel too fast through the village

Michael Jupp, Smallfield, United Kingdom

Not a parent at the school but know this stretch of road well and agree that it is dangerous both for pedestrians and vehicles.

nicola turner, Crawley, United Kingdom

My daughter goes to the school.

Paul Lindley, Worsley, United Kingdom

It is just a matter of time before somebody is seriously injured here. It is a busy road normally, but during the school run it is dangerous.

Jacqueline Tracey, Horley, United Kingdom

I also walk to school & totally agree that it needs to have extra railings put in.

Penny Warwwick, Surrey, United Kingdom

The safety of our children is paramount and the roads around the school get very busy - some people parking illegally obstructing views - the roads are narrow and not safe

Danielle Dowding, Smallfield, United Kingdom

I used to live on Wheelers Lane until recently and wholeheartedly agree efforts need to be made to ensure a safer experience when dropping and collecting the children at the school. A one way system approach may also help to alleviate the chaos at these peak times.

Debbie Beling, Horley, United Kingdom

I need myself and my children to be safe during the school run

Claire Lindley, Horley, United Kingdom

It's a very busy junction and is very daunting crossing the road myself let alone with young children in tow. Cars and Lorries cut the corners and drive to fast down the road. It's bedlam

Jo tracey, Horley, United Kingdom
I too love in this village and walk the school run seeing many cars drive over the corners at Plough Road junction with Redehall Road. Speeding along Plough Road

Debbie Coombs, Smallfield, United Kingdom
To whom it may

RE: Road Safety

Further to a recent, very serious traffic accident involving a school parent, we are extremely concerned about road safety around the school and surrounding areas.

Parking and dangerous driving has always been an issue around school, in particular at the cross roads of Wheelers Lane and Plough Road, but this seems to have escalated in recent times.

People often park unsafely on the corners of the roads surrounding the school in particular at school drop off and pick up times, which causes blind spots for people entering and exiting the junction. Drivers often make dangerous U-turns and driver frustration turns to dangerous decision making and mounting onto pavements to get around obstacles.

There is a lot of heavy goods vehicle traffic entering and exiting Plough Lane and when these vehicles turn out of the junction their trailers often are very close to the kerb meaning they are dangerously close to pedestrians walking along the path.

With all of this in mind we would like to see the following in place:

- A pelican crossing (with traffic light control) at the area of the cross roads.
- Railings on the corners of the paths surrounding the cross roads.
- One way lane into Wheelers Lane from Plough Road end down to the Dr’s surgery with vertical parking down the right hand side of wheelers lane.
- Zebra crossing outside school in Wheelers lane with a narrowing of the road.
- Red route outside residences as there are always major parking issues, including double parking and blocking of driveways. Children are exiting cars parked outside houses into the middle of the road and there have been several near-fatalities.
The safety of our children travelling to and from school is of paramount importance as is that of the wider community. We trust that all of the above will be considered of high importance. I am keen to meet with the highways team to look at solutions and look forwarding to hearing your views.

Many thanks

Yours faithfully

Miss C Hodgson
Acting Headteacher
SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL COMMITTEE (TANDRIDGE)

DATE: 9 DECEMBER 2016
SUBJECT: PUBLIC QUESTION: FIELD AT CHELSHAM ROAD, WARLINGHAM

DIVISION: WARLINGHAM

Councillor Simon Morrow, District Councillor for Warlingham East, Chelsham & Farleigh and Chair of Warlingham Parish Council:

Please would the County Council advise its current intentions for the field it owns at Chelsham Road, Warlingham, which used to be the home of the Warlingham Boys Club and then the sports field for Warlingham Village School. This field has lain vacant for many years and its derelict state attracts rubbish and anti-social behaviour.

I previously asked this question of the Committee in June 2013 when I was told the site was “under review”. Since then nothing has happened and local residents have received no information as to the future of this site.

Response:

The site forms part of our medium term strategic review for service requirements and opportunities in the area and as such we will be in a position to determine its future use during 2017-18.

The County Councillor and Leader of the Council, David Hodge, is well aware of this matter. It should be noted that as a school playing field, the Secretary of State’s permission is required to change the use of the site.

Contact Officer: Keith Brown, Schools Capital Programme Manager, Property Services, Orbis 020 8541 8651
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County Councillor for Oxted division, Mr Nick Skellett asks:

What can be done to alleviate the traffic and parking problems being experienced by residents and service traffic due to the closure of Woodhurst Lane and Southlands Lane in Old Oxted and Hurst Green caused by utility company roadworks?

Response:

Under the relevant Enabling Acts, in this case the Gas Act 1984, Statutory Undertakers have rights to access, lay, maintain, adjust, etc their apparatus in the public highway. Whilst the Highway Authority has powers to influence timings and durations, powers do not exist to prevent any works.

By robust guidance from the Department for Transport (DfT), Surrey County Council (SCC) Street Works department resource is targeted towards the Traffic Sensitive network (as defined in the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 section 64).

To manage Road Works in Surrey, SCC uses powers in the Traffic Management Act 2004 to run a Permit Scheme. Permit Schemes allow Conditions to be placed on Permits which can be targeted to reduce the impact of works on traffic disruption. By further DfT guidance, Conditions should primarily be applied to works on roads classed as Traffic Sensitive.

Under the Directive by the Health and Safety Executive, Southern Gas Networks are undertaking a significant project of replacing 1,000 metres of mains pipe in Woodhurst Lane, Old Oxted with the associated new connections to properties. Due to local conditions, (the road design, the width, the pipe location in the carriageway, etc.), these works can only be undertaken safely for both operatives and highway users using a full closure of the road.

The works started on the 14th of October this year, and were originally planned to continue through to the 2nd of February 2017. The current Permit allows work to continue through to the 11th of December, we understand however that the road has recently been reopened to through traffic.

One final connection requires to be made and the old mains pipe requires decommissioning. This activity is planned for January with a start currently expected on the 3rd of January and a duration of up to three weeks. Regrettably these works will again necessitate a full road closure.

Works in Southlands Lane are Surrey County Council’s own works and, according to Permit details, are required to make carriageway and verge repairs. These works, which require a
24 hour road closure whilst they are in progress, started on the 30th of November and were due to finish on the 6th of December.

Woodhurst Lane works have now been lifted until after Christmas.

Although they do have undoubted significance in the local road network, neither Woodhurst Lane nor Southlands Lane are defined as Traffic Sensitive. As such we are unable to insist on such actions as extended working hours or other Conditions to expedite the situation. In addition the timing of the works at this time of year is less than conducive to high productivity rates.

When the SGN project recommences in the New Year we will undertake to ensure that works in surrounding areas are kept to an absolute minimum to facilitate traffic movements and ease the burden on local residents. We will ensure that our Street Works Officer who has responsibility for the area visits the site on a regular basis to ensure progress of works is not unreasonably delayed.

We would also welcome comment and engagement from the local community before or when works recommence should local knowledge be available to minimise the effect in the area.

Contact officer: Kevin Orledge, Street Works Manager, Surrey County Council 03456 009 009