

Minutes of the meeting of the  
**Tandridge LOCAL COMMITTEE**  
held at 10.15 am on 1 March 2019  
at Tandridge District Council offices, Station Road East, Oxted, RH8 0BT.

These minutes are subject to confirmation by the Committee at its next meeting.

**Surrey County Council Members:**

- \* Mrs Rose Thorn (Chairman)
- Mr Cameron McIntosh (Vice-Chairman)
- \* Mr Chris Botten
- \* Mr David Lee
- \* Mrs Becky Rush
- \* Mrs Lesley Steeds

**Borough / District Members:**

- \* District Councillor Pat Cannon
- \* District Councillor Nick Childs
- \* District Councillor Michael Cooper
- \* District Councillor Martin Fisher
- \* District Councillor Simon Morrow
- \* District Councillor Sir Nicholas White

\* In attendance

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**1/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]**

Apologies received from Mr Cameron McIntosh due to other county business.

**2/19 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]**

Minutes from the previous meeting on the 30 November 2018 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**3/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]**

No declarations of interest made.

**4/19 PETITIONS [Item 4]**

None received.

**5/19 FORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]**

A formal public question was received from Cllr Alun Jones. He raised concern that his question had been answered as three individual questions and not holistically, therefore the responses provided contradicted each other.

Cllr Jones referred the response to increase the drainage capacity on Church Hill and Station Avenue which referenced the Caterham Master Plan. He raised concern that the Master Plan is dependent on one big planning

application for Church Walk. The application has been submitted, but Councillors have not seen the Atkins report yet, which covers the groundwater and surface water matters. As far as he was aware, no comments have been received to the planning application from Surrey County Council in regards to flooding risks in the area. This would identify where CIL and S106 money would be required to rectify the identified drainage capacity issues. All the capital improvement works seem to hinge on one planning application and he asked if there is an alternative option should the planning application not be successful?

With regards to Church Hill and Station Avenue, there are a low number of drains which often silt up. Cleaning is only carried out once a year, which is not enough. The response directed him to the Flood Risk strategy which highlights mitigating risk and advised that cyclical and ad hoc cleaning of drains would be done to mitigate flooding risk. However he has been advised by an officer that ad hoc cleaning will not take place due to funding. As this site has the highest wetspot score in Tandridge, Cllr Jones asked at what point SCC do ad hoc drain cleaning if not for the highest scoring wet spot in Tandridge?

The Area Highways Officer was unable to respond at the meeting, a written response will be provided after the meeting.

#### **6/19 MEMBERS QUESTIONS [Item 6]**

None received.

#### **7/19 DECISION TRACKER (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 7]**

The Chairman introduced the item explaining this was standing item on the agenda. Decisions made by the committee are recorded and the subsequent progress on them. Members are invited to note the progress, and agree to remove any items marked as 'closed'.

#### **Members Discussion – Key Points**

Members raised the following concerns:

- 1) A Member raised frustration and disappointment that a crossing at Rook Lane, Chaldon did not appear on the tracker as he had raised previously. He asked if it would be possible to see the police speed survey that was carried out and requested that Rook Lane should be reinstated and updates on the tracker. He raised concerns that officers have stated the speeds are too high for a zebra crossing, however nothing is being done to reduce speeds or provide a crossing point for school children to cross the road. The divisional member for Caterham confirmed he would continue to pursue this issue.

The Area Highways Manager appreciated the work that the ward member had done and advised that a crossing at Rook Lane could be put on the ITS list for when funding becomes available for this scheme and will be included on the tracker.

- 2) Following the consultation for the removal of the speed cushions on Farleigh Road, Warlingham, it was asked when the results would be available and a decision made?

The Area Highways Manager advised that the consultation had closed and was being reviewed, the results would be available shortly.

- 3) Concerns regarding Lingfield Common Road asking if it could be looked at again following the fatality, as it has been extremely distressing for local residents. It was asked if it could be changed to open rather than closed.

The Leader of the District Council highlighted that all three matters raised by members related to changes in the Government funding structure for Councils, which has reduced by 60% in the last 10 years. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money is available to the District council and parishes through the building of new homes. 15% of the CIL money is available to Parishes rising to 25% if they have a Neighbourhood Plan and this money can be used for the Members priorities in the area, such as highway matters.

Whether the words 'SLOW' could be painted on Lingfield Common Road to warn drivers.

The Area Highways Manager appreciated that it is upsetting for local residents, and advised that this is currently a police matter so unable to comment in detail. A driver has been arrested in connection with the fatality and there is currently no indication that speed was a contributory factor. The item can remain on the tracker and the ITS list until funding becomes available. The Area Highways Manager acknowledged the local concern on speeds and whilst there has not been a cluster of personal injury accidents there have been a number of damage only claims.

The Area Highways Manager advised that due to the 'Signs and Road Marking for Statutory Instruments' the word 'slow' can only be painted on a road on the approach to a bend or crossing point to be a warning for drivers. The team will assess Lingfield Common Road to see if applicable.

- 4) A lorry had jack-knifed on Titsey Hill this morning, should the police indicate that the incident relates to the camber would it change the priority for work to be carried out.

The Area Highways Manager advised she speak to the team and find out if on the prioritisation list.

Cllr Michael Cooper arrived

- 5) Clarification with regards to The Square, Caterham roundabout work was marked as open on the tracker but has been completed. It was advised that at the time of publishing the work had not been completed.
- 6) Request for an update on the Bletchingley safety scheme. It was advised that the yellow backed signs had been ordered and would be installed by the end of the financial year. The high friction surfacing is

being funded by the Road Safety budget, however officers are hopefully that this will be carried out next financial year.

- 7) There are a large number of Vehicle Activated Signs do not work across the County, naming Rook lane and Buxton Lane in his Division. He asked that SCC repair, replace or remove the signs that do not work. The cost to replace a VAS is approximately £1500-£2000 and Parishes can fund these in their areas.

Members noted that the Vehicle Activated Signs were placed there due to residents concerns and through discussions with Parishes. Would this be taken into consideration before removal?

The Area Highways Manager advised that there is a programme going ahead at the moment to remove Vehicle Activated Signs across the county, which are no longer working. She will ask about the signs on Rook Lane and Buxton Lane to see if they will be removed. A risk assessment will be carried out and signs will not be removed in isolation as may have been part funded by parish councils or other groups.

- 8) Thanks to the Maintenance Engineer for attending a meeting regarding a blocked culvert, he was extremely knowledgeable and professional in the site visit.
- 9) An update on David Hodge's statement regarding Southern Gas Network major works as she has not received an update since being advised that the works are delayed till April. The Area Highways Manager advised she would speak to the team responsible for the works and they will provide an update.

## **Resolution**

The Local Committee (Tandridge)

- (i) NOTED the contents of the report
- (ii) AGREED to remove the closed items from the tracker
- (iii) **AGREED to add Rook Lane to the tracker and Lingfield Common Road to remain open.**

## **8/19 SPEED LIMIT REVIEW A25 GODSTONE ROAD, BLETCHINGLEY (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION FOR DECISION) [Item 8]**

**Declarations of Interest:** None

**Officer attending:** Zena Curry, Area Highways Manager

**Petition, Public Question, Statements:** Cllr Gill Black, District Councillor for Bletchingley and Nutfield

The Chairman introduced the item and thanked officers for the new report, and acknowledged the strength of feeling on this matter.

The Chairman noted that in line with the Surrey County Council 'Setting Local Speed limits' policy, should the Local Committee disagree with the recommendations presented to them by the Area Highways Manager and wish to pursue an alternative option, then the issue must be submitted for decision by the Cabinet Member responsible for road safety.

The Chairman opened the item for Member discussion and also permitted a public statement during the course of the discussion. The key points from this statement are summarised below:

Cllr Black raised:

- Concerns that the report failed to mention that the 30mph speed limit was originally reduced as residents in Chevington Villas and Sunnybank Villas had difficulty crossing the road to the bus stop and exiting their service road to the A25.
- The residents living in Knights Way feel vulnerable when exiting their road on to the A25 due to the speeds.
- Concern that the report recommends five different speed limits on a one mile stretch from Godstone to Bletchingley.
- The report content had been copied and pasted from the previous report and does not offer new information.
- The Vehicle Activated Sign had been removed from Godstone Road opposite the cemetery and had not been replaced.
- If a pedestrian island could be installed as an engineering measure this would slow traffic as well as offering a place for pedestrians to cross.
- She felt that officers and the police should help facilitate the wishes of local residents.

### **Members Discussion – Key Points**

Members had a lengthy discussion on the matter and the following points were made. The meeting was formally adjourned twice during the discussion, to allow the chairman to receive officer advice.

- 1) Concerns raised that the two motions agreed at the September meeting, had not been met in the new report.
- 2) It was felt by some members that the new report offered very little new information, apart from an additional speed survey. Concerns were raised that Annex 2 shows eight different speed surveys that had been completed at different times over a number of years. This would not take into consideration problems on the M25 or utility works locally that may affect speeds.
- 3) It was suggested that the speed policy could be changed to reflect the concerns locally.
- 4) Concerns that this report threatens the credibility of the Tandridge Local Committee, as officers are not listening to residents and the Local Committee. Local Members views should not be ignored on this matter.
- 5) Cllr Pat Cannon proposed that the whole report be refused and put forward a new motion for Local Committee:

'The whole report be rejected and the matter be reconsidered when officers are able to return with a positive new report that recommends (a) a Vehicle Activated Sign and a pedestrian refuge to support the speed limits of 30mph outside Chevington and Sunnybank Villas, (b) extending the 30mph speed limit in Godstone westwards to North Park Lane supported by the introduction of a Vehicle Activated Sign, a pedestrian refuge, better lighting, better signage and better road markings and (c) a reduction in the speed limit in the middle section to 40 supported by additional Vehicle Activated Signs.

If resources are an issue, this can be mentioned in the new report and discussions can be had then as to how to address the shortfall.

Once these additional highway measures have been introduced their effects can be analysed after a period of time. If their effect is proved not to have been enough to reduce the speed adequately on that mad mile, average speed cameras could then be looked at to support a single average speed limit of 30mph from Godstone to the western boundary of Tandridge.'

The motion was seconded by Mr Chris Botten.

The Chairman allowed a public statement at this point which is summarised above.

At this point the chairman adjourned the meeting 11.15am to receive officer advice on the requirements of the SCC Setting Local Speed Limits Policy and SCC Constitution governing local committees. The meeting reconvened at 11.18am.

- 6) Concerns that the service roads were also being included within the 40mph speed limit as narrow, with parked cars and pot holes.
- 7) The need for the committee to take into account the statement from the police which states that the stretch for drivers 'does not look or feel like a 30mph'. There has been no increase in accidents since the change in speed limit. He highlighted that divers are adhering to the correct speed limits all the way along the A25 from Godstone to the Reigate and Banstead border except for the section which is proposed to be increased within the report. In Annex 1, the pictures show that it is a wide and open road and this is why drivers drive at 40mph. Narrowing the road would be the only way to reduce the speed.

The Area Highways Manager advised she understood the depth of feeling on this matter. Due to the policy, the motion proposed is an alternative recommendation to the report and therefore the decision would need to be sent to the Cabinet Member responsible for road safety. A report would include the concerns of the local committee and their alternative recommendation. The Cabinet Member decision meeting would be a meeting held in public at County Hall and the public would be welcome to attend or ask a question and raise a petition.

- 8) Frustration that the recommendations being put to them did not reflect local concern, and that the requirement to refer the matter to the

Cabinet Member undermined the role of the local committee, and put at risk the close cooperation that had been achieved between the district and county council. The Leader of the District stated that he may consider withdrawing district members from the committee as a result of this issue.

- 9) The Partnership Lead (East) suggested that the Committee invite the Cabinet Member to a future local committee meeting so members can discuss their concerns with him.

At this point the chairman adjourned the meeting 11.34am for members to discuss. The meeting reconvened at 11.36am.

- 10) Cllr Cannon proposed an addendum to the motion

‘Tandridge Local Committee are prepared to discuss with the Cabinet Member for Highways at a future formal committee meeting.’

Seconded by Chris Botten.

A vote was taken on the motion.

For -10  
Abstention - 1

### **Resolution**

- (i) AGREED the whole report be rejected and the matter be reconsidered when officers are able to return with a positive new report that recommends (a) a Vehicle Activated Sign and a pedestrian refuge to support the speed limits of 30mph outside Chevington and Sunnybank Villas, (b) extending the 30mph speed limit in Godstone westwards to North Park Lane supported by the introduction of a Vehicle Activated Sign, a pedestrian refuge, better lighting, better signage and better road markings and (c) a reduction in the speed limit in the middle section to 40 supported by additional Vehicle Activated Signs.**

**If resources are an issue, this can be mentioned in the new report and discussions can be had then as to how to address the shortfall.**

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**Tandridge Local Committee are prepared to discuss with the Cabinet Member for Highways at a future formal committee meeting.**

Reason

The Local Committee (Tandridge) felt the report did not provide a response to their motion agreed at Committee meeting on the 21 September 2018. The Committee would like to discuss the matter with the Cabinet Member for Highways to raise their concerns.

**9/19 HIGHWAYS SCHEMES UPDATE - END OF YEAR REPORT  
(INFORMATION - SERVICE MONITORING AND ISSUES OF LOCAL  
CONCERN) [Item 9]**

**Declarations of interest:** None

**Officer attending:** Zena Curry, Area Highways Manager

**Petition, Public Question, Statements:** None

The Area Highways Manager welcomed questions on the report.

**Members Key Points:**

- 1) The yellow lining for the parking restrictions are disappearing, due to the weather conditions when they were painted. It requested that the contractor re-attend to rectify at no additional cost to Surrey.
- 2) It was asked if with regards to 2.13 Caterham Bourne, will the Atkins report becoming to the Local Committee? The Area Highways Manager advised that the flooding report would fall under the Strategic Network Resilience team and they would respond direct to the member.
- 3) An error was highlighted in 2.15, this should be Woldingham Road not Warlingham Road.
- 4) Crewe's Close in Warlingham had the previous divisional member support, for carriage widening. It was asked if Crewe's close was included on the ITS list for works, if not could it be.

The Area Highways Manager advised the widening of carriage would be considered as minor works so would not be included on the ITS list. She would speak to the central team to find out if on the list for works. Next financial year, each divisional Members is allocated £15000 for capital works in their division which can be used for this should they wish.

- 5) The pavements on Station Road East, Oxted are not in a good state, it was suggested that this may have been delayed due to the urban redesign work in Oxted. It was asked if the pavements would be included on the ITS list.

The Area Highways Manager advised that Station Road East pavements are part owned by SCC and part is owned by the shops. Some funding had been previously been allocated to the public

highway part of the pavement and it was hoped that work would be done collaboratively with the shop owners, however this had been put on hold subject to BID proposals work.

Station Road East is not on the Horizon programme for pavement replacement next year, however they are inspected routinely and should there be a safety defect this needs to be reported.

- 6) Blackberry Lane, Jacks bridge in Annex 1, the divisional Member reported that the barriers have been damaged again for a third time. She asked for clarification on the exact location of the works as where there has been a number of accidents is not on Blackberry Lane but Felbridge Road. She raised concerns regarding removing the centre line and felt that camber of the road is incorrect.

The Area Highways Manager advised that this is a road safety scheme in response to accidents at this site and not a Local Committee funded scheme. She would speak to the Road Safety team to confirm its location. When a Road Safety Scheme is installed it is monitored and a full safety audit will be carried out.

- 7) It was asked what the process is for getting a pavement on to the scheme for work.

The Area Highways Manager advised that the Asset Management Team have a countywide budget and approach to the priority list. Priority is given to pavements outside schools, hospitals and shopping areas. In recent years the budget for pavements has been tight. However, the Members Capital Maintenance fund next year and Parishes can also use any CIL money available to them should they wish.

- 8) Bug Hill junction, it was asked when the work would be starting. It was advised that the contractors are trying to get road space and works will begin shortly.
- 9) Also with regards to Bug Hill, the hedges have been cut and this has improved sight lines. The Area Highway Manager advised that the land owner kindly cut the hedges,

## **10/19 LOCAL COMMITTEE FORWARD PROGRAMME (FOR INFORMATION)** **[Item 10]**

Members of the committee are invited to suggest additional topics for consideration at future committee meetings.

This included:

- 1) Horizon programme – including information on the prioritisation process.

- 2) The Divisional Member for Caterham Hill asked if following a discussion outside the meeting with the Area Highways Manager, if a crossing at Burntwood Lane could come to a future meeting.

Resolution

The Local Committee (Tandridge)

- (i) NOTED and COMMENTED on the forward plan.

Meeting ended at: 12.10 pm

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**Chairman**