

Minutes of the meeting of the
Waverley LOCAL COMMITTEE
held at 10.00 am on 22 March 2019
at Waverley Council Chamber, The Burys, Godalming GU7 1HR.

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

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Mrs Victoria Young (Chairman)
- Mr Richard Hampson (Vice-Chairman)
- * Mr David Harmer
- * Mr Andy MacLeod
- * Mr Peter Martin
- * Dr Andrew Povey
- * Mr Wyatt Ramsdale
- * Mrs Penny Rivers
- * Mr Stephen Spence

Borough / District Members:

- * Cllr Maurice Byham
- * Cllr Carole Cockburn
- * Cllr James Edwards
- * Cllr Pat Frost
- * Cllr Jerry Hyman
- * Cllr Denis Leigh
- * Cllr Richard Seaborne
- Cllr Liz Townsend
- * Cllr Nick Williams

* In attendance

OPEN FORUM - INFORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Questions and responses from the informal open forum session are attached as Annex A.

1/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Cllr Liz Townsend.

2/19 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

Minutes of the Waverley Local Committee on 14 December 2018 were agreed and approved as an accurate record.

3/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest.

4/19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 4]

The Chairman Mrs Victoria Young made two announcements:

1. County Councillors' Members Community Allocation funding will be available again from 1st April. Each county councillor has £5,000 to spend on non-highways projects.
2. I'd like to bring to your attention the public consultation on Surrey's Fire and Rescue Service, which started on Monday 4 March and ends on 26th May.

The consultation will be seeking views on Surrey Fire and Rescue Service's draft 'Making Surrey Safer' plan which outlines proposals for 2020-2023. You will find full details on the SCC website.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/fire-and-rescue/about/our-vision-mission-and-aims/priorities-plans-and-governance/plans-strategies-and-legislation/public-safety>

5/19 PETITIONS & PETITION RESPONSES [Item 5]

Declarations of Interest: None.

Officer in attendance: Frank Apicella, Area Highway Manager (South West).

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: One petition.

A petition was received from Mr Paul Osborne which contained 250 signatures and read:

"Ratruns: We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to re-assess the traffic impact on the rural rat-run from Station Lane Milford to Markwick Lane Loxhill, and request a 7.5 tonne HGV restriction is applied to prevent HGV use, and ensure housing developers have enforced construction traffic management schemes in place to prevent construction vehicles using such unsuitable rural routes."

The petitioner presented the petition in the allowed 3 minutes. He also provided the Committee with photographs. Prior to the meeting, the petitioner had made a video to demonstrate the petition request, which was circulated to the Local Committee members.

Member discussion – key points:

The Area Highway Manager responded to the petition, outlining the response report.

Members commented on the effectiveness of the video, which they felt demonstrated the issues. Those members who use the highlighted roads, empathized with the petitioner. Some members expressed their support for the petition. The discussion also included comments regarding a series of rural roads east/west in Waverley, many of which lead to Guildford and are heavily used. There are two main issues: enforcement and displacement. If action is taken in one location, traffic will move to another location that has

equally difficult driving conditions. Therefore, some members felt that all roads need to be considered before any action is taken.

The Chairman invited the Waverley Borough Police Commander to comment. He agreed with members' views that you cannot look at any single road in isolation. Whilst he sympathized with the issue and had personal experience of the mentioned roads, police priorities lie with road safety and accident rates.

The Chairman thanked the petitioner for his video and invited him to make any further comments. The petitioner said that blue signs are not enforced so he would like a deterrent, i.e. red signs to deter HGVs and LGVs.

Members requested that the SCC portfolio holder for Highways be invited to the Waverley Local Committee to discuss rural rat runs. Proposed: Mr Peter Martin. Seconded: Mr David Harmer. The Chairman proposed that an item come to a future Local Committee and all members agreed. A new recommendation (iii) was agreed.

Mr Harmer made a comment that he stated was a constitutional comment for the benefit of the public present: there was a need to consult with the SCC portfolio holder for Highways in order to gain his support and agreement, so that any action can be 'signed off'.

The Local Committee (Waverley) resolved to AGREE to:

- (i) Note the Officer comments.
- (ii) Consider the merits of such a proposal for inclusion in the 2019/20 Highway Works Programme.
- (iii) Invite the SCC portfolio holder for Highways to attend the Waverley Local Committee at the first available opportunity, to discuss the issue of 'rat runs' on rural roads.**

6/19 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 6]

Six Written Public Questions were received from Waverley Borough and Farnham Town Councillor David Beaman; Waverley Borough and Godalming Town Councillors Andrew Bolton and Paul Follows; Stewart Edge.

The questions and answers were published on the SCC Waverley Local Committee web pages before the 22 March Local Committee and were available at the meeting.

Question 1 – Supplementary Question

Cllr Beaman asked: "Do we have to wait for an accident to happen before any action is taken? Can there be some sort of risk analysis?"

Response to supplementary question:

The Chairman replied that Farnham as a whole needs to be looked at, not any one area in isolation. The Area Highway Manager added that they would not want to do works that would have to be removed at a later date. Any works are likely to be at the tail-end of the Brightwells development.

Members' comments included that some developer funding was intended for a crossing; others agreed that all roads needed to be looked at as a whole.

Question 2 – Supplementary Question

Cllr Beaman asked: "Regarding the meeting with Network Rail and South Western Railway, will there be any local representatives at this meeting, as there does not appear to be any local input?"

Response to supplementary question:

The Chairman said that as the SCC officer concerned was not present at the meeting, she would seek a written response from the officer for Cllr Beaman.

Question 3 – Supplementary Question

Cllr Bolton asked: " I have noticed that the road near Charterhouse will be closed from 1 – 5 April. Will there be diversion signs?"

Response to supplementary question:

The Area Highway Manager confirmed that there would be a signed diversion route.

Question 4 – Supplementary Question

Mr Edge asked: "Can we have assurance that what the declined petition asked for, i.e. traffic lights, a crossing and a mini roundabout, will be included in the scope?"

Response to supplementary question:

Cllr Hyman stated that he was still trying to obtain a copy of the town model. Cllr Frost said that she was involved in town modelling some years ago but does not know where the model is now located, but SCC Highways should know.

Mr David Harmer said that this was not a Highways matter. The officer who supplied the written answer is a planner and it is not in the remit of this committee to consider planning matters.

The Chairman thanked members for their comments and said that she would ask the Area Highway Manager to seek clarification regarding the town model.

Question 5 – Supplementary Question

Cllr Follows asked: "When will the SCC parking engineer next be working in Waverley?"

Response to supplementary question:

The Chairman said that as the SCC officer concerned was not present at the meeting, she would seek a written response from the officer for Cllr Follows.

Question 6 – Supplementary Question

Regarding communication to parents and staff, Cllr Follows asked: "Will SCC officers commit to make contact as soon as possible, i.e. in the next few days?"

Response to supplementary question:

The Chairman replied that she will pass the request on to officers regarding communication with users and providers.

7/19 WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 7]

There were no members questions submitted to this committee.

8/19 OVERVIEW OF POLICING IN WAVERLEY (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 8]

Declarations of Interest: None.

Officer in attendance: Inspector Gary Smith, Waverley Borough Commander, Surrey Police.

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: None.

Member discussion – key points:

The Borough Commander expanded on his written report to the Local Committee.

There will be more police officers recruited in Surrey but final numbers have yet to be confirmed. The Commander would like a dedicated officer for each of the main areas in Waverley. It will take about one year for their training to be completed. The number of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) may also be increased.

The Commander said that there had been an increase in community interaction during the past year and although he cannot promise to attend all local events, police officers will attend when possible; invites should be sent via the Borough Commander. There has been an increase in social media interaction and they have been working with local social media groups.

There have been less traveller incursions in Waverley during the past year and the police have been working to deal with issues as soon as possible and to move people on. The Commander would like a transit site located in Waverley, similar to a successful site in Sussex.

Regarding anti-social behaviour, he said that Ockford Ridge has the most concentrated area of anti-social behaviour in Waverley.

There was a request that members be sent a simple definition of Waverley crime statistics (reference: Item 8, section 3, page 21 of the agenda pack). The Commander said that he would circulate this.

Acknowledgement was given by members that communities have to be proactive to get the police involved in local issues, especially as local PCSOs are no longer as visible. Members thanked the Borough Commander and his staff for their help and support on issues and stated that residents were grateful.

The Chairman thanked the Commander for his report and for attending the meeting on his rest day.

9/19 HIGHWAYS UPDATE (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION) [Item 9]

Declarations of Interest: None.

Officer in attendance: Frank Apicella, Area Highway Manager (South West).

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: None.

Member discussion – key points:

The Area Highway Manager highlighted paragraph 2.1.9 in his report – capital maintenance allocation has been divided between the 11 local and joint committees in a different way. He also brought annexes to the attention of members, saying that Section 106 monies were not available funds, but were pre-promised amounts that depend on developments going ahead.

Members said they would follow up with Transport Development Planners regarding the Section 106 figures. Mr Stephen Spence queried an amount of £50,000 for a Folly Hill development in Farnham, as it was missing from the list. The Area Highway Manager will follow this up. Mr Spence also queried the process for planting trees in South Avenue, using his funding allocation. The officer replied that they are working with Farnham Town Council regarding planting trees in Farnham.

There was a query regarding paragraphs 2.1.11 and 2.1.12 and the figure of 15% top slice from the parking surplus. The officer replied that this was agreed at the September 2017 Local Committee. Cllr Pat Frost stated that she did not want this at the time and she did not think it is fair, when Farnham is the only area that installed parking meters to generate income. Some members agreed, while some members said that closer examination of the figures show that it is fair and that the Area Highway Manager could explain further, if required.

The Chairman asked for a vote, to decide if the arrangements regarding the parking surplus should stand as they are currently set out. Result: 12 for; 4 against; 0 abstentions. Therefore, the Chairman announced that the current parking surplus arrangements will stand.

Cllr Jerry Hyman pointed out a correction: paragraph 2.4.2 should say 2019-20, not 2018-19. Noted.

There were queries regarding building developments, planning conditions and Section 106 monies. The Chairman said that as these were planning matters, it was not for the Local Committee to discuss. SCC planners give advice to Waverley Borough Council, but planning decisions were not made by SCC.

The Local Committee (Waverley) resolved to AGREE:

- (i) To note the committee approved allocations and works progressed during 2018/19.
- (ii) To note the committee devolved budget allocation for 2019/20.
- (iii) To agree the recommendations made in this report for utilising the available highways budget for 2019/20. (Paragraph 2.2.2 & 2.2.5 refers.)
- (iv) To delegate to the Area Highway Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman and Divisional Member, the ability to

resolve any problems encountered to facilitate scheme delivery throughout the year.

Reason: The committee is asked to agree the recommendations to enable progression of works orders and expenditure of the Committee budget during 2019/20.

10/19 A287 HINDHEAD ROAD SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION) [Item 10]

Declarations of Interest: None.

Officer in attendance: Duncan Knox, SCC Road Safety and Active Travel Team Manager.

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: None.

Member discussion – key points:

The members all agreed with the report and the recommendations.

The Local Committee (Waverley) resolved to AGREE that:

- (i) The speed limit be reduced from 50mph to 40mph on that section of the A287 Hindhead Road as shown on Annex 1.
- (ii) The Committee is asked to formally agree the recommendation (i) above in order to progress the programme of work for 2018/2019.

Reason: Recommendations have been made based upon existing policy, in consultation with Surrey Police and Surrey County Council's Road Safety Working Group.

11/19 LOCAL COMMITTEE DECISION TRACKER (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 11]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officer in attendance: Yvette Ortel, Partnership Committee Officer

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: None.

Member discussion – key points:

There were no comments from members.

12/19 LOCAL COMMITTEE FORWARD PROGRAMME 2019-20 (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 12]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officer in attendance: Yvette Ortel, Partnership Committee Officer

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: None.

Member discussion – key points:

The forward programme was agreed.

There was discussion regarding SCC Highway planners attending a future meeting to discuss their policies. However, the Chairman confirmed that this is not a forum for planning and that the Local Committee does not have jurisdiction regarding planning and therefore this would not be appropriate.

Suggested for a future Formal agenda:

- Invite the SCC portfolio holder for Highways at the first available opportunity, to discuss ‘rat runs’ on rural roads.

For a Local Committee Members’ Informal meeting:

- Waverley Local Committee moving to a Joint Committee – background information, including how the two differ.

13/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [Item 13]

To be held on Friday 28th June 2019 at 10am in the Waverley Borough Council Chamber, The Burys, Godalming GU7 1HR.

(10am – 10.30am: Open Public Questions Forum)

Meeting ended at: 12.25 pm

Chairman



SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY) 22 March 2019

Minutes Annex A: OPEN FORUM - PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Three questions were received from two residents:

1. *Graham Hodgson, resident of South Hill, Godalming:*

“Regarding a problem with vegetation overgrowth to part of a footway in South Hill, Godalming, I would like a fuller answer to my question at the last Local Committee (in December) please.”

The Area Highway Manager answered that funding has been given to town and parish councils and as SCC Highways has been unable to contact the land owner, it will work with the town council to get the work done. Checks will be done 6 monthly and although the part of the carriageway concerned is private, the footpath is public and will be maintained.

Mr Hodgson said that he felt re-assured. The Chairman requested that the issue be added to the Local Committee decision tracker until it was resolved.

2. *Betty Ames, Vice President of Surrey Association of Local Councils (SALC):*

“Regarding the structure of the Waverley Local Committee and its future, the Committee holds a crucial position in the way forward for Waverley and I urge members of the public to attend. Please can the subject of a Joint Committee be a firm agenda item in future, as has happened with other local committees?”

The Chairman replied that while she shared Mrs Ames’ views and she is open to discussions regarding a Waverley Joint Committee, the decision is not only for this committee; it would be a joint decision to be made by SCC and Waverley Borough Council.

Members agreed and said that while fewer than half of the 11 SCC local committees had moved to a joint committee to date, they would like to receive more information on the subject in the future. The subject of partnerships was also discussed.

3. *Graham Hodgson, resident of South Hill, Godalming:*

“During the recent remedial works in Wharf Street, Godalming, why have traffic calming measures been removed, potentially making it more dangerous for pedestrians?”

The Area Highway Manager replied that items were so damaged that they had to be removed. Changes have been made, but only materials, not ramps or gradients.

Mr Hodgson said that he did not agree but he accepted the answer.

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