

Minutes of the meeting of the
Runnymede JOINT COMMITTEE
held at 7.00 pm on 19 September 2018
at The Hythe Centre, Thorpe Road, Staines, TW18 3HD.

Surrey County Council Members:

- Mrs Mary Angell (Chairman)
- * Mr Mel Few
- * Mr John Furey
- Miss Marisa Heath
- Mrs Yvonna Lay
- * Mr Mark Nuti

Borough / District Members:

- * Cllr Alan Alderson
- * Cllr David Parr
- * Cllr Nick Prescott
- Cllr Peter Waddell (Vice-Chairman)
- * Cllr Jim Broadhead
- * Cllr Peter Taylor

* In attendance

Election of Chairman

In the absence of Mrs Angell, the committee elected Cllr Prescott as chairman for this meeting.

Open Forum questions

Questions and responses from the informal open forum session are attached as an Annex to the minutes.

17/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Mrs Mary Angell, Miss Marisa Heath, Mrs Yvonna Lay and Cllr Peter Waddell.

18/18 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2018 were approved as a correct record.

19/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

Mr Mark Nuti declared an interest in Item 10 section 3.2 as he lives on Grove Road.

20/18 DECISION TRACKER (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 4]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Gregory Yeoman, Partnership Committee Officer

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None.

Member Discussion – key points:

The decision tracker was reviewed by the committee and the updates were noted.

21/18 PETITIONS AND PETITION RESPONSES [Item 5]

No petitions were submitted.

22/18 WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 6]

No questions were submitted.

23/18 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 7]

No questions were submitted.

24/18 HIGHWAYS UPDATE (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION) [Item 8]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Jason Gosden, Senior Traffic Engineer

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None.

Member Discussion – key points:

The Senior Traffic Engineer drew members' attention to progress with delivery of the footway and carriageway resurfacing shown in tables 4 and 5 in the report. He also explained that following the opening of the U-turn lane at the redesigned Runnymede roundabout on August 24th the scheme was now fully operational. There remain a small number of items on the snagging list, and further surveys will be carried out in due course to assess the impact of the scheme. Overall, feedback from users of the roundabout had been positive, a sentiment echoed by members.

Some comments were made about the signage. The arrows and signs actually on the road surface were thought to be good, but clearer high-level signs could make it easier for drivers to navigate the lanes. Jason Gosden will speak to the Major Projects Team and update the committee.

Mr Gosden reminded divisional members of their £7500 allocation, which can be used for anything that provides a benefit to the community on the highway or any area of land in local authority ownership. A considerable amount of the allocations remains unused, and the deadline for submitting a proposal for using the allocation is 31st October. Cllr Furey stated that Mr Gosden could take his £7500 and use it appropriately.

Resolved

The Joint Committee (Runnymede) **noted**:

- (i) the progress with schemes and revenue funded works for the 2018/19 financial year.
- (ii) the budgetary position.
- (iii) that a further Highways Update will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.

25/18 THORPE LEA RD/VICARAGE RD/NEW WICKHAM LANE, EGHAM - SPEED LIMIT ASSESSMENT (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION - FOR DECISION) [Item 9]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Jason Gosden, Senior Highway Engineer

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

Mr Gosden explained that the current speed limit of 60mph on the stretch of road in question, which includes two roundabouts, does not follow the usual pattern. After receiving concerns from residents and speed limit assessment had been carried out, the conclusion from which was that it would be possible to achieve a reduction in vehicle speed without the need to introduce any engineering measures. Members supported the recommendation to reduce the speed limit, although some felt that compliance may be an issue and there may be a case for installing an electronic speed indicator, particularly on the section of the B388 just to the south of the double roundabouts. Mr Gosden was confident that the surveys that had been carried out showed that levels of compliance ought to be good, and further surveys would be organised once the new speed limit was in place. He said he would be happy to discuss the suggestion with the divisional member.

Resolved

The Runnymede Joint Committee **agreed** that:

- (i) a notice is advertised in accordance with the Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effects of which would be to revoke any existing traffic orders necessary, and introduce the proposed reductions in speed limit in Thorpe Lea Road, Vicarage Road and New Wickham Lane shown in Annex 2; and
- (ii) any objections to the Traffic Regulation Order should be considered and resolved by the Area Team Manager for Highways in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee and the local Divisional Member, and that this issue only be returned to Committee if any objections prove insurmountable; and
- (iii) the Order be made once any objections have been considered and resolved.

Reasons for recommendations

The recommendations have been made based upon the results of a speed limit assessment carried out in accordance with Surrey County Council's speed limit policy, and in consultation with Surrey Police.

The proposed reductions in speed limit will help provide more appropriate and consistent speed limits on roads in the local area.

26/18 RUNNYMEDE PARKING REVIEW (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION - FOR DECISION) [Item 10]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Peter Wells, Engineer, Parking Strategy & Implementation Team, Surrey County Council

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

Mr Wells presented his report, which listed the changes to parking restrictions throughout the borough.

The question of enforcement was raised, with a request for the police and parking teams to take a particularly close interest in those areas with new restrictions for a period of time to give a clear message of the intent to enforce the new arrangements. It was recognised that different agencies are responsible for different aspects of parking enforcement, and that it would be a question of prioritising their work. Cllr Prescott agreed to follow up with officers at Runnymede Borough Council to get a clear understanding of where the responsibilities lie and what would impact on the ability to carry out the enforcement.

There was concern that new parking restrictions outside schools would be ignored. A number of potential hot-spots were mentioned, and Cllr Parr offered to email a list of these to Mr Wells. The officer stated that he liaises with local schools and encourages them to keep parents informed of parking issues through their newsletters; the borough is responsible for enforcement, with teams visiting schools approximately every six weeks – the Parking Services Manager for Runnymede would be able to give more detail regarding the schedule of visits, but it was noted that he is happy to send enforcement officers to a particular school if a request is made to his team directly.

The proposed new restrictions at Staple Hill and Longcross Road and their relationship to the recently introduced pay-to-park arrangement at Chobham Common were discussed. Cllr Few asked for this recommendation to be held back while he sought clarification from cabinet colleagues. Mr Wells reminded the committee that the location was on the border with Surrey Heath and the lines in question crossed onto both sides of the border.

Cllr Nuti thanked Mr Wells for his work in Chertsey division.

Resolved

The Joint Committee (Runnymede) **agreed** that:

- (i) the proposed amendments to on-street parking restrictions in Runnymede as described in this report and shown in detail on drawings in annexes A-F are approved, **with the exception of the Staple Hill and Longcross Road recommendation in section 3.5 of the report, approval for which is to be deferred pending further discussion at Cabinet.**
- (ii) the joint committee allocates funding as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of this report to proceed with the introduction of the parking amendments.
- (iii) the intention of the county council to make an order under the relevant parts of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to impose the waiting and on street parking restrictions in Runnymede as shown on the drawings in annexes A-F is advertised and that if no objections are maintained, the orders are made.
- (iv) if there are unresolved objections, they will be dealt with in accordance with the county council's scheme of delegation by the parking strategy and implementation team manager, in consultation with the chairman/ vice chairman of this committee and the appropriate county councillor.

Reasons for recommendations

It is recommended that the waiting restrictions are implemented as detailed in Annexes A-F. They will make a positive impact towards:

- Road safety
- Access for emergency vehicles
- Access for refuse vehicles
- Easing traffic congestion
- Better regulated parking
- Better enforcement

27/18 ENGLEFIELD GREEN PARKING GROUP UPDATE (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 11]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: None

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

The results of the residents' survey were noted. Cllr Prescott felt that the results did indicate a desire among residents for controlled parking, but it was agreed that a wider survey needed to be carried out to include Englefield Green West and Egham Town to take into account the regeneration of the town centre. Cllr Prescott asked for recommendation (ii) to be amended to show the results did show a strong indication.

Mike Berry, Director of Estates at Royal Holloway University of London, addressed the meeting. He stated that while the University has policies in place and works with students to reduce levels of car use, it cannot stop legal drivers using their vehicles in town or parking on public streets. Mr Berry added that the University is keen to collaborate to resolve the issue as far as possible and welcomes increased engagement with residents who have highlighted problems.

The question was raised regarding planning applications which do not include sufficient parking provision, and whether there were different guidelines for parking at university student accommodation as opposed to residential parking. Cllr Prescott asked the Runnymede Corporate Head of Strategy to clarify this with the borough Planning Department and requested that the recommendation in paragraph 4.1 be deferred pending the officer's report back to the committee.

Resolved:

The Joint Committee (Runnymede) noted that:

- (i) An informal consultation of residents was conducted to get a clearer idea of the level of support for the introduction of Controlled Parking Zones
- (ii) **The consultation did provide a strong indication for implementing Controlled Parking Zones with permits**
- (iii) The Englefield Green Parking Group will meet again in the autumn

28/18 APPOINTMENTS TO TASK GROUPS (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION - FOR DECISION) [Item 12]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Gregory Yeoman, Partnership Committee Officer

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

Nominations for membership of the Parking Task Group and the Resident Engagement Task Group were read out by Mr Yeoman. There were no objections.

Resolved:

The Joint Committee (Runnymede) **agreed:**

- (i) The membership of the task groups, as detailed at paragraphs 2.1 to 2.3 and Appendix 1 of this report.

Reasons for Recommendation

The report proposes joint committee task group membership for the forthcoming year to enable the provision of informed advice and recommendations to the committee.

29/18 FORWARD PROGRAMME 2018/19 [Item 13]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Gregory Yeoman, Partnership Committee Officer

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

The Partnership Committee Officer encouraged members to submit ideas to the Chairman for items that they would like to see on the agenda for future committee meetings.

Resolved:

It was agreed that the item on salting routes prioritisation would move to November 2018, and that updates on Heathrow and the southern light railway would be included in March 2019 to complement the Local Transport Strategy review.

30/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [Item 14]

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 19th November 2018 at 7.00pm.

Meeting ended at: 8.05 pm

Chairman

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RUNNYMEDE JOINT COMMITTEE 19 SEPTEMBER 2018

OPEN FORUM IN ADVANCE OF FORMAL MEETING VERBAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Question 1: Ian Johnson

Will the committee reconsider another survey among residents of the western section of Eastworth Road in Chertsey regarding introducing a controlled parking zone?

Mr Johnson explained that he had organised a survey himself along Eastworth Road and associated streets to canvas opinion.

Response

Peter Wells of the Parking Team explained that this was covered in paragraph 4.1 of his report, which was being discussed later on this meeting's agenda.

The Divisional Member noted the time Mr Johnson had put into his own survey, which had a high response rate, but due to the informal nature of this survey it would be hard to use as a basis for any agreed action.

Mr Johnson's consultation had been followed up by a formal consultation carried out by the council over a wider area, as displacement would need to be considered; this had had quite a low response rate and also a range of responses, both positive and negative.

Before another consultation could take place it would be useful to have a meeting involving Mr Johnson, the Parking Team, other residents and also local businesses to get a better idea of the range of views and desired outcomes. The Divisional Member will liaise as necessary to set this up.

Question 2: Christopher Hipkins

Mr Hipkins asked about the petition he submitted regarding the introduction of a Controlled Parking Zone in Hythe Road, Cumberland Street and Railway Terrace in Egham Hythe.

Response

The Parking Team officer explained that as the petition had been submitted very close to the deadline for his report there was insufficient time for officers to carry out their own informal consultation of residents. The proposal as requested by the residents was therefore included in the committee report (paragraph 3.3) for approval. The formal advertising process would then be the consultation. Comprehensive information about permit schemes, costs and criteria will be supplied and all houses will receive letters with the necessary facts and figures when the formal advertising process begins, so everybody is fully informed.

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