

Minutes of the meeting of the
Surrey HEATH LOCAL COMMITTEE
held at 7.00 pm on 3 October 2019
at Holy Trinity School, Benner Lane, West End, GU24 9JQ.

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

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Dr Bill Chapman (Chairman)
- Ms Charlotte Morley
- * Mr Paul Deach
- * Mr Mike Goodman
- * Mr Edward Hawkins (Vice-Chairman)
- * Mr David Mansfield

Borough / District Members:

- * Borough Councillor Vivienne Chapman
- * Borough Councillor Josephine Hawkins
- * Borough Councillor Rebecca Jennings-Evans
- Borough Councillor Sashi Mylvaganam
- * Borough Councillor Pat Tedder
- * Borough Councillor Valerie White

* In attendance

15/19 PUBLIC FORUM [Item 15]

Before the formal committee, the Chairman invited questions from members of the public attending the meeting.

6 Questions were raised on:

- Gypsy/ Travellers in Lightwater
- Speeding on Coleford Bridge Road
- Speeding on A322 / Guildford Road junction
- Roll out of 5G
- Lorry parking in the A322 Layby at Bagshot
- Signage / restrictions on Lucas Green Road

The full questions asked and the answers given are attached to these minutes as Annex A.

1/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Cllr Charlotte Morley.

2/19 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING [Item 2]

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

An update was requested on the written public questions raised by Cllr Jarmila Halovsky-Yu (Windlesham Parish Council) – Item 5 of the last meeting. The Highways Manager reported that Highways England were going to do their own modelling on the congestion of M3 J3 / A322 and this would free up some funds. A further update will be reported to the Local Committee when this has been completed. It was also noted that the A322 Gordons roundabout work to reduce traffic to a single lane would be implemented in the next month.

3/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest made.

4/19 PETITIONS [Item 4]

a PETITION FOR SPEED BUMPS ON BENNER LANE [Item 4a]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: Petition response

The petitioner presented the petition and raised the following points:-

- There are 400 new homes locally, which mean more traffic and more children using the Benner Lane play area
- Tringham Forest School is held at the A319 end, so speed tables are needed there
- VAS signs have no effect and physical measures are needed along the whole lane
- It is not acceptable to wait for someone to be killed before anything is done
- Could S106 money be used from the developers

The Holy Trinity School caretaker also added that he had seen vehicles mounting and driving along the pavements during peak periods and that there was no school crossing as they could not recruit a crossing patrol (lollipop) person.

The Area Highways Manager reported that as an Authority, SCC does intervene and put measures in place, but this is done on a priority basis. There are a large number of roads included on the speed management plan covering over 100 sites in Surrey Heath, many of which have an accident history, so have to set a priority system. It might be possible to use CIL funds from developers to put measures in place, but this decision would need to be made by the Parish Council.

The Committee noted that the Parking Task Group would look at enforcement in the area (school peak times) and would ensure that this was on the visit schedule.

The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) noted that:

- (i) Benner Lane is included on the Surrey Heath speed management plan and a number of measures have been implemented to help encourage better compliance with the speed limit.
- (ii) Benner Lane has a good safety record and there are currently no proposals to introduce any traffic calming measures.
- (iii) Vehicle speeds and road safety will continue to be monitored in Benner Lane as they are for all sites on the Surrey Heath speed management plan.

Reasons for Decision:

Benner Lane has a good safety record with no personal injury collisions having occurred in the any part of the road in the last 5 years.

b PETITION FOR ZEBRA CROSSINGS IN WINDLESHAM [Item 4b]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: none

The petitioner presented their petition clarified that residents would like cost effective zebra crossings at two sites and further ask that three sites be considered in more detail.

The Area Highways Manager noted that crossings in Windlesham were one of many issues in the area and that the Parish Council were looking at traffic, speeding zones and parking / parking enforcement. Windlesham generally had low speeds and good sightlines. The improvements / enhancements required a holistic approach and work was ongoing.

Recommendations:

As a result of discussion, a revised recommendation was proposed by Cllr Goodman and seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

The Local Committee agreed that:

- (i) There is no action to be taken until the current work on reducing speed in Windlesham is completed.**

Reasons for Decision:

As part of work associated with developing proposals for the Windlesham Neighbourhood Plan, transport consultants are seeking views from residents about other potential options for enhancing the village centre environment.

5/19 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]

One written public question had been received from Trefor Hogg regarding tree planting. The written question and answer supplied are attached to these minutes.

6/19 WRITTEN MEMBERS QUESTIONS [Item 6]

There were no written member questions.

7/19 HIGHWAYS UPDATE REPORT [Item 7]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: none

The Area Highways Manager presented the report. Members were asked to note the inclusion of gully clearing in the report (para 2.8) which highlighted the numbers and work across Surrey Heath.

The Highways team were thanked for the improvement measures at Ravenscote school which were delivered on time, and the improvements at the Maultway roundabout were noted as being excellent.

Recommendations:

The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) is asked to note:

- i) the progress with the ITS highways and developer funded schemes, and revenue funded works for the 2019/20 financial year.
- ii) the budgetary position.
- iii) that a further Highways Update will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.

8/19 HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY [Item 8]

The Committee received a presentation from Dr Andrew Brooks who introduced the emerging Surrey wide Health and Well Being strategy.

The presentation focussed on thinking differently about health with a strong focus on prevention. The 10 year plan looked to work with communities to tackle the causes of ill health rather than treatment – with a real focus on local priorities, which included housing, lifestyle, middle class drinking habits, support at home for the elderly, support for young people and social isolation.

The Local Committee welcomed the emerging prevention focus and thanked the presenter.

9/19 AIR QUALITY IN SURREY HEATH [Item 9]

The Local Committee received a report on Air Quality in Surrey Heath, which was presented to the Committee by James Robinson.

The report was fairly technical in nature and the following points were noted:
36 sites are monitored for air quality throughout Surrey Heath
Monitoring of sites near the motorway (M3) has shown a reduction in pollution levels since 2002 (the smart motorway works did affect levels, but these are now complete)
Dust levels on the M3 have fallen due to the new surface
Trends over 4 years indicate a general small fall in pollution levels
Monitoring outside 4 school locations (Including Benner Lane where the meeting was held) shows that levels have remained static for the past 10 years
The 50mph speed limit on the A331 (introduced at the request of central govt as part of the measures to reduce pollution) has had the desired effect and current levels indicate that this stretch of road is now compliant
A schools programme has been introduced to educate children, including theatre productions, workshops, travel plans and an anti idling campaign

The Committee welcomed the update and were pleased to note that results generally showed pollution levels as either static or falling.

10/19 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT [Item 10]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: None

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: none

Recommendations:

The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) noted and endorsed the report.

11/19 BRIEFING NOTE ON INJUNCTION AT CHOBHAM COMMON [Item 11]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: None

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

The Committee noted the briefing.

12/19 NOMINATION TO OUTSIDE BODY - FAIROAKS AIRPORT [Item 12]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: None

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Recommendations:

Cllr Mike Goodman was nominated as the SCC representative for the Fair Oaks Airport Consultative Committee.

Reason for Decision:

The Fair Oaks Airport Consultative Committee have a vacancy for one Surrey County Council representative until the end of the election cycle of May 2021. This organisation is located within Chobham.

13/19 DECISION TRACKER [Item 13]

The Decision Tracker was noted.

14/19 FORWARD PLAN [Item 14]

The forward plan was noted

Meeting ended at: 9.30 pm

Chairman

Surrey Heath Local Area Committee
3 October 2019
Open Public Question Time

Question 1: Mr Russell, local resident

Mr Russell introduced himself to the Committee as the landowner at Lightwater, who had a gypsy/traveller incursion on his land. He clarified that he wanted to use the land as a wildlife sanctuary to open in 2020 and that he was working with the Surrey Heath Borough Council to get the settlers moved on.

Answer from the Chair:

Thank you for coming along to let us know

Response from Cllr Vivienne Chapman, SHBC

The Borough Council is working with the Police on this matter

Question 2: Morgan Rise, Mytchett and Deepcut

Traffic on Coleford Bridge Road – what is being done to stop speeding in this area?

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

I will need to respond outside the meeting as I do not have all the details to hand

Response from Cllr Paul Deach, SCC

There have been some speed assessments on this road and outside the school.

Question 3: Michael Fiddler, local resident

With regard to speeding on the Guildford Road and junction with the A322, there are 2 VAS signs now in place, but this has not stopped the problem. What can be done and what are we entitled to?

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

The Highways report covers the limited resources available locally. We have a road safety working group which has a speed management plan with a register of every road that has a recognised speed problem.

We need to target areas with high registered speeds and those that have had accidents. Some areas have ongoing issues and problems with enforcement. I will need to check the history on this site and come back to you outside the meeting.

Question 4: Jane Sherrard-Smith, West End resident

Are the Council considering the wider impacts of the roll out of 5G and is the public involved in this? There are issues with regard to Health and Wellbeing, Air quality and environment with Electro-smog, radio frequency waves. I understand the excitement of 5G, but there are also issues of pylons, masts, double height masts, lots more needed and the risks of leukemia. We need to be able to raise awareness of the risks and concerns.

Response from Cllr Paul Deach, SCC

Personally, I am excited about 5G, with the economic viability and progress, but I have heard concerns raised, especially as 5G will need more masts due to the bandwidth. The Councils have fought some masts and have forced companies to share masts to reduce impact, and we are looking at the implications of 5G with the University of Surrey.

Answer from Cllr Mike Goodman, SCC:

Thank you for raising this. This Committee does not make the decisions on this issue, so will need to provide you with an answer and details of how to raise this elsewhere outside the meeting.

Question 5: Sam Kay, Borough Councillor, Bagshot

I wanted to ask about the layby on the A322 adjacent to the Nursery estate in Bagshot. Can the Committee give an update on the status of any remedy to the identified noise nuisance? Is there a target date for resolving the issue? Residents want it closed

Answer from the Chair:

This topic is under discussion and we are pursuing potential solutions. We will report to future meetings once a way forward is determined.

Question 6: Helen, West End resident

I refer to Lucas Green Road, which was subject to a petition in 2016 with regard to road safety and HGV usage. There was then a consultation with residents and in 2018 a scheme was proposed subject to funding. What is happening? Could a weight limit of 7.5 tons be implemented?

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

The work agreed was to introduce an informal one-way system. There has been a delay in signage, but this is planned and intended to be delivered this financial year. This will involve advisory signs on the Highway. A weight limit has not been imposed as this would affect businesses who are entitled to legal access.

SURREY HEATH LOCAL COMMITTEE



DATE: 3 OCTOBER 2019
SUBJECT: WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS
DIVISION: SURREY HEATH

Question 1 – Trefor Hogg, Chairman, Surrey Heath Tree Wardens

"I am writing this as Chairman of Surrey Heath Tree Wardens, and Co-Chair of Old Dean Community Group, two local charities. I am also a Surrey Heath Community Representative to the NHS Surrey Heath CCG.

Government Research has identified that there is a very strong correlation in urban areas between Measures of Multiple Deprivation and low numbers of urban trees. Urban trees have been proven to have significant positive effects on Carbon Sequestration, Mental Health, Physical Health, Air Quality and Amenity Values. The UK Government has therefore made funds available for the planting of urban trees in the form of the Urban Tree Challenge Fund with local bids invited for 2020/21.

I also note the July resolutions by SCC with regard to Climate Change, Planting of Urban Trees and Wildflower Verges which were all passed at Full Council without any votes against and that Air Quality issues are a concern for this Committee.

As a Charity, Surrey Heath Tree Wardens is working with Surrey Heath Borough Council's Greenspaces team to submit three joint bids to the Government's Urban Tree Challenge Fund 2020/21 round. The bids are for funding to plant trees along roads in those areas in Surrey Heath identified as having multiple deprivation issues: Old Dean; St Michael's and Watchetts.

I am therefore asking for your commitment to provide positive and active support to the bids:

- by ensuring that all reasonable efforts are made by SCC to assist in developing the bids including working to agree the suitability of proposed sites and
- if funding is approved by then actively supporting planting in those sites."

Answer

A verbal answer will be provided at the meeting – this links with item 10 on the agenda – Environmental Commitment.

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