

Minutes of the meeting of the
Surrey HEATH LOCAL COMMITTEE
held at 10.00 am on 25 February 2021
at VIRTUAL.

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

Surrey County Council Members:

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

Borough / District Members:

- * Borough Councillor Vivienne Chapman
- Borough Councillor Josephine Hawkins
- Borough Councillor Rebecca Jennings-Evans
- * Borough Councillor Valerie White
- * Borough Councillor Graham Alleway
- * Borough Councillor Victoria Wheeler

* In attendance

1/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rebecca Jennings-Evans and David Mansfield.

2/20 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING [Item 2]

The minutes of the last formal meeting held in Feb 2020 were agreed.

3/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were no initial declarations of interest made, although Cllr Wheeler later declared an interest under the Chobham items on the agenda as she lives in that area.

4/20 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 4]

A 45 minute public forum was held prior to the meeting and the notes are attached to these minutes as Annex A. There were 28 people in attendance for this item.

There were 19 attendees for the formal meeting.

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: One public written question

There was one written question received and the question and response was included in the agenda papers.

Zoe Baddredine attended the meeting and talked about the noise impact from the A322. Improvements in this area were currently 24th in the list of Surrey Heath priorities and Zoe asked how this scheme could be raised up that list. The AHM confirmed that the scheme list rightly put accidents and health and safety above noise and environmental impacts and that the installation of a noise reducing road surface or barriers would always be expensive and were unlikely to be installed. It was noted that air quality was monitored by the Borough Council, but air pollution would not necessarily impact the priority list.

Members were very sympathetic about the issues raised and also discussed the speed limit in this area and anti social driving, but it was noted that the highways authority had to balance the needs of community with the needs of the traffic network.

It was agreed that the AHM would link with the questioner regarding the last speed monitoring held on the A322 and the data collected.

5/20 WRITTEN MEMBERS QUESTIONS [Item 5]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: One written member question

A written member question was submitted by Cllr Mike Goodman. The question and the response given were included in the papers for the meeting.

No additional question was asked on this, although it was noted that there was a current petition for a speed reduction on the A30 which would come to the June meeting of this committee. It was noted that some other authorities had introduced 30mph limits on A roads, but Officers had to follow the SCC speed limit policy, which set parameters for limits and how many changes could be introduced in one stretch. The AHM also noted that congestion on the A30 was an issue, which slowed traffic. The introduction of a 30mph limit would require the removal of 40mph repeater signs, which would impact on driver behaviour.

6/20 PETITION RESPONSES - CHOBHAM AREA [Item 6]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: Two petitions received

PETITION 1 - The first petition was in regard to pedestrian crossings in Chobham, particularly giving access to St Lawrence Primary School and the Recreation Ground. A very comprehensive petitioner pack, including detail and photographs was circulated to Members ahead of the meeting.

The Chair invited the petitioner to speak and also noted that several members of the public had asked to join the meeting to support. Due to not wanting to overwhelm the virtual meeting, they would be participating by watching the live webcast. The Chair listed the supporters (first names only) as Abigail, Gleb, Nicola, James, Christella, Alison, Anna, Claire, and Kate (the Head of the local primary school). The supporters were thanked for their interest and support.

Naomi Gurdol outlined the need for the current (very small) pedestrian refuge to be replaced with a more visible crossing and additional signage to alert drivers to school children.

The AHM thanked the petitioners and were engaging with them on this issue. The Highways team very impressed with the thorough and excellent work that had been undertaken. Work was now being undertaken with the Road Safety outside school team (Date to be confirmed, due to Covid backlog) to look at what could be achieved and also with petitioners to look at the priority of immediate signage works that could be undertaken within budget. This would be followed up outside the meeting. Members were keen this be looked at asap and the workload of officers would be looked at outside the meeting.

Members raised that road safety outside school was paramount and Cllr Alleway mentioned the Beldon Bridge petition in West End which raised similar issues (this would come to the next meeting).

It was agreed that this would be an item on the next agenda to review the progress with the school, the road safety team and signage.

PETITION 2 – A second petition had also been received from Mr Fisher, looking at various Highways issues in and around Chobham. Although the petition had only received 13 signatures, the Highways team had prepared a petition response and this was included in the agenda papers. Mr Fisher was not present at the meeting, so the petition and response were noted.

7/20 RAVENSCOTE CROSSING - INFORMATION ITEM [Item 7]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: A petition for a crossing at Upper Chobham Road to serve Ravenscote school came to the Committee in October 2018.

The AHM outlined the action to date and the further monitoring planned.

Members were keen to explore Community Infrastructure Levy funding and the AHM confirmed the approximate costs as follows:-

Zebra crossing - £50,000

Pelican crossing - £120,000

This would depend on location and power supply. However the issue was whether this was appropriate for the location (as explained previously). There were clear processes to follow in assessing what was required and Officers would always give their professional advice to the Committee for them to decide. It was noted that the Committee had already decided on this and had put in measures, so it was Officers intention to re-assess this and make further recommendations.

Members discussed the amount of Highways works outstanding, the cost of works and the current contracts. A recommendation was put forward to write to SCC and to "Ask for funding for highways works" put forward by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by Cllr Alleway with 5 members supporting this.

The AHM noted that this was an issue that had been recognised and that additional funds had been allocated to each area as highlighted in the Highways Report on the agenda. This meeting alone had discussed works in the region of £2.5million and Members had to prioritise. It was therefore agreed that this had already been covered.

The information report was noted. This would be included on the action / decision tracker of the Committee for review after the re-assessment of traffic and speeds.

8/20 HIGHWAYS BUDGET UPDATE 2021/2022 [Item 8]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: none

The AHM outlined the report and the funding available. The funding had been increased so Members would be meeting on 2 March 2021 to look at the priority list and the works that could be completed. The recommendation was amended to show that the expenditure and priorities would be looked at in full consultation with all members.

The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) agreed to:

- i) **Note** the progress with schemes and revenue funded works for the 2020/21 financial year.

- ii) **Note** the budgetary position.
- iii) **Note** that a further Highways Update will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.
- iv) **Agree** that authority is delegated to the Area Highways Manager to agree the ITS capital works programme for 2021/22, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman **and the full Committee.**
- v) **Agree** that authority is delegated to the Area Highways Manager to agree the capital maintenance programme for 2021/22, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- vi) **Authorise** the Area Highways Manager to undertake all necessary actions to deliver the capital works programme, consulting with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Divisional Members where necessary.

Reason for decision

The above decisions are made to enable progression of all highway related schemes and works.

9/20 SURREY HEATH PARKING REVIEW 2020/21 [Item 9]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Jack Roberts, Parking Officer, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: none

The PO outlined the parking report and the work that had been undertaken to formulate the proposed amendments that would be put out for consultation. This would be advertised in local press and via street notices, online and letter drops.

The PO was thanked for his work and for the inclusion of areas of Bagshot as (per the public forum) parking issues had increased over the lockdown period with people accessing Swinley Forest. It was noted that this was a national problem with of policies on planning application residential parking and with unprecedented visitor numbers wanting access to green spaces. It was agreed that a wider letter drop would be included for the vicarage lane area of Bagshot and the PO would liaise with Cllr Valerie White on this.

One addition was noted and would be included for Benner Lane.

The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) agreed:

- (i) The proposed amendments to on-street parking restrictions in Surrey Heath as described in this report and shown in detail on drawings in annex A. **This would also include additional double yellow lines in the vicinity of Maulhouse Farm, Benner Lane, West End - the restrictions to be drawn up in**

consultation with the divisional member and Cllr Alleway, prior to advertisement.

- (ii) That the local committee allocate the funding as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of this report to proceed with the introduction of the parking amendments.
- (iii) That the county council make an order under the relevant parts of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to impose the waiting and on street parking restrictions in Surrey Heath as shown on the drawings in annex A to be advertised and that if no objections are maintained, the orders are made.
- (iv) That 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. An additional member may be invited for comment.

Reasons for decisions

The waiting restrictions detailed in Annex A would make a positive impact towards:-

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

10/20 ACTION TRACKER [Item 10]

The action tracker was discussed.

The two items listed were now closed and would be removed (although cycling and walking would potentially need to come to future committees).

11/20 FORWARD PLAN [Item 11]

The forward plan was noted.

Cllrs Mike Goodman and Bill Chapman (who will not be standing at the next election) were thanked for all their hard work over the years on the Committee.

Meeting ended at: Time Not Specified

Chairman

ANNEX A to the minutes

Surrey Heath Local Area Committee **25 February 2021 at 10am** **Open Public Question Time**

Cllr Paul Deach, SCC, chaired the meeting. There were 28 people in attendance. Cllr Bill Chapman was thanked for his 18 years of continuous service as he would be standing down for the May elections.

Question 1: Trefor Hogg, Old Dean resident

I refer to a petition of 2015 regarding Gibbet lane and the school children using this to access the school, together with a 2019 petition from a Collingwood student. Due to lack of budget, a speed limit reduction was never actioned. A new petition has now been started and will come to the June committee meeting. Can Councillors look at this again.

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

Once the new petition has received the required number of signatures, a response will be drawn up and a new speed survey may be undertaken to re assess this.

Question 2: Carlie and Lee Riddell

The northbound carriageway on the A322 and whether this could be considered for resurfacing due to noise issues. We have live adjacent to this for 5 years and the last couple of years, the road has deteriorated, with large potholes appearing. This is affecting our home and our home life as the house shakes with the vibrations. Small repairs have been undertaken which results in a slight decrease, but they do not last (one only lasted 15 days). Neighbours and Mead Court have encountered the same problems, so we all urge the Council to take action. It is believed that the road is long overdue resurfacing.

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

Thank you for raising this concern. Deterioration of a road like this can cause these issues. Our resurfacing team will reassess this and look at whether this can be added to our programme (it is currently not listed). Our roads are regularly inspected. I will link with you outside this meeting and let you know what will be done and when.

Response from Cllr Mike Goodman, SCC

Thank you for raising this, please do link with me outside the meeting as I will see if I can help to take this forward.

Question 3: Richard Wilson, Local resident

I would like to ask about PPE in schools, who go back fully on 8th March – although they have been open for vulnerable children, children of keyworkers and children with special needs. This means that the special schools in particular have been open throughout and have had to provide PPE out of their own budgets. School staff have been the unsung heroes of lockdown.

Would Councillors consider funding a one off grant to special schools in their division from their allocations?

Response from the Chair

I have certainly always been in touch with the special schools in my area but I have not been asked for funding for PPE. I am sure we would be willing to look at this if

they request it, although we have spent up our allocations for this year but can consider for next financial year.

Response from Cllr Bill Chapman, SCC

This is an issue for all our schools who have all worked hard to provide essential services. I do hope that teachers will be given priority for vaccinations – especially those working with teenage groups, where numbers are seen to be rising.

Question 4: Mark Gordon, Local resident

Chapel Lane, Bagshot – now that work has started are there plans for a reduced speed limit in this area.

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

We do get notified of planning developments and consulted on this via our transport planning section. I would need to make contact with colleagues outside the meeting on this to find out the situation as I believe this was considered, but other measures were taken forward.

The Chair urged residents to link with their local Councillors on parking issues.

Question 5: Janet Trowse, Parking issues in Bagshot

I refer to the parking report and the proposal for double yellow lines on Church Road and Vicarage Road junctions. We have a real issue with parking in this area (access to swinley forest), so these restrictions are welcome. There has been some interesting parking, and anti-social unloading in driveways, together with abuse of residents. We need a whole solution to this issue, including enforcement of yellow lines.

Response from the Chair

Thank you for raising this issue. It is something we are aware of and it is really good that you are linking with Cllr Valerie White and Cllr Mike Goodman on this.

Question 6: Victoria Brinton, local resident

Connaught Road is also an issue to add to the above observations. My father lives there and is feeling blighted as if he goes out, he cannot park when he returns. There are a number of older residents in the road with the same issues and the introduction of lines may further push cars into this road. There are 19 properties and only 5 have off road parking.

There is a free car park in the village that walkers and cyclists could use, we need more signage to alert people to this.

Response from the Chair

Thank you very much for this. We will take this into consideration in our later discussions. You raise a good point that some residents are not connected to the internet for information, and we are keen to link with them and get their views.

Question 7: Richard Tear, local resident

Mike and Andrew went to the centre of Windlesham and looked at a potential scheme for this – is there any progress on this?

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

We have undertaken a number of workshop discussions with the local community in Windlesham and have some improvement ideas that we are looking to take forward. Yesterday, I received an email with some potential designs, which our road safety team are looking at, so this is a work in progress.

Response from Cllr Mike Goodman

Thank you to the Parish for their help and support on this. We have been a bit delayed by the pandemic, but things are moving and we will take design ideas to the Parish initially and then alert and consult the wider community. Road resurfacing is also planned, together with looking at planting of trees etc.

Question 8: Jocelyn Buxton, local resident

Will the yellow lines be enforced – particularly at weekends. I am a resident of Connaught Road and would support that residents are really suffering, especially those that need health visitor access and medical supply deliveries.

Response from the Chair

I would urge you to connect with your local councillor. We do have a parking task group and once the yellow lines are installed we can look at enforcement.

Response from Cllr Victoria Wheeler, SHBC

I have linked with the Police and asked for weekend checks on anti-social parking and behaviours.

Question 9: Stefan Nejhanski, local resident

I support all the questions and issues raised regarding parking. I have raised this with the Police, who are very reluctant to act as convictions will not stick and they only really respond when there is imminent danger or a large number of reports. We do need a realistic view of enforcement and what can be achieved with this. I am concerned that the proposal at the moment will help with sightlines at junctions, but will also push parking issues further onto other residential roads. Please do work with us on a holistic solution.

Response from the Chair

Thank you Stefan, you raise some really good points.

Question 10: Tony Boundy

I have sat through the meeting with interest – I do not have a question, but a statement to the Committee.

Response from the Chair

Please do let us have this and we can circulate it to the whole committee and possibly attach to the notes.

NB – a statement was emailed to all the Councillors on the Committee by Mr Boundy. This is being dealt with by the County Council as a complaint and will be fully investigated.

Parking issues

Further information from Cllr Graham Alleway

I am Chair of the parking task group and we will look at the parking issues in Bagshot. The Task Group has asked all Councillors to link with us on parking issues so we can look at our enforcement resources and where they need to be directed.

The public forum ended at 10.45am.

This page is intentionally left blank