

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL COMMITTEE EPSOM & EWELL
8 December 2014**

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

**Question 1 – Cllr Liz Frost
Re: Bus stops in Wilmerhatch Lane**

Question:

It is good to hear of our residents using local buses. This is beneficial to the environment and their health in encouraging some exercise at each end of their journey. However residents have brought to my attention the discomfort that they experience waiting at some of the E5 bus stops in Wilmerhatch Lane.

I took a walk up there to see for myself. When waiting for a bus towards Epsom, there are 4 stops where there is no pavement to stand on – just the grassed area. Very unpleasant when it is wet and covered in fallen leaves. Standing on the pavement on the opposite side of the road to wait for the bus is not really an option because by the time you see the bus coming, there may not be time to safely cross over and catch it! It would be very helpful if there could be a small paved area at each of these bus stops.

Will the Local Committee please arrange for the matter to be investigated and appropriate action taken to improve the areas for bus users?

Officer Response:

Passenger Transport colleagues are aware of the lack of hard standings at the bus stops in Wilmerhatch Lane. However, surveys were undertaken in 2013, and on one survey day there was only 1 passenger on, 1 passenger off at Pleasure Pit Road and no other passengers using these 4 pairs of stops that day. On another day there was 1 on, and 3 off in one day (Pleasure Pit Road (1 on, 1 off) and RAC Club (2 off)).

The bus route only passes through Wilmerhatch Lane once every two hours in each direction, and it could be argued that there are not many residences nearby, although maybe people working at the stables / RAC club use the buses to get to and from work.

Patronage is always a consideration when considering improvements at bus stops. However, it can be argued that there may not be good usage of these stops for the very reason that the waiting area is not very accessible and that there are no timetables to provide information on bus services.

Without detailed site surveys it is difficult to assess the exact cost of improving each of the bus stops. There is a ditch behind the grass verge so a concrete slab may need to be provided which would obviously affect costs.

It would cost approximately £3k to provide a hard standing for each stop. A bus stop pole and timetable would be £400 per stop. We would also need to consider accessibility at each location in the form of dropped kerbs for when passengers need

to cross Wilmerhatch Lane to access the stops. This would cost around £1k for each stop. This would give a total cost of £17600

As it is not one of SCC's priority quality bus corridors it is unlikely to have a high priority.

If funding can be found, the work can be programmed. However it is suggested that further survey work is carried out to establish patronage and a more detailed cost estimate calculated.

Question 2 – Cllr Jean Steer
Re: Green Lanes shopping parade

Question:

I am informed that a large supermarket will be opening in the small Green Lanes shopping parade very shortly. The parade is owned privately and the freeholders of the shops are responsible for the footway and the access road. Epsom and Ewell Borough Council keeps the area swept and clean at the front several times a week and maintains the green area, with SCC responsible for street lighting.

Various obstacles (concrete blocks, concrete platform and cones) have been placed in the road to stop commuter parking, but the effect is that cars generally cannot park to get access to the shops, take-aways and local business and the area looks unsightly.

Will the Local Committee through Surrey Highways, review the situation with a view to engaging with the local businesses to improve access to the road and short-term parking as well as agreeing the removal of all obstructions whilst ensuring that the access road is not used for long term or commuter parking.

Officer Response:

As this is a private road Surrey County Council has no business interfering with the way the road is managed by the landowner(s), unless the actions of the landowner(s) are to the detriment of the Public Highway.