

**DRAFT**

Minutes of the meeting of the  
**Runnymede LOCAL COMMITTEE**  
 held at 6.30 pm on 13 June 2016  
 at Council Chamber, Runnymede Civic Centre, Station Road, Addlestone  
 KT15 2AH.

**Surrey County Council Members:**

- \* Mr Chris Norman
- \* Mrs Yvonna Lay (Chairman)
- \* Mrs Mary Angell (Vice-Chairman)
- \* Mr Mel Few
- \* Mr John Furey
- \* Miss Marisa Heath

**Borough / District Members:**

- \* Cllr Nick Prescott
- \* Cllr John Ashmore
- \* Cllr Michael Kusneraitis
- \* Councillor Barry Pitt
- \* Cllr Parshotam Sohi
- \* Manduca

\* In attendance

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**82/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]**

No apologies were received and all members attended.

It was agreed that Runnymede Borough Council would be invited to nominate two substitutes (one Conservative, one Independent) for 2016-17, to be appointed to the Committee for sign off by Surrey County Council's chief executive.

**83/16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2016 were approved and signed.

**84/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]**

No declarations of interest had been submitted.

**85/16 PETITIONS [Item 4]**

Mrs Cook and Mrs Thomas of Knoll Park Estate, Chertsey presented a petition on parking restrictions in that area. Mrs Thomas explained that the roads were bumper to bumper with parked cars on either side, almost 24 hours a day, and that whilst the petitioners had no wish to see excessive yellow lines, they called for double yellow lines around the junctions to enable

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pedestrians to cross safely and to improve sightlines for drivers turning into the road. She also requested better signage to indicate the No Through Road, so as to discourage lorries having to reverse past parked cars when they realised they could not get through. In reference to a matter raised at informal questions, she thanked local member Chris Norman for agreeing to take up the issue of sixth form students' parking with Sir William Perkins's School. Members expressed sympathy and urged officers to undertake improvements as soon as possible. The local member agreed to visit the site with a highways engineer to progress installation of a new sign.

The Local Committee agreed:

- i) That this location is investigated and added to the 2017 Runnymede Parking Review list of sites.

### **86/16 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]**

Miss Christine Davis, of London Road A30 in Runnymede borough but bordering Sunningdale, asked the following question on behalf of herself and neighbours:

“Since last year the residents have been experiencing an incredible increase in traffic flow, especially from HGVs resulting in horrendous continuous noise resulting from when the HGV speed past making our properties/homes on London Road A30 – shuddering and making the contents of our homes and windows rattle and shake, causing a very distressing disruption of sleep, being kept awake, woken up and not being able to relax or feel safe in our own homes, not to mention what damage it is causing short and long term to our buildings/homes.

Accidents also are a cause for concerns as when you not only increase the traffic flow, it also increases the risk of accidents, especially when drivers are speeding, plus when the weather is bad, this is also another concern regarding speeding. There have been a number of accidents on this stretch of road, just recently back in Feb and March 2016 within a few weeks of each other two accidents, one involving a 3 car pile-up just meters away from my cottage. This is what we want to avoid...does someone have to be killed or a property damaged before anything is done! It should not be about money when lives are affected and peoples' health and wellbeing!

We do not feel that we are asking too much and would like the County Council to work with both Windsor & Maidenhead council and the Thames Valley and Surrey police.

We would like to ask the following, if only on a temporary basis, to start to address the issues we are and have been experiencing for the last year or more and will continue to do for at least another year:

#### **Question:**

**Will Surrey County Council liaise with the relevant authorities to:**

- **Install a speed camera on London Road approaching the county boundary, (there are two within a very short distance from each other in Sunningdale Village, could not one of them be relocated to just before the residential area starts at the Surrey end? All residents including those in Sunningdale Village would still**

**benefit. The council would make a good sum of money based on speeding that is currently happening. It would pay for itself in no time).**

- **Bring down the speed limit to 30mph (if not slower for lorries/HGVs), if only during this period of diversion - although having said that we would like this to be 30mph long term?**

**A. Response from Chairman on behalf of the Committee:**

In response to the questions raised, the Local Committee would make the following comments:

**Request for a speed camera**

Sunningdale village is located within Berkshire and therefore any issues concerning the positioning of the existing speed enforcement cameras in Sunningdale should be raised with the local Highway Authority, The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. However, within Surrey fixed speed cameras are reserved for the very worst collision hotspots where there has been a continuing history of personal injury collisions and where speeds have been measured and found to be excessive. This is because new fixed speed cameras can cost in the region of £50,000 and then require ongoing maintenance and processing of offences. (All of the fines from cameras go to central government via the courts). The Local Committee is pleased to note that the section of 40mph road within Surrey has a good safety record and there have been no personal injury collisions reported in this length of road in the 5 year period to the end of March 2016 (the latest available data). As such, there are currently no proposals to introduce a fixed speed enforcement camera within this length of road. In addition, it should be noted that an enforcement camera would not be positioned such a short distance from the start of the 40mph speed limit.

**Request for introduction of a temporary/permanent 30mph speed limit**

The County Council's policy on setting speed limits aims to set speed limits that are successful in managing vehicle speeds and are appropriate for the main function of the road.

The policy requires that a speed limit assessment is undertaken if a change in speed limit is being considered. As part of the assessment process a number of factors are considered to determine whether a change in speed limit is appropriate. These include existing vehicle speeds and the views of Surrey Police (who are responsible for enforcing speed limits).

The policy also notes that lowering a speed limit on its own will not necessarily reduce vehicle speeds. This is because motorists determine their speed based on the character of the road and conditions at the time. If a speed limit is set much lower than prevailing vehicle speeds then it is likely to be widely disregarded. As such, it would have little value in improving road safety. Furthermore, introducing unrealistic speed limits could also undermine the effectiveness of speed limits more generally.

Surrey Police undertook a speed survey over a 7 day period in January 2016 in the section of London Road subject to a 40mph speed limit on the Surrey

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side of the county boundary. The survey found the average speed of all vehicles recorded over this period to be 45mph. This speed is significantly higher than the average speed at which a 30mph speed limit could be introduced in accordance with the County Council's Policy on setting speed limits. Based on the existing vehicle speeds measured, Surrey Police has also confirmed it would not support the introduction of a 30mph speed limit at the location.

Whilst it is possible to impose a temporary speed limit, this requires a temporary traffic regulation order to be made and legislation only allows for an order to be made in certain circumstances. In this instance there are no works actually taking place on the A30 that change the character of the road or impact on traffic. As such, the legal advice received suggests it would be difficult to justify that there are appropriate grounds for making an order and Surrey County Council currently has no proposals to introduce a temporary speed limit within this area. Furthermore, introducing a temporary speed limit on the A30 only when there is an overnight closure on the M3 would be potentially confusing for motorists, since the closures are not in place every night. As such, there would be times when the speed limit on the A30 overnight would be changing from one night to the next and there would be no reason visible to motorists to explain why this change was taking place.

The Local Committee recognises that residents will be disappointed by the above comments and it has asked the County Council's officers to continue to work with the neighbouring authority to see whether any alternative appropriate measures can be identified to help address the concerns raised. As a result, a meeting is being arranged between representatives from Surrey County Council, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Surrey Police and Thames Valley Police. The County Council's Senior Traffic Engineer for the North West Area Highway team will contact residents after this meeting has taken place to provide them with an update.

### **Supplementary Question from Ms Davis (at the Committee)**

We, the residents, are not satisfied with this answer and we would like to request a representative at the meeting you mention, and in addition we would like to know what will be done in the short term?

### **The following response was given at the meeting:**

Surrey Highways will not be inviting any residents to attend the aforementioned meeting to discuss the technical aspects of the issue, but will fulfill its commitment to communicate and explain the outcomes to Ms Davis and other interested parties afterwards. It should be noted that liaison with Highways England has indicated that they expect to undertake overnight diversions for ten nights per month over the next twelve months, but they are examining whether this can be reduced and we will notify you when they inform us. In discussion with Surrey Police they have indicated that they do not support a reduction in the speed limit to 30mph, and the reality is that if the Local Committee acted against their advice and set a new limit, it would not be enforced by Surrey Police.

## **87/16 WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 6]**

No Member Questions were submitted.

**88/16 DECISION TRACKER (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 7]**

Members noted the Decision tracker report, and asked for a further update on the bus stop for Salesian School. County Councillor John Furey advised that he had spoken to the headteacher and would follow up the conversation.

**89/16 CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 8]**

Julian Gordon-Walker gave a presentation on the nature of Child Sexual Exploitation and work underway to address the issue in Surrey and Runnymede. He said that one of the challenges was that young people often did not see themselves as being exploited and felt guilt or shame about telling others of the experience. He advised members that a new Sexual Abuse Management Board would shortly be in place, and that partners would use a range of powers to interrupt perpetrators' activity, including Child Abduction Warning notices. Training and publicity campaigns were integral to success achieved to date.

Members thanked him for the work undertaken and noted the need to cascade awareness of the issue to school nurses, bus drivers, pharmacists, school governors, and taxi drivers, and the importance of effective district/borough council representation at councillor level.

**90/16 HIGHWAYS UPDATE [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 9]**

Andrew Milne highlighted the capital budget of £228k, which was reduced from 2015-16, and the investment in roads through Project Horizon, noting that county councillors had been invited to comment on new locations for Pavement Horizon work.

Newly co-opted councillors asked about a variety of locations which had been included in the 2016-17 programme and agreed in December 2015, and highlighted drainage issues, and Councillor Mel Few proposed the recommendation which was agreed at iii).

The Local Committee agreed to:

- i) Note the progress with schemes and revenue funded works for the 2016/17 financial year;
- ii) Note the budgetary position
- iii) to reconsider the agreed Capital Works programme for 2016/17 (at 2.4.3) and to remove the Trotsworth Avenue scheme and substitute a resurface of Trumps Green Road from the bridge to the junction with Christchurch Road, utilising the budgetary saving plus the local member's community enhancement and member allocations funding, subject to an engineering assessment and costing, and final decision by the Area Highways Manager in consultation with chairman and vice-chairman**

**91/16 YOUTH SERVICES PERFORMANCE 2015-16 [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 10]**

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Tim Kitchen (Youth Support services manager) and Gemma Rutter (Senior Practitioner, Community Youth Work) presented the performance report and showed a short video clip of young people talking about what a difference engagement with the service had made to their lives.

Members noted that the Youth Task Group had given detailed consideration to the report and commended it to the Committee, and the team were thanked and praised for their work. Members also noted local initiatives in which they had been involved, including visits to the LEAP project at Egham Youth Centre, and funding for a trip organised by Addlestone youth centre to Poland.

### **92/16 PAVEMENTS HORIZON UPDATE [FOR INFORMATION/CONSULTATION] [Item 11]**

Cabinet Member John Furey noted that the report submitted to the Committee had omitted the criteria by which the pavements and footways were selected for improvement, namely that they should be used by pedestrians due to their proximity to schools/GP surgeries/hospitals/shopping centres. Andrew Milne added that the Network Condition survey was the original basis for selecting locations in Year 1 of the programme, adding that councillors now had an opportunity to suggest locations for improvement in Year 2, by emailing him directly. Councillor Kusneraitis asked for clarification on whether Bagshot Road, Englefield Green (adjacent to St Jude's School), and streets which are cul de sacs, would be included.

### **93/16 APPOINTMENTS TO TASK GROUPS [FOR DECISION] [Item 12]**

The Local Committee agreed to appoint the following:

- a) Councillor Chris Norman, with Councillor Yvonna Lay in reserve, to the Runnymede Community Safety Partnership for 2016-17;
- b) Councillors Chris Norman, Mary Angell and Yvonna Lay to the Youth Task Group to assist and advise the Local Committee on youth issues and future delivery of youth provision in 2016-17;
- c) Councillors Mel Few and Yvonna Lay to the On Street Parking Task Group, to advise the Local Committee in relation to on-street parking matters including enforcement;
- d) Councillors Mel Few, Yvonna Lay and Mary Angell to the Major Schemes (Runnymede) Task Group to monitor and advise the Committee on delivery of the major highways schemes within the Borough.
- e) Councillor Chris Norman to the Friends, Family and Community Support task group, to work in partnership with the appointed champion John Furey.

### **94/16 MEMBER ALLOCATIONS [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 13]**

Members noted the report.

**95/16 FORWARD PLAN [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 14]**

The Committee noted the contents of the Forward Plan. Councillor Prescott suggested that, as the Council Chamber had proved a popular venue for this meeting, the chairman could consider holding a meeting in the Chamber later in the year.

Meeting ended at: 9.10 pm

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**Chairman**

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