

Surrey Heath Local Area Committee
30 November 2017
Open Public Question Time

Question 1: Tricia Parker, Alsford Close, Lightwater

Regarding the street signage in our road in Lightwater. Alsford Close is a road that subdivides and in recent years with the increase in home deliveries it is becoming harder for people who do not know the road to find their way. There is only one sign at the beginning of the road and nothing further indicating where particular numbers are. Frequently delivery drivers are knocking on random doors to find out where the correct house is. Is there any way we can get more signs installed?

Response from David Mansfield: I have been in communication with Jenny Rickard at Surrey Heath Borough Council about getting this resolved. Unfortunately due to the financial position there is little that can be done to help with this confusing road.

Response from Andrew Milne: Street name plates are the responsibility of the Borough Council and indication of numbers and directions is the responsibility of the developer. Highways can only provide statutory signage. The local committee revenue budget could fund something like this but as this has been drastically cut it would appear to not be a viable option. The last option would be to consider using Members' Allocation, if in such an unusual circumstance this would be permitted.

Question 2: Max Wheeler, Chobham Parish Council

In the petition response regarding the cycle route from Chobham to Woking it indicates the path will be cleared, is there a budget to do this?

Response from Andrew Milne: The scheme is fully supported in principle and budgets will need to be looked at over the coming years although this would also be helped if there was any appropriate developer funding available.

Response from Mike Goodman: The clearing of the path is budget dependent. Chobham Parish Council could always contribute to the maintenance if desired. Cycle routes are being reviewed and with this one there is still land that needs to be purchased to complete as desired.

[Further discussions on this continued under Item 4b: Petition: Safer Cycling Route from Chobham to Woking]

Question 3: Cyril Pavey

With regards to the Surrey Heath Young Citizens scheme I've noted that of the four secondary schools/academies we have within Surrey Heath only 2 of them – Collingswood and Kings - decided to partake in this. I am wondering why Tomlinscote and Gordon's did not participate. It also seems there is no longer a junior scheme which is a great shame and seems to me the younger children are being neglected.

Response from Valerie White: All schools make their own choice about whether they wish to participate in the scheme and unfortunately if the school chooses not to then pupils are unable to participate individually.

Response from Edward Hawkins: I know that Josephine as the Corporate Portfolio Holder and Children's Champion was frustrated there wasn't a greater uptake from schools. The problem being that this is simply one event in an already busy school calendar.

Response from Paul Deach: Primary schools were invited to take part in the junior citizen scheme.

Question 4: Rev Andreas Sistig, St Anne's Church, Bagshot

Frequently there are lots of cars that park down the road by the church, often making it difficult to get through and effecting driver sight lines. We looked at the possibility of requesting a traffic mirror to help with the problem but were faced with one objection from a resident and therefore have come to request whether double yellow lines can be installed instead to help with the lack of space.

Response from Mike Goodman: This request has already been sent to Jack Roberts in the parking team to be considered. Surrey County Council would not install traffic mirrors as inaccuracies can occur resulting in accidents. The proposed parking amendments come to the Surrey Heath local committee in March 2018, then out to consultation in May 2018 with changes hopefully implemented in the summer 2018.

Question 5: Simon Jones, Highview Road, Lightwater

Regarding the granting of permits to Virgin Media for the work they are undertaking in Lightwater, they are digging up the roads, causing lots of aggravation for residents, leaving them in dreadful states. Who is responsible for these repairs and on what basis are these permits granted?

Response from Andrew Milne: There have been many complaints about the virgin media work that have gone to the street works team and subsequently their permits to carry out work has been withdrawn due to their failure to comply with the conditions of the permit; leaving roads in an unsightly state.

Virgin Media are not permitted to operate in more than 3 roads and a new permit will not be granted until the work is completed to a satisfactory standard. This action taken by Street Works is of the highest severity with Virgin Media needing to present a thorough Management Plan when reapplying for the permits to ensure any future work will be of better quality. The street works team are very aware of the problems and are monitoring it.

Question 6: Tricia Parker, Alsford Close, Lightwater

On behalf of Mrs Ireland who was knocked down on Red Road earlier this year and a recent accident that has occurred, there is confusing and nonsensical signage along the length of the road. With the speed limit altering from 40mph to 50 mph and no clear signage to indicate this. The electronic signs also appear to be switched off. Can this signage be improved to improve the safety of an already dangerous road?

Response from Bill Chapman: Red Road is high on the priority list. There have been recent discussions with the Road Safety Team and we will continue to pursue these but Red Road should be reviewed in spring 2018. I agree the road signs are confusing despite complying with the regulations.

Response from David Mansfield: This has been discussed with the Borough Commander in the last few days. It is high on the priority list; things are happening.

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