

DRAFT

Minutes of the meeting of the
Elmbridge LOCAL COMMITTEE
 held at 4.00 pm on 24 September 2018
 at Council Chamber, Elmbridge Civic Centre, High Street, Esher, KT10 9SD.

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Mr John O'Reilly (Chairman)
- * Dr Peter Szanto (Vice-Chairman)
- * Mr Mike Bennison
- * Mr Nick Darby
- * Rachael I. Lake
- * Mrs Mary Lewis
- * Mr Tim Oliver
- * Mr Ernest Mallett MBE
- Mr Tony Samuels

Borough / District Members:

- * Cllr David J Archer
- * Cllr Steve Bax
- Cllr Andrew Davis
- * Cllr Peter Harman
- Cllr Malcolm Howard
- * Cllr Mary Marshall
- * Cllr Christine Richardson
- * Cllr Chris Sadler
- Cllr Mrs Mary Sheldon

* In attendance

OPEN FORUM

The questions and responses to the matters raised in the Open Forum are attached to the minutes.

28/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Tony Samuels and Borough Councillors Andrew David and Mary Sheldon. Cllrs Christine Elmer and Ian Donaldson substituted.

29/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 2]

There were no declarations of interest.

30/18 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 3]

There were no Chairman's announcements.

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31/18 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS [Item 4]

Two questions were received. The questions and responses are set out in the supplementary agenda for the meeting.

Question 1 – Mr Woolgar asked if it would be possible to add information to the County Council website in respect of providing paper copies of the agenda to members of the public. It was agreed that this would be done.

Question 2 – Mr Woolgar asked whether the 500 pieces of feedback had been received as part of the consultation and whether the work will be concluded before December. The Chairman responded that he hoped that divisional members could consider the feedback with officers shortly and that all feedback had been received during the consultation period.

32/18 PETITIONS [Item 5]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Nick Healey, Area Highways Manager

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: 1 petitions was received

The petitioner presented the petition and explained that the noise from speeding lorries at night is causing disturbance and the vibration is causing damage to property. A reduction in the speed limit would help to mitigate this.

Member discussion –key points

Members expressed their support for the petition to bring the speed limit in line with other local roads and noted that speeding vehicles make it a very dangerous road for cycling. The Area Highway Manager responded that a decision to make a previous change to the speed limit had been taken on the basis of an old speed limit policy and a different decision may have been made if it had been assessed against the current policy which is based on mean speeds as there are high levels of congestion at some times of day. Highways England have been asked to review the speed in line with the current policy, however it is possible that a reduction, if agreed, will not impact on driver behaviour particularly at night. Highways England also have funding available for cycling schemes and they have been asked to consider possible routes in this area.

The Committee noted the officer response.

33/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 6]

Confirmed as a correct record

34/18 MEMBER QUESTION TIME [Item 7]

No member questions were received.

35/18 HIGHWAYS UPDATE [EXECUTIVE FUNCTION - FOR DECISION] [Item 8]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Nick Healey, Area Highways Manager

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: None

Member discussion –key points

The Chairman expressed his gratitude for the amount of maintenance work which has taken place in the Borough recently.

The divisional member asked on behalf of a resident what the rationale was behind the works taking place at Danes Hill School, funded by the school and why residents had not been consulted. The Area Highways Manager responded that where works on the highway are proposed by a third party these would only be agreed if the benefits are thought to be of benefit to the community. The local member is informed of the proposals as well as those directly affected, although in this case only the school is a frontager. The school had undertaken to inform local residents.

Members discussed the bollards in Sunbury Lane, Walton and were supportive in seeking a new Traffic Regulation Order so that they do not need to be removed.

Mrs Lewis reported that all members had received an allowance of £7,500 to spend on individual projects. She had spent £500 on signs which accounts for the slightly lower figure for her area appearing in Annex D of the report.

The Area Highways Manager confirmed that the resurfacing of Elm Road would take place in this financial year, but it is not listed yet as it has not been formally programmed.

Resolved:

- (i) To approve the provisional allocation of budgets for 2019-20 as shown in Table 3 of the report;
- (ii) To add five schemes as set out in paragraph 2.14 of the report to the forward programme for feasibility studies, to be funded from the parking surplus;
- (iii) [On a motion proposed by the Chairman and seconded by the Vice-chairman it was unanimously agreed]

To allocate funding from the Committee's budget for a new traffic regulation order, so that the bollards that currently prevent vehicular access to the end of Sunbury Lane, Walton can be retained;

- (iv) To authorise the Area Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Member(s) to undertake all necessary procedures to deliver the agreed programmes.

Reasons: Recommendations are made to facilitate development of Committee's 2019-20 Highways programmes, while at the same time

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ensuring that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and relevant Divisional Members are fully and appropriately involved in any detailed considerations.

Committee is asked to provide the necessary authorisation to deliver its programmes of work in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and relevant Divisional Member without the need to revert to the Committee as a whole.

36/18 PRESENTATION FROM SCC LEAD CABINET MEMBERS FOR PEOPLE AND PLACE [SERVICE MONITORING AND ISSUES OF LOCAL CONCERN - AGENDA ITEM] [Item 9]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers/members attending: Tim Oliver, SCC Lead Cabinet Member for People; Sarah Parker, Director of Transformation, Surrey Heartlands Health and Care Partnership

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: None

Member discussion –key points

Tim Oliver and Sarah Parker gave a presentation on changes to support the health and wellbeing of residents. As is well known, the County Council has significant budget pressures, arising from increased costs in adult social care and special educational needs, which account for a significant portion of the budget. In order to manage cost a process of transformation is underway to focus on early help and prevention, whilst maintaining front line services. Members have already seen the vision and going forward the County Council will be looking to have a greater understanding of residents priorities and be more transparent. Tim Oliver will also be presenting some of this information as part of a series of events for local residents which he is attending as Leader of the Borough council

Only 20% of health needs are influenced by health care, the remaining 80% are influenced by other factors. He reported that 51.9% of Elmbridge residents are recorded as being overweight or obese and that this can affect the demand for services. Members requested more information on the obesity statistics. Although Elmbridge is the 2nd least deprived of the 11 Surrey Boroughs and Districts there are still significant pockets of deprivation.

In 2011, 73% of Elmbridge households were owner-occupiers, whilst 15% rented-privately. The amount of social rented housing is limited, at 10%, well below the national rate of 18% so there is a challenge to provide affordable housing in the Borough. There is also a need to improve public transport in order to reduce the reliance on car use.

Surrey Heartlands is looking at changing systems so they are not centred around hospitals and integrating with other agencies by joining up computer systems and co-locating staff. The emphasis will be on partnership and working together rather than on competition between providers.

Members were concerned that the Citizens Advice Bureau which provides an important service is having to relocate from its current premises. It was reported that their current office is located in a building which has come to the

end of its life. They have been offered limited space in the Civic Centre and at outreach venues around the Borough, but it is for them to decide how and where they wish to operate.

Members were aware that many GP practices and NHS dentists were full and not accepting new patients and how this would be addressed with a growing population. It was acknowledged that there is a shortage of qualified staff to fill posts, however consideration is being given to changes in processes to allow GPs to spend more time with patients. It was raised that a GP practice is being relocated to a premises with limited parking and no bus service and it being suggested that patients should walk or cycle. This was not thought to be helpful. Sarah Parker was unable to comment on the reasons behind the decision, but acknowledged that primary health services should be accessible.

The Committee thanked Tim Oliver and Sarah Parker for the presentation.

37/18 LOCAL COMMITTEE DECISION TRACKER [FOR DECISION] [Item 10]

The Committee noted the completed actions and agreed to remove these from the tracker.

38/18 FORWARD PLAN [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 11]

Noted the forward plan for the Committee,

Members suggested that the Committee consider reports on the recycling strategy and air quality. Air quality measurement is a matter for the Borough Council although the County may be involved in implementing measures to reduce emissions and improve air quality.

39/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 12]

Monday 26 November at 4pm in Elmbridge Civic Centre.

Meeting ended at: 5.49 pm

Chairman

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