

DRAFT

Minutes of the meeting of the
Runnymede LOCAL COMMITTEE
 held at 6.30 pm on 19 February 2018
 at The Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Station Road, Addlestone KT15 2AH.

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Mrs Mary Angell (Chairman)
- * Mr Mark Nuti (Vice-Chairman)
- * Mrs Yvonna Lay
- * Mr Mel Few
- * Mr John Furey
- * Miss Marisa Heath

Borough / District Members:

- * Councillor David Parr
- * Councillor Nick Prescott
- Councillor Mike Kusneraitis
- Councillor Barry Pitt
- * Councillor Jacqui Gracey

* In attendance

1/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received by Miss Heath who would be arriving late due to a previous appointment.

Cllr Barry Pitt and Cllr Mike Kusneraitis were absent.

2/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting on 27 November.

3/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

No declarations of interest were declared.

4/18 PETITIONS & LETTERS OF REPRESENTATION [Item 4]

The petition related to speeding issues on Fordwater Road in Chertsey. The lead petitioner was in attendance to hear his petition being considered.

The Senior Traffic Engineer, explained that speeding vehicles are a constant problem on roads throughout Surrey and that the Highways team are

constantly working with Surrey Police to combat them but have limited resources by which to address them.

This site will be added to the Speed Management Plan for continued assessment and monitoring but sites deemed to have a more severe problem will be prioritised.

It has been suggested that a community speed watch be established in the area so that concerned residents can take part in monitoring speed levels of vehicles travelling through their area. The Petitioner expressed that he and his fellow residents felt that taking part in this presented a safety risk, but it was pointed out that the police provide equipment and training and that a number of these groups exist and have been successful.

It was also noted that new beacons will shortly be installed at the zebra crossing to improve pedestrian safety and that a repair to improve the road surface will take place as part of the 2018/19 schedule.

(Miss Heath arrived during this item at 18.47)

The Local Committee (Runnymede) noted that:

(i) Fordwater Road/Weir Road is an existing site on the Runnymede speed management plan but is not currently being prioritised for speed enforcement or other measures.

(ii) Fordwater Road/Weir Road will be retained on the speed management plan and vehicle speeds and collision rates will be continue to be monitored.

(iii) That new beacons using halo LED lighting will shortly be installed at the zebra crossing on Fordwater Road.

(iv) An order has been placed to carry out a repair to a defect identified in Fordwater Road once new budget allocations are received in April 2018.

5/18 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]

No written questions had been received

6/18 WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 6]

No members' questions had been received.

7/18 DECISION TRACKER [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 7]

The Partnership Committee Officer explained that items that were closed on the decision tracker would be removed for the next meeting. In addition to this, there were a number of items that it was recommended could now be closed. No objections were raised to any of these recommendations.

8/18 EARLY HELP PRIORITIES FOR RUNNYMEDE [FOR DECISION] [Item 8]

The Chairman suggested that this item was deferred until the next meeting. A report was due to be heard by Cabinet the following week and it was thought that it would be prudent to know the outcomes of this before considering it at committee.

In addition, the Chairman provided the officer with significant feedback on the report and asked that it be re-written to reflect her observations.

The Local Committee (Runnymede) agreed:

- (i) to defer the report until the next meeting.

Reason:

The Committee wanted to await the outcome of the report that will be heard by Cabinet later this month.

9/18 ADDRESS FROM CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 9]

The Cabinet Member for Highways came to Committee to update them on his vision for the year ahead. This followed his visit to the Committee last November.

Since publishing his report, amendments had been made and these were clarified at the beginning of his address.

The first of these is to clarify the responsibility for grass-cutting:

Runnymede Borough Council have agreed to manage grass cutting in your Borough. It will be for the Borough Council to determine service levels but at a minimum they will be cutting the urban grass four times and the rural grass twice. Within Runnymede there is about 316,000 square metres of urban highway grass and 202,000 sq metres of rural highway grass. Areas classified as “urban” are normally verges in residential areas.

In annex 1 there are 2 schemes which are marked as cancelled. The Cabinet Member explained that these has been suspended pending remedial repair works and that both schemes would be carried out when the repairs had been completed.

The Cabinet Member stated that his reason for returning was because he was keen to communicate with committee members and get their feedback on future Highways programmes.

The budget for the forthcoming year would see an additional £1.4 million allocated to committees for highways improvements. This gives each committee £168,000 per year. There are also changes to the Members' Allocations this year which would allow Surrey County Councillors to allocate funds to improvements in their divisions.

The Cabinet Member would like to put committees at the heart of local decision making on Highways issues in their areas and as part of that would like them to get involved with costing and prioritising projects in their areas.

The Committee raised that in a previous Horizon schedule, there was an undertaking to improve Station Road, Addlestone which is in a poor state. It was felt by the Committee that in light of the redevelopment of Addlestone that the main road leading through it should be in a good condition in order to enhance and support the new development. The Cabinet Member agreed and committed to looking into this.

It was also noted that committee members were happy with the suggested gritting routes that had been proposed for next winter at their informal meeting.

The Cabinet Member stated that he would like to address the committee the same time next year which the committee was in agreement with.

10/18 HIGHWAYS UPDATE [FOR DECISION] [Item 10]

The Committee noted the points made in the report.

The Senior Traffic Engineer presented the report to update the committee on the status of the 2017/18 programme and look at preparations for the year ahead.

It was reported that the Runnymede roundabout may be delayed until summer of 2018 and not completed by March as planned. This is because of problems with underground utilities which have been detected and need to be worked around. The Traffic Engineer explained that sometimes, the plans that they are working off, are not up to date and although trial holes can be dug to investigate where utilities are located, it is not always possible to avoid them.

The officer also advised that the plan of the works on the report was quite simplistic but a more detailed map could be found online.

11/18 COMMUNITY SAFETY FUNDING AND MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 11]

The Partnership Officer presented the report which outlined the projects which had been allocated community safety funding this year. These were: "Respect the Water" which improves safety alongside rivers and shores and "Safe Drive, Stay Alive" which promotes safer driving habits in young people. The report also updated committee members on the Members' Allocations scheme.

With reference to the "Respect the Water" campaign, a picture showing an example of a throw line sign was shown to the committee. It was noted that the throw line signs would be located at areas recommended by rescue services.

It was noted that despite the £3,000 allocation being a relatively small amount of money, the projects supported had a lot of impact and therefore represented very good value for money. Compliments were also passed to the Partnerships team for their support and effective delivery of both initiatives.

12/18 FORWARD PLAN [FOR DECISION] [Item 12]

The Committee agreed that the topics should be added to the Forward Programme **and that the deferred report should also be added.**

It was recognised by the Chairman that as Runnymede are looking to launch a Joint Committee in May, the forward programme would be developed to include items of both borough and county concern.

Meeting ended at: 7:57

Chairman

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