



SURREY

**SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY) 22 March 2019****AGENDA ITEM 6****WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS****1. Waverley Borough and Farnham Town Councillor David Beaman will ask the following question:**

“In order to improve pedestrian safety, a number of residents of Red Lion Lane and users of Farnham Maltings have asked whether either a traffic light controlled or zebra pedestrian crossing could be provided on Longbridge, where there are already dropped kerbs on either side of the road near the bridge over the River Wey with Farnham Maltings on one side of the road and the entrance to Gostrey Meadow on the other side of the road, with appropriate warning signs on Firgrove Hill. This crossing point is used on a daily basis by a significant number of people, many of whom are elderly and less mobile with the opening of the sheltered housing (Hawthorn Lodge) on the old Police Station site. There have been a number of reported "near misses" and unless some form of controlled pedestrian crossing is provided it can only be a matter of time before an accident occurs?”

**Frank Apicella, SCC Area Highway Manager (South West), will give the following answer:**

“A controlled crossing such as a zebra or pelican crossing could be installed in Longbridge at the location of the existing uncontrolled crossing point by the bridge. The cost would be in the region of £60,000 for a zebra crossing and £130,000 for a pelican crossing. An analysis of the collision data for Longbridge shows that there are no recorded injury accidents on file involving pedestrians, which does not suggest that an immediate safety problem exists at this time in terms of a history of poor road safety. The Local Committee would need to determine if they wished to prioritise and fund a controlled crossing for Longbridge. Any proposal would have to be looked at holistically with all the other current and future proposals for Farnham which are being developed. The junction of Downing Street and Union Road is proposed to have a zebra crossing introduced as part of the Brightwells development.”

**2. Waverley Borough and Farnham Town Councillor David Beaman will ask the following question:**

“South Western Railway have announced that their proposed new direct half hourly rail service between Farnham and Guildford will commence from 19<sup>th</sup> May. Given the concerns that were expressed at the meeting of the Waverley

## ITEM 6

Local Committee at its meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017 regarding the consequences on traffic in Central Farnham arising from the level crossing to be closed for longer periods of time arising from the introduction of the new rail service, what action is being taken to mitigate these effects? (The Farnham Herald has reported that Network Rail is planning to meet the highways authority regarding this matter.)”

**Paul Millin, SCC Strategic Transport Group Manager, will give the following answer:**

“Following a public consultation a new timetable is due to come into operation on May 19, supplementing the changes introduced on 9 December last year. The County Council responded to the consultation, raising the issues and impacts of additional level crossing down time at key crossing points. Officers of the council are meeting Network Rail and South Western Railway in early April to specifically discuss Farnham level crossing to see what improvements can be implemented to mitigate the impact of additional down time.”

**3. Waverley Borough and Godalming Town Councillor Andrew Bolton will ask the following question:**

“There has been a history of large vehicles leaving the A3 and travelling along Priorsfield and Hurtmore roads until they come to the junction with Charterhouse Rd, realising there is a low bridge half way down the hill and turning round, sometimes jack-knifing, delaying traffic and tearing up the grass verge. Today, 14/3/19, I saw workmen putting prominent warning signs at the junction. Prevention is better than a cure, I asked them whether they had instructions to put signs when leaving the A3. They said it was not on their list. When can we have better signs for the roundabout when leaving the A3?”

**Frank Apicella, SCC Area Highway Manager (South West), will give the following answer:**

“A full review of all of the existing Charterhouse bridge advanced warning signs, including the exits from the A3 at Shackleford, Hurtmore and Compton, was carried out in 2018. The review noted that there are clear warning signs on all of the junctions for the Charterhouse bridge. However, due to a number of complaints from residents about heavy goods vehicles turning at Twycross Road, a comprehensive sign upgrade programme was commissioned by Cllr Penny Rivers and is currently being carried out which will replace and upgrade all of the existing advanced warning signs between Twycross Road and the A3, with additional signs being placed at the A3 junctions, together with diversion routes for over height vehicles to use the B3000 in Compton for access to Godalming and Guildford. The vast majority of the signs are contained within the Guildford borough area, therefore, the Waverley Highways team have been working with the Guildford Highways Team to progress this work.”

**4. Mr Stewart Edge will ask the following question:**

“The Chairman rejected a petition to this Committee for this meeting signed by 82 local residents which asked for a full assessment of possible improvements for both pedestrians and traffic at and around the Crondall Lane / West St junction in Farnham – in particular in the light of the Hopfields development (now in progress) and the existence of over £200,000 in S106 moneys and a S278 work commitment (due before 1<sup>st</sup> occupation) from the development.

Can these concerned residents be given a commitment that:

- a) Proposals for the final allocation of the S106 funds, and the final nature of the S278 work, will include carrying out the assessments requested in the petition? and
- b) That such proposals will be available for public review and comments before decisions are made (for example through a future agenda item on this Committee)?”

**Richard Cooper, SCC Principal Transport Development Planner, will give the following answer:**

- (a) “Proposals for spending the S106 funding from the Hopfields development will include an assessment for improving pedestrian safety and traffic flow at the Crondall Lane junction with West Street.
- (b) The s106 money from the Hopfields development was for Farnham town centre sustainable transport. There are currently plans in place to look at the traffic arrangements in the centre of Farnham and this junction of Crondall Lane will be reviewed as part of this process. It is important that the town centre is looked at as a whole and that individual junctions are not considered separately, as there needs to be a holistic approach to the traffic in Farnham. As the new plans for the centre of Farnham are developed, there will be opportunities for this committee and other bodies, such as Farnham Town Council, to feed in their views on the revised highways scheme.”

**5. Waverley Borough Councillors Andrew Bolton and Paul Follows will ask the following question:**

“At the previous local committee session (14/12/18) we submitted the following question:

*“Waverley Borough Council has recently completed the construction of some council houses on Ockford Ridge, Godalming and as a consequence some roads have changed. The change appears to encourage faster traffic, has led to poorer sight lines and inconvenient parking. Can officers review the current road layout and consider whether traffic calming measures and yellow lines be introduced?”*

## ITEM 6

This was followed by a supplementary question regarding the monitoring programme (including time of day it would be carried out).

Could we have a formal update on the progress of the monitoring programme that was discussed and of the review and of the wider concerns referred to in our initial question?

**Richard Cooper, SCC Principal Transport Development Planner, and Jack Roberts, SCC Parking Team Engineer, will give the following answer:**

“With regard to the development funded highway works to which the question refers, I advise that these have been subject to the county council’s rigorous safety and technical checks. The new highway layout has been in use since July 2018 and there is no evidence that the highway works have resulted in faster traffic or poor sightlines.

On completion of the works by the developer in July 2018, SCC’s Road Safety team carried out a site visit to identify any safety problems with the amended layout. Their report did not identify any safety problems associated with traffic speeds or parking. There was one problem identified with regard to visibility for pedestrians where a new uncontrolled crossing has been installed. This has been rectified by trimming back an overgrown hedge.

In terms of accidents, there have been no Personal Injury Accidents on Ockford Ridge since the works were completed.

The Parking Engineer is aware of the further assessment he needs to carry out in Ockford Ridge, which includes visits in the early evening, but commitments in other boroughs has meant he hasn’t yet been able to do this.

However, it’s his full intention to do this when he is next due to be working around Waverley and he still intends to provide further updates to Cllr Bolton and Cllr Follows once he’s done it, as he promised at December’s local committee.”

**6. Waverley Borough Councillor Paul Follows will ask the following question:**

In regards to the Wharf Children’s Centre, Godalming, could the local committee:

- 1) Describe any changes to service provision and scope of activity in regards to the Wharf Children’s Centre
- 2) Briefly explain why any changes to services at this centre are necessary.
- 3) Briefly explain what (if anything) the services are replaced with.
- 4) Give assurances that there will be appropriate alternative services for the current users of the centre and that individuals will not get lost during the transition/change period?
- 5) What communication has gone out to parents and staff?

**Nigel Denning, SCC Early Help Transformation Lead, will give the following answer:**

“The Wharf Children’s Centre is based in Godalming town centre delivering services for all families with children 0 – 5 years primarily from the Eashing Building on Green Oak Primary School. The town centre site offers maintained nursery provision and has a community room which is used to deliver some children’s centre activities.

Currently the centre offers a range of services for all families.

It has been recognised that although children’s centres like The Wharf have focused their efforts on families in need of additional help, more needs to be done to encourage families with more complex needs to participate and engage in services that will enable their children to thrive and remain safely at home. We need to reach the families that currently do not attend Children’s Centres.

The remodelling of the children’s centres to become Family Centres offering services for targeted families only will enable the council to focus resources on families in greatest need of early help. Family Centres including The Wharf will no longer offer universal services for all families but will encourage families to access other local services. Families will be signposted to the Family Information Directory and to other local information sources. Universal child and family health services for example breastfeeding and infant feeding advice will continue to be offered by the health visiting service either from a Family Centre, which for the Godalming area will be at Loseley Fields Children’s Centre site, or in local community venues which could include the Eashing Building.

The current range of services offered by The Wharf may still be offered for target families depending on need.

During the transition phase when The Wharf becomes a satellite centre, families already receiving a specific family support service will continue to be supported by the outreach worker team. Families will ultimately be supported by the lead provider who will be running the new Family Centre.

Children’s Centre managers and head teachers have been invited to attend engagement sessions to hear about the proposed changes to children’s centres, help shape the new Family Centre specification and be updated on the processes and timelines for implementation. Regular communications are sent to the children’s centres and the council’s children’s centre advisors continue to visit and support the centre staff through the transition.

Information on the outcome of the public consultation is available for all residents on the Surrey Website and a new page explaining the changes to children’s centres and Family Centres is now on the Family Information Service (FIS) webpages. This will be updated regularly from April for each District and Borough. Children’s centres have been asked to add the link to the FIS

## ITEM 6

webpages to their own websites so that families can be kept informed of developments in their area.”

---

## **AGENDA ITEM 7**

### **WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS**

No member questions have been received.