



## **SPELTHORNE JOINT COMMITTEE – 15 July, 2019**

### **AGENDA ITEM 7**

#### **WRITTEN MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

**A question has been raised by Mr Robert Evans**

**Can the members have an update on what is happening regarding the old Oast House site?**

#### **Officer response:**

Spelthorne Borough Council have expressed an interest in acquiring this site and the negotiations are ongoing. Nothing further can be shared at the time of writing due to commercial sensitivities although the appropriate Borough officers will share updates with the Partnership Officer if and when there is progress.

If there has been any further progress in the interim time then the Partnership Officer will provide a verbal update at the meeting.

**The following questions were submitted by Cllr Tom Fidler**

- 1) Whilst the Eco-Park is in the commissioning phase, the site is now 18 months behind schedule. Despite these delays, local residents are already suffering from the damage caused by heavy-duty vehicles, an issue which is only going to get worse and that patchwork repairs have not been sufficient on. Can this committee prioritise the roads local to the site, with particular reference to Charlton Lane and the Upper Halliford bypass as well as other affected roads and thereafter being maintained in good order?**

#### **Officer response:**

Neither Charlton Lane nor the Upper Halliford Bypass feature on any countywide investment programme, as neither road is currently a priority from a county wide point of view. The County Council's capital investment programmes, together with details of the road selection process, are available on the County Council's website

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/spelthorne](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/spelthorne)

here: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/horizon-highway-maintenance-investment-programme>.

The Joint Committee receives annual budgets that may be used for road maintenance, and could prioritise the sites mentioned. Officers would recommend that any investment ahead of completion of the Eco Park could potentially be premature. Officers would also recommend that any investment decisions take into account priorities across the Borough. The decision to priorities sites for investment rests with the Joint Committee.

Surrey County Council will continue to keep these roads safe through our regular programme of safety inspections and repairs to any Safety Defects we become aware of.

- 2) The Community Infrastructure Levy Task Group, established alongside the Joint Committee has no fixed meeting schedule and appears not to have met recently. The subsequent changes in the leaders cabinet now means that the Spelthorne Portfolios have now changed and the Portfolio for Planning and Economic Development no longer exists. Can this Committee clarify allocations based on the new Spelthorne Cabinet and that the Terms of Reference for that task group and the role of the Joint Committee in this process are discussed and amended as appropriate?**

Officer response:

The portfolio referred to above is currently *vacant* not deleted and will be appointed to by the Leader of the Borough Council once he has assessed successors to this position. Memberships to task groups and external bodies and the respective Terms of Reference will be discussed by the Committee as part of item 14 of the agenda as it does at the beginning of each municipal year and members will have the opportunity to discuss any changes that they think need to be made.

- 3) The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Task group has now not presented in two years on the plans for the reinvestment of this money. Can this committee, who are responsible for the allocation of spending of the Community Infrastructure Levy get an update on how it is currently being spent and any decisions that have been made in the last 2 years that may require our consideration as decisions are not clear in the current structure and not visible from the minutes of past meetings?**

Officer response:

As per their Terms of Reference, the CIL Task Group meets *when needed*.

The CIL Task Group last met on 21 February 2017 to discuss committing CIL monies of £356,000 to the Wider Staines Sustainable Travel Package, which was agreed by the Joint Committee on 20 March 2017. The Wider Staines STP covers seven schemes across Stanwell, Stanwell Moor, Staines and Ashford. A number of the schemes have now been completed and an amount of funding was received from

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/spelthorne](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/spelthorne)

Heathrow Airport Limited (HAL) to support the project, particularly for the works around Stanwell and Stanwell Moor. The CIL commitment will be used for completing the remaining schemes, one of which being works on Town Lane (from the A30 to Park Road) which is due to commence in Autumn 2019. The CIL money will be paid on completion once invoices for the works have been submitted.

The Task Group has not met since then as the CIL monies were still accruing and we had no further bids to consider. Now that the CIL monies have grown, officers at Spelthorne have set up an internal officer group to meet infrastructure providers, assist them in developing their CIL bids and to advise the CIL Task Group when bids are made. So far they have met representatives from healthcare, highways and leisure with future meetings planned to cover education. One of these providers is now in a position to finalise their CIL bid and officers will be convening a Task Group meeting in the near future to discuss whether the bid is recommended to the Joint Committee.

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