

## Open Forum Session

### Mole Valley Local Committee Meeting – 11 March 2020

#### **1. Question from Roy Welch:**

There are Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) in Beare Green and North Holmwoods that don't work. I have been in touch with local councillors and my MP about this issue and received feedback that these won't be maintained mainly due to lack of funds. These cameras are obviously there for a reason. And since the introduction of the average speed cameras in Mickleham the traffic from there has been displaced down the A24. I recently counted along this stretch, 10 traffic signs that don't work, are broken, or are knocked over. I would like to know what can be done. Is there any existing budget for the repair and upkeep of these signs?

**Response from Zena Curry:** I have been contacted by your MP Sir Paul Beresford. I have sent his correspondence to another resident, but this can be sent to you as well if you'd like. If I could ask you to put this in writing including details of which signs and I will pass this to the Road Safety & Active Travel Team Manager for a detailed response.

**Response from Roy Welch:** I raised something at the meeting in September about vandalism to a sign on the corner of my road and there doesn't seem to have been any progress with this. Could I get an update on that too?

**Response from Zena Curry:** You can report signs that are missing via our website

**Response from Claire Malcomson:** This road is dangerous and is always being brought up as something of concern. We are always trying to get VAS signs up and running again. This sign has been reported several times to SCC.

#### **2. Question from Jeremy Benham:**

Road conditions in Kennel Lane is something I last raised in 2017. Since this time, I had thought this would at least have been looked at. The road surface is sinking and breaking up and there lots of large potholes, that are filled in. However still problems remain. The vibrations along the concrete road caused by buses and due to the poor road condition make it harder for neighbouring properties. This road wasn't built for heavy duty traffic. There have been several roads in the surrounding area that have recently benefited from being resurfaced. Where does this road sit on the priority list?

**Response from Clare Curran:** This is happening across my division and I agree with what Mr Benham is saying.

**Response from Raj Haque:** I have put this road forward on many occasions to get something done and as of now nothing has happened.

**Response from Zena Curry:** SCC operate an asset management led approach to prioritisation of road works. There are lots of similar concrete-based roads across Surrey. I will take this back to the team to take a look at. This is not on the Horizons programme for next year (2020-21). I will ask the Maintenance Engineer to go out and have a look to see what the problem is and what can be done. Your divisional member (Mrs Curran) will also put this forward to the Asset Management team to ask for this to be done.

### 3. Question from Cllr Caroline Salmon:

The ramps of the Beare Green subway have successfully been topped this weekend.

I was always aware that the ramps to the Beare Green subway were “Highways” responsibility and the base of the subway is “Structures”, but I cannot believe that there really is absolutely no joined up thinking in Surrey County Council on a piece of work which obviously should have been done at the same time!

Thorne Engineering were doing the ramp work working through Keir this weekend and the ramps are now by far the best paths in Beare Green, but the subway base footpath is not done.

I spoke to the supervisor today and he stated that the base was specifically excluded from their quote, although they were happy to do it (actually costed it) and could have done it this weekend whilst the subway was closed using the same workforce and tarmac lorry and equipment.

I am presuming that the subway will be done soon, but it will have to be closed again causing more inconvenience and cost.

Can you confirm if the subway’s base work is on any schedule to be done?

**Response from Helyn Clack:** We did have a meeting about the subway recently and I wanted to check what had happened following this.

**Response from Zena Curry:** The work on the ramps were funded by Helyn Clack’s capital funding. There wasn’t enough money to do all the subways and bases at that time. The Structures team have noted that although it didn’t look attractive the surface didn’t need any maintenance at this time. If the base had been resurfaced this would have further restricted the headroom in the subway. There are many other areas across the county that need works doing and unfortunately these have been prioritised as higher need at this time.

**Response from Helyn Clack:** It would be useful to have a list of the bridges and subways that need work doing including which ones have been prioritised.

### 4. Helyn Clack on behalf of Buckland Parish Council:

When Buckland Parish Council met this evening (9<sup>th</sup> March), Council, having reviewed the papers presented to the last meeting of the SCC Mole Valley Local Committee noted:

- i) The SCC Mole Valley Local Committee Integrated Transport Scheme Programme for 2021/2022 allocates £10,000 to fund the implementation of a reduction in the speed limit (from 50mph to 40mph) on a section of the A25 Reigate Road through Betchworth following speed surveys undertaken in 2018;
- ii) SCC Highways had since advised the proposal is to reduce the speed limit to the west of Betchworth roundabout but not to include the short section of A25 with a 50mph speed limit to the east of the roundabout.
- iii) If this proposal is implemented, a 40mph speed limit will apply to the A25 between Dorking and Reigate except for the short section between Betchworth roundabout and the Buckland/Betchworth parish boundary close to Tranquil Dale.

Buckland Parish Council respectfully suggests a 40mph speed limit be applied to the complete length of the A25 between Dorking and Reigate. As the 40mph signs, currently positioned on the parish boundary could be relocated to replace the 50mph signs currently sited on the eastern exit of the roundabout there would not be any requirement for new full-sized signs. The only incremental cost would appear to be the modest cost of installing 40mph repeater signs to emphasise the speed reduction.

Will the Local Committee commit to support this request?

**Response from Zena Curry:** The Senior Traffic Engineer had raised this issue with road safety working group in February. The Road Safety Team said they would carry out a speed survey to see if this section complied with the SCC policy to reduce speed limit to 40mph. If this section complies then the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) would need to be changed and it could have some cost associated with it.

**Response from Helyn Clack:** It is felt that this short section of 50mph will cause confusion to drivers and non-compliance of the speed limit.

**Response from Zena Curry:** There is a concern that if this section is not compliant with the SCC Policy then there may be a need to extend the 50mph zone.

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