

Minutes of the meeting of the
Elmbridge LOCAL COMMITTEE
 held at 4.00 pm on 5 December 2019
 at Committee Rooms 1/2, Elmbridge Civic Centre, High Street, Esher, KT10
 9SD.

These minutes are subject to confirmation by the Committee at its next meeting.

Surrey County Council Members:

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

Borough / District Members:

- Cllr David J Archer
- * Cllr Steve Bax
- * Cllr Andrew Davis
- Cllr Roy Green
- * Cllr Peter Harman
- * Cllr Mary Marshall
- * Cllr Christine Richardson
- Cllr Mrs Mary Sheldon
- * Cllr Graham Woolgar

* In attendance

OPEN FORUM

The questions asked in the open forum and the responses provided are attached to the minutes.

44/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Borough Councillors, David Archer, Roy Green and Mary Sheldon and County Councillor Tony Samuels. Cllr Chris Sadler substituted for Cllr Green.

45/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 2]

There were no declarations of interest.

46/19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 3]

The Chairman reported that the recent meeting of Local and Joint Committee Chairmen had received updates on the introduction of Local Partnership Boards, where a trial is planned in Reigate & Banstead and Runnymede; £270m funding from the County Council for flood alleviation schemes of which £237m will be allocated to the River Thames Scheme and the rest to smaller local projects; the reopening of the Leatherhead community recycling centre on Fridays and the move of County Hall to Woking next year.

47/19 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS [Item 4]

Two public questions had been received, the questions and responses are set out in the agenda and supplementary agenda. The following additional points were made:

Question 1: The questioner was unable to attend. The local divisional member was sympathetic to the request and felt that there was scope to cut back vegetation to make the footway wider. The Area Highway Manager responded that on the South side of the road there is a linear park which may be owned by the Borough Council and there could be potential for a cycle route through this. It is not clear whether some of the vegetation is on private land which can make getting it cut back more difficult. He agreed to investigate further and report back to the member.

Question 2: The questioner was unable to attend. It was queried in Item 10 (p215) why the Borough Council had suggested that the proposed scheme for Hare Lane should be funded from local CIL. The Area Highways Manager agreed to take advice from the Borough Council on the most appropriate place to submit a bid. He also reported that it is a very narrow road so it would be difficult to make the pavements wider without either making it single file or taking land from gardens. The introduction of a 20 mph scheme would need to be self-enforcing and could not be implemented with signs alone. If the Committee were to support such a scheme additional funding would be required for traffic calming measures.

48/19 PETITIONS [Item 5]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Nick Healey, Area Highways Manager; Adrian Harris, Parking Engineer

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: Three petitions were received

Petition 1: Elizabeth Donovan outlined the reasons for the petition. Many residents would like to walk children to school down Steels Lane, but the pavement is narrow only on one side and vehicles travel fast. She had hired a speed recorder which had been sited by the Oxshott sports centre. Of the 16,000 vehicles recorded 10,000 were exceeding the speed limit. At 9.00am 333 vehicles drove between 20 and 30 mph; 732 drove at between 30 and 50 mph and 1 drove between 50 and 60mph. The petitioner would like to see the installation of a speed table and a 20mph speed limit.

Petition 2: Ros Rowlatt presented the petition, indicating that the joint between the concrete slab had expanded and residents can both hear and feel the effects in their properties, particularly when HGVs pass over. This is affecting their quality of life as a result of sleep disturbance and properties are developing cracks. They have also witnessed accidents particularly for motorcyclists. Residents have been told this is not a priority, as it is not a safety defect, although the Cabinet member for Highways has agreed that a repair is necessary.

Petition 3: Michael O'Sullivan (Chair) of Wey Road & Round Oak Road Residents

Association indicated that between 750 and 1000 commuter vehicles park in Weybridge each year. The town needs long stay parking, but not at the expense of short term parking and inconvenience for residents. He is not requesting a resident only parking scheme and wants to make space available for short term parking for those wanting to access the town for shopping or business.

Member discussion –key points

Petition 1: The Area Highway Manager responded that it is not unusual for drivers to exceed the speed limit as they make decisions on speed based on a variety of factors of which the speed limit is only one. Average speed cameras are effective at reducing speeds but need to be prioritised at sites with known casualties. It is likely that technology will be introduced in the near future which will automatically limit vehicle speeds which will remove the need for traffic calming. A feasibility study to look at options could be considered, but it was agreed that any further action should await the outcome of the traffic study currently in progress.

Petition 2: The Area Highways Manager reported that conversations are still taking place with the utility company to determine whether they should complete a repair, the Local Committee could agree to make a repair if this is unsuccessful. Carrying out the repair and seeking to recoup the cost could result in the loss of evidence of the quality of the original repair. The Committee were concerned at the effects on the health and wellbeing of residents and asked the Area Highways Manager to follow up further with those involved with a view to resolving the issue as soon as possible.

Petition 3: the divisional member was sympathetic to looking at an option for short term parking in this area and proposed that it should be added to the current parking review proposals on the agenda.

Resolved: That it was agreed:

Petition 1:

To await the outcome of the current Blundel Lane traffic study before considering further action.

Petition 3: [On a motion proposed by Tim Oliver and seconded by Cllr Harman it was agreed]

That the Parking Strategy and Implementation Manager to consider and agree the details of parking restrictions in Wey Road and Round Oak Road to

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be added to the 2019/20 parking review, in consultation with the divisional member and Local Committee Chairman.

Reasons: Petition 1 to ensure that available data can be fed into any future investigation. Petition 3 to better regulate parking and improve access to shops, facilities and businesses.

49/19 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 6]

Confirmed as a correct record.

50/19 MEMBER QUESTION TIME [Item 7]

There were no member questions.

51/19 ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATH BETWEEN LITTLEHEATH LANE AND WATER LANE, COBHAM, ESHER [FOR DECISION - OTHER COUNTY COUNCIL FUNCTIONS] [Item 8]

As a result of correspondence received shortly before the meeting this item was withdrawn from the agenda. It will be considered at the meeting on 17 March 2020.

52/19 ELMBRIDGE PARKING REVIEW 2019-20 [FOR DECISION - EXECUTIVE FUNCTION] [Item 9]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Adrian Harris, Parking Engineer

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: One petition was received, see minute 48/19

Member discussion –key points

Members discussed some of the proposals and requested some minor changes as outlined below. The Parking Engineer was thanked for his hard work and the exemplary manor in which the review was conducted.

Resolved to agree:

- i. The county council's intention to introduce the proposals as detailed in Annex 1 is formally advertised, and subject to statutory consultation, subject to the following additions:

Restrictions to be considered in Wey Road and Road Oak road as outlined in minute 48/19 above;
St Mary's Road, Long Ditton, to remove 4 parking spaces to improve sight lines;

- ii. That if necessary, adjustments can be made to the proposals by the parking team manager in consultation with the chairman, vice-chairman and county councillor prior to advertisement.

- iii. The county council's intention to carry out an informal consultation about a permit parking scheme for Weston Green Road as detailed in Annex 1, and, subject to satisfactory responses, refine the proposals before being formally advertised and subject to statutory consultation.
- iv. That if objections are received the Parking Strategy and Implementation Team Manager is authorised to try and resolve them;
- v. That if any objections cannot be resolved, the Parking Strategy and Implementation Team Manager, in consultation with the Chairman/Vice Chairman of this committee and the county councillor for the division, decides whether or not they should be acceded to and therefore whether the order should be made, with or without modifications.
- vi. To note responses to various petitions (parking scheme request forms) that have been received for consideration as part of this review, as detailed in Annex 2.
- vii. To note the locations where we have received requests for new or amended parking controls, and following analysis, have recommended no changes at the current time, as detailed in Annex 3.

Reasons:

Changes to the highway network, the built environment and society mean that parking behaviour changes and consequently it is necessary for a Highway Authority to carry out regular reviews of waiting and parking restrictions on the highway network.

It is recommended that the waiting restrictions in this report are progressed as they will help to:

- Improve road safety
- Increase access for emergency vehicles
- improve access to shops, facilities and businesses
- Increase access for refuse vehicles, buses and service vehicles
- Reduce traffic congestion
- Better regulate parking

53/19 HIGHWAYS UPDATE [FOR DECISION - EXECUTIVE FUNCTION] [Item 10]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Nick Healey, Area Highways Manager

Petitions, Public Questions/Statements: None

Member discussion –key points

Members discussed issues arising where local roads are used as an access to a housing development. They are frequently damaged as a result of the resulting heavy vehicle traffic, but in most cases it is not possible to get the developer to resurface them, they are not a priority for resurfacing by the County Council and are not eligible for CIL funding. It was suggested that a

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pot of funding should be made available for this type of work. The Area Highways Manager agreed that there is no regular mechanism for requiring developers to make good any damage caused.

In relation to the scheme in Table 6 – Between Streets, the divisional member was concerned at the delay caused as a result of waiting for a cable to be relocated. The Area Highways Manager reported that Virgin Media had been paid for the work, but it has not yet been done. It was suggested that the Director of Highways should be asked to call them every day to expedite this work as this approach had been successful in other directorates.

Resolved to:

- i Re-allocated £25,000 from the parking surplus, which had previously been specifically allocated to cycling related projects, to develop ITS schemes relating to any mode of transport;
- ii Approve the proposed LSR programme for next Financial Year 2020-21 described in paragraph 2.2.2 and Table 5;
- iii Authorise the Area Highway Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Members, to amend the 2020-21 capital LSR programme as appropriate when the 2020-21 budgets have been confirmed;
- iv Authorise the Area Highway Manager to advertise the legal notice for a NO ENTRY restriction at the bus gate leading from Burwood Road into Pleasant Place, and for any objections to be considered by the Area Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Divisional Member;
- v Authorise the Area Highway Manager to apply to Elmbridge Borough Council for CIL funding to construct a new cycle route along Grotto Road between Oatlands Drive and Marlborough Drive, Weybridge, subject to consultation with local members and Elmbridge Borough Council;
- vi Authorise the Area Highway Manager to apply to Elmbridge Borough Council for CIL funding to construct a new road safety scheme in Ember Lane, Esher / Thames Ditton, subject to consultation with local members and Surrey Police;
- vii 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 2020-21 Highways programmes, while at the same time ensuring that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and relevant Divisional Members are fully and appropriately involved in any detailed considerations.

The bus gate leading from Burwood Road into Pleasant Place is not well respected; it is hoped that compliance may be improved by providing a simple NO ENTRY sign.

The feasibility studies for two schemes have now been completed. These schemes are now ready for CIL applications, subject to consultation with local members and other interested parties.

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.

54/19 LOCAL COMMITTEE DECISION TRACKER [FOR DECISION] [Item 11]

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

55/19 FORWARD PLAN [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 12]

The Committee noted the forward plan and suggested the following potential items for formal or informal meetings: Update on Rethinking Transport Project; potential for the Borough council to have a wider roll in on-street parking; school place planning.

56/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 13]

Tuesday 17 March 2020 at 4pm in Elmbridge Civic Centre

Meeting ended at: 6.10 pm

Chairman

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