



SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY) 19 June 2020

Minutes Annex A: INFORMAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Webcast: https://surreycc.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/492063

Questions were received from:

Question 1 - Paul Osborne

“One year, three months ago Local Committee considered the Rural Western Corridor between Milford crossroad and Cranleigh, six miles of roads unsuitable for HGVs. One year ago Cllr Matt Furniss promised some action on this and a destination survey, in particular regarding HGVs, to determine if the route is used by local traffic or construction traffic etc. It has been a year and I have not seen anything so I wondered if the Committee could expedite this as it would appear to me that traffic is increasing (despite current lockdown). Cllr Colin Kemp, portfolio holder for Infrastructure, looked at a relief road which he dismissed as unviable. He also said, and I quote Mr Kemp: “It has become clear to me that with all the planned developments around this area we need to look at the road network and identify pinch points through the route and see if there are any local improvement schemes that would ease congestion and then see if we can identify funding for these.”

I would like to follow up on this please.”

Frank Apicella, Area Highway Manager (SW)

“The petition came to the to March 2019 and Cabinet Member addressed Committee in June 2019. By March 2019 the Committee had already allocated its limited allocation. Any funding would have had to come from 2020/21 and with the pandemic, many projects have had to be on hold. If divisional members want to allocate funds towards a survey from the 2020/21 funds, then we could look at this.”

Paul Osbourne was disappointed that the promise of a survey had not gone ahead but he has already obtained the data himself, which he has previously shared with councillors. Mr Osborne felt that a more holistic approach to looking at the area might be more helpful, including CCTV at development sites, a width-restriction scheme on Markwick Lane which he said has support from Surrey Police, or identification of number plates at entry and exit. He stated that if money was an issue, local residents may be willing to contribute.

Mr Andrew Povey noted that the Local Committee had a limited budget, but this was a bigger issue for the area and the Cabinet Member for Transport and Cllr Kemp

needed to look at the whole issue and that we should invite them to a formal committee to address this issue. The Chairman supported this approach.

Cllr Christine Baker, representing Milford where the route starts and is familiar with the route, supported the monitoring of traffic and looking at this issue.

Mr Wyatt Ramsdale felt that bringing it back to the main Committee might not be useful and was concerned that nothing had happened over the past nine months. Mr Ramsdale urged the Chairman to follow this up on a smaller basis involving local Councillors only. The Chairman agreed to look at this and work out a way forward.

Question 2 – Chris Britton (Alfold Parish Councillor):

“I live in Alford close to Cranleigh and my question is similar to Mr Osborne’s and relates to the growth in traffic volumes, particularly HGVs using unsuitable narrow rural lanes, which creates safety issues. I am also an Alford Parish Councillor. I want to express the huge and growing local concern. About 50% of housing developments in Waverley are taking place in this eastern area. My question is: How can the County plan more effectively for the huge impact of traffic (and specifically HGV) growth, particularly in the rural SE area of Waverley around Alford, Cranleigh, Dunsfold and the other villages?”

Answer from Frank Apicella, Area Highway Manager (SW)

“There is a central government push to increase housing in the area and as Highway Authority, we can only comment on these as consultees for the planning authority and our comments are not always able to reflect the impacts mentioned - it is down to the planning processes to agree developments. Once developments are permitted, then HGVs need to access them, putting pressure on inappropriate narrow lanes. This is an on-going issue and needs to be dealt with in the planning process to try to mitigate the problem.”

Mr Britton suggested a study to examine the issues could take place, which he says Alfold Parish Council would be willing to take part in.

3. Betty Ames

Betty noted that she was really pleased to be able to join the virtual meeting and supported the two questions above, particularly as the Dunsfold Park development was causing a negative impact on the whole area.