

ANNEX B

Surrey Heath Local Area Committee
27 February 2020
Open Public Question Time

Question 1: Caroline Hibbert, Heatherside

The Maultway needs resurfacing / attention.

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

We have been made aware of this issue. The Highways Maintenance Engineer has looked at this and will check to see if it is on our programme for this coming year, but we will also do remedial works and patch the potholes as standard.

Question 2: Jarmilla Halovsky-Yu, Local Councillor

I put 5 questions to the Committee at the past two meetings, but if I am restricted to one question here, it would be to ask about the M3 / J3 roundabout and the plans and timelines for the works needed to reduce congestion and whether anyone is testing air quality from Lightwater to Bagshot

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

As we have responded at the past two meetings, your questions are all with regard to long term plans and projects and we agreed to update when information was available rather than at every meeting. At the current time, Highways England are undertaking a study in this area and are due to complete this at the end of March, so we cannot say what the outcome will be until this is completed. I understand that they will monitor air quality as part of this and that any work to improve the area will make a difference.

Question 3: Murray Rowlands, Local resident

With regard to utility companies, why is West Camberley suffering total chaos with roadworks? Could utility companies be asked to phase their works?

Response from the Cllr Mike Goodman, SCC

We have to give utility companies emergency access to the roads for repairs to their networks. They do schedule in non emergency repair work with us. Do notify local County Councillors if particular works are causing issues as we do not always get notified.

Question 4: Andrew Paine, Bagshot resident

We were really pleased to hear, at the last meeting, that the A322 layby will be closed off – when will this happen please?

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

The Committee will set the programme for capital spending tonight. The work to close the layby will take place during 2020/21 financial year if agreed. This will be discussed under the Highways Update report.

Question 5: Catherine – Heatherside ward resident

I would like to ask about the quality of repairs to the roads as potholes are filled, but don't last.

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

SCC repairs a lot of potholes and some of these are temporary repairs (only supposed to last a few months) to keep the road safe until they can repair it properly. Particular problems can be raised on the "report it" system on the SCC website.

Question 6: Katia Malcus-Cooper

What are the plans and timelines for a solution to Red Road? My next door neighbour was sadly killed there some time ago so what will be done?

Response from the Chair

Red Road has had a lot of attention through this Committee and Highways. The Road Safety team have undertaken interventions and safety has improved.

Question 7: Rachel Bennett, West End resident

With regard to the 1 hour free parking offered at Knoll Road, was due diligence taken with regard to non-car users "subsidising" car users? We hear a lot about climate pollution and this seems to go against this and the Councils Climate emergency. Also, I understand this was signed off by a Councillor who is a local business owner.

Response from the Chair

The decision to offer 1 hour free parking was taken before the climate change decision and it was undertaken to assist businesses. Monitoring has show the take up of this has been very low and that other car parks have increased their usage.

Under freedom of information, if you have an issue with the Councillor who signed off the decision, you could take this up with the compliance officer at SHBC.

Question 8: Murray Rowlands, local resident

The cycle lanes along the A30 are disregarded.

Response from the Chair

We will be talking about the A30 and bus lane on the agenda

Question 9: Katia Malcus-Cooper, local resident

What initiatives are SCC and SHBC doing to improve community transport and green transport?

Response from the Chair

SCC has expressed a desire to put money into green infrastructure, including electric small hopper busses and there will be a pilot on this – but there is a one year lead in time for purchasing the busses!

Question 10: Caroline Hibbert, Old Dean

The state of the Arcade at the Old Dean is an ongoing problem.

Response from the Chair

SHBC has looked at this in depth. The Freehold ownership is an issue but investigations continue. Caroline was thanked for her work in this area.

Question 11: Rachel Bennett, West End resident

How can the local community support the bus initiative?

Response from the Chair

In short, get out of their cars and use the busses.

Question 12: Jarmilla Halovsky-Yu, Local Councillor

As the Highways England report on J3/M3 is not due until the end of March, does that mean that no solutions have been applied to that junction before this?

Response from Andrew Milne, Highways Manager, Surrey County Council

Highways England trialled some changes to signal timings and subsequently removed them. They may introduce them again as they did assist with local traffic – but caused problems on the M3! This area really needs a major scheme to resolve the issues.

Question 13: Graham O'Connell, Frimley Green

What are the plans for re-wilding the grass verges?

Response from the Chair

SHBC are keen to do this and did trial planting opposite the Fire Station in Camberley. Residents have also planted their own seeds in some places – but we do need to ensure that native seeds are used. Parishes are taking this up and SHBC is rolling this out. Some schools are also keen to get involved.

Question 14: Trefor Hogg, local resident

I am a Tree Warden and SHBC is also looking at tree planting on verges.

Response from the Cllr Mike Goodman, SCC

SCC are also looking to plant 1.2 million trees. 50,000 trees will be planted in Surrey next week. We do need to ensure that we get the right trees in the right locations.

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