

Minutes of the meeting of the
Mole VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE
 held at 2.00 pm on 10 November 2021
 at Council Chamber, Pippbrook, Reigate Road, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1SJ.

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

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Tim Hall (Chairman)
- * Stephen Cooksey (Vice-Chairman)
- * Helyn Clack
- * Clare Curran
- * Chris Townsend
- * Hazel Watson

Borough / District Members:

- Cllr Lynne Brooks
- Cllr Raj Haque
- * Cllr David Hawksworth CBE
- * Cllr Mary Huggins
- * Cllr Paul Kennedy
- * Cllr Caroline Salmon

* In attendance

21/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Cllr Haque and Cllr Brooks.
 Cllr Hobbs attended as Cllr Haque's substitute.

22/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Gregory Yeoman, Partnership Committee Officer.

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None.

Key points from discussion:

Cllr Townsend and Cllr Hawksworth expressed their dissatisfaction with the draft minutes. Both felt that they lacked sufficient detail to accurately reflect the breadth of discussion that had been held on Item 8 (Public Footpath 24 (Leatherhead) - Green Lane Level Crossing Investigation).

Cllr Hawksworth proposed that the following additional wording should be included in the draft minutes; this was seconded by Cllr Townsend:
 "The meeting recognized that there was an historic route through the former fields, with an extensive documentation since the 17th century, and that a map produced by the Railway Company in 1845 shows a public footpath through this area about seven metres west of the current crossing, which was straightened to its current position when the crossing was installed, that no

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evidence was produced to show that the definitive map was changed as a result of an error, and particularly the extensive period of uninterrupted public usage."

Members voted on the proposal by a show of hands.
In favour of adding the new wording: 3
Against adding the new wording: 6

The original draft minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2021 were approved as a correct record.

23/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest.

a PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 4] Declarations of Interest: None

Officer attending: Zena Curry, Highways Engagement and Commissioning Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: One written public question was received before the deadline. The full wording of the question and officer response was included within the main agenda pack.

Key points from discussion:

Mr Hughes did not attend the meeting. He had submitted supplementary information separately, which the officer was aware of and she advised the committee that this had been referred to the Safety Outside Schools Team for assessment. The local Divisional Member (Cllr Watson) thanked the officer.

b MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 5] Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Zena Curry, Highways Engagement and Commissioning Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: The questions and officer responses were provided within the main agenda and also the supplementary agenda. Four written questions were received before the deadline.

Question 1 was submitted by Cllr Watson. She did not have a supplementary question but commented that she would use a portion of her 2022/23 revenue funding to support some maintenance on the verges, and added that this could be an opportunity for community involvement as well.

Question 2 was submitted by Cllr Cooksey, who thanked the officer for the clarification regarding the winter refilling of grit bins.

Question 3 was submitted by Cllr Kennedy. No response had been received at the time of the meeting; a written response would be provided.

Question 4 was submitted by Cllr Kennedy. He thanked officers for their response and assurances within it, and highlighted to the committee the consultation that is underway on the future of the SCC-operated residential

care homes. The chairman asked the Partnership Committee Officer to circulate the SCC website link to members.

25/21 PETITIONS [Item 6]

There were no petitions.

26/21 RECOMMENDATION FOR PUBLIC FOOTPATH 24 (LEATHERHEAD) - GREEN LANE LEVEL CROSSING INVESTIGATION [FOR DECISION] [Item 7]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Gregory Yeoman, Partnerships Committee Officer; Daniel Williams, Senior Countryside Access Officer

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None.

Key points from discussion:

Mr Williams assured members that the wording in the recommendation gave a clear instruction to his team to proceed with making the Map Modification Order to update the definitive statement.

Following committee's decision to accept the recommendation, Cllr Hawksworth commented that the inclusion of 'stiles' in the current definitive statement was inaccurate and asked for it to be amended. The Chairman instructed the officer to address this.

Resolved:

The Local Committee (Mole Valley):

- (i) Agreed that the following wording replaces the wording shown for recommendation (ii) of agenda item 8 (Public Footpath 24 (Leatherhead) - Green Lane Level Crossing Investigation) in the minutes of the Local Committee meeting held on 29 September 2021 and that it accurately reflects the intention of the vote that was held on Item 8 recommendation (ii) at that meeting, and that officers should take this agreement as authorisation to proceed with the action described:

"The Local Committee (Mole Valley) agrees that a Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) should be made and advertised to implement the changes necessary in the Definitive Statement so that the description of section A-B of Footpath 24 on Drg. No. 3/1/51/H116 matches its depiction on the Definitive Map. If objections are maintained to such an Order, it will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for determination."

Reasons for recommendation:

Confirming the intended wording of the recommendation put to committee at its meeting on 29 September 2021 will remove any ambiguity and allow officers to proceed with clear instructions from the committee members.

27/21 A25 REIGATE ROAD, BETCHWORTH - SPEED LIMIT ASSESSMENT (EXECUTIVE ITEM FOR DECISION) [Item 8]

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Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Zena Curry, Highways Engagement and Commissioning Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Statements, Questions: None

Key points from discussion:

The local Divisional Member (Cllr Clack) welcomed the report and encourage members to support it.

Resolved:

The Local Committee (Mole Valley):

- (i) Noted the results of the speed limit assessments undertaken.
- (ii) Agreed that, based upon the evidence, the speed limit be reduced from 50mph to 40mph in the section of the A25 Reigate Road, Betchworth, between the junction of Station Road at the Betchworth roundabout and a point 47.5m west of the centre line of Tranquil Dale, in accordance with current policy;
- (iii) Authorised the advertisement of a notice in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to implement the proposed speed limit change, revoke any existing traffic orders necessary to implement the change, and, subject to no objections being upheld, that the order be made;
- (iv) Authorised delegation of authority to the Area Highway Manager (or equivalent designated officer) in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee and the local divisional member to resolve any objections received in connection with the proposal.
- (v) Noted that if the scheme has not been successful, then further engineering measures or a return to the original higher speed limit may be necessary.

Reasons for recommendations:

To enable changes to the speed limit on the A25 Reigate Road, Betchworth in accordance with Surrey's speed limit policy.

28/21 RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER [Item 9]

The Local Committee noted the decision tracker and agreed items marked as closed and complete could be removed.

29/21 FORWARD PLAN [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 10]

The Local Committee noted the forward plan of items expected to be received at future meetings.

30/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [Item 11]

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 20th January 2022.

Meeting ended at: 2.46 pm

Chairman

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