

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)

DATE: 11 SEPTEMBER 2013

LEAD OFFICER: VICTORIA JEFFREY, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND COMMITTEE OFFICER

SUBJECT: PUBLIC QUESTIONS

DIVISION: MOLE VALLEY



Question from Cllr Paul Pottter, District Member for Brockham, Betchworth and Buckland

The people in Warrenne Road and Juniper Walk have put up with not having enough parking space for years. They are forced to park on the grass verges which makes a complete mess of the whole road. I understand that the County Council has considered a scheme to use a narrow strip of the verge on the north side of Warrenne Road to create some additional parking spaces. I believe this would be supported by the vast majority of residents.

What is the status of the proposal and when is it intended that it will be implemented? If there is no progress, when does the Committee plan to make a decision about it?

I am aware that the Local Committee considered some parking restrictions in Warrenne Road at its last meeting. These would need to be amended for this scheme to proceed. Furthermore parking restrictions should not be applied at times when residents are likely to be at home and needing the parking space.

Response from SCC HighwaysTeam:

The County Council has, following discussions with the Parish Council and divisional member for Dorking Rural, developed a minor scheme to reinforce the front part of the verge on the north side of the road with a grass grid strip. This treatment is designed to prevent verge damage due to vehicles over running the verge when parking. A confirmed start date is awaited from the contractor but it is expected that the work will be completed by the end of September. The scheme is to be funded from the divisional member's Community Enhancement allocation.

In June 2012, the Mole Valley Local Committee approved parking proposals for statutory consultation which included the introduction of 'At any time' double yellow line waiting restrictions in Warrenne Road. The proposals would prevent obstructive parking at the junction of Warrenne Road and Wheelers Lane and increase forward visibility for safer access and egress

from junction, and also prevent verge parking in the first section of Warrenne Road.

These proposals have not been advertised to date and it is proposed that to enable the verge protection scheme outlined above to proceed, the length of waiting restriction to protect the verge in Warrenne Road will not be advertised. The proposed restrictions to prevent parking at the junction with Wheelers Lane will be advertised as previously agreed by Local Committee.

Question from Cllr Iain Murdoch, District Member for Capel, Leigh and Newidgate

Church Road, Leigh and Vicarage Lane, Capel are 2 of the worst examples of roads in very poor condition that have not been included in the 5 year programme recently announced. The state of these roads is such that continued patching would appear to be a waste of money as well as providing an unsatisfactory solution.

What does the Committee propose to do to repair these roads properly and when will it be completed?

Response from SCC Highways Team:

Operation Horizon is major £100m project that will rebuild 300 miles of the worst roads in Surrey, and specifically targets roads where the sub-base is no longer fit for purpose and consequently a full reconstruction is required, with roads fully replaced from junction to junction. The schemes have been identified based upon 2012 condition data, however, Surrey Highways will continue to monitor condition of the road network, and where necessary propose changes to the published 2012 programme. Any changes would be recommended to the Mole Valley Local Committee in the January meeting.

However, in addition to Operation Horizon, Surrey Highways deliver three further annual works programme:

1. Surface Treatment Programme

These works add a new surface layer to the existing road, it is a preventative measure, that helps extend road life by approximately 7 years. These works are developed as part of our annual condition survey, and are generally targeted at roads where there is only minimal damage

2. Local Structural Repair

Funded by local committee, this programme focuses on repairing key residential and critical routes for local communities. Local Divisional Members nominate roads for inclusion and final funding decision is agreed by the local committee

3. County Patching Programme

This programme is targeted where there is significant deterioration in the top surface that requires replacing, generally roads with multiple defects over 30mm deep. In other words roads which are not so critical as to require the level of reconstruction delivered by Operation Horizon, but the top surface will have worn away and require replacing. Schemes for this programme are identified as part of the routine road inspections process, and are approved on a priority basis

Both Church Road, Leigh and Vicarage Lane, Capel have been identified as requiring repair under the county wide patching programme and the top surface will therefore be replaced within the next six months. For clarity the works may not involve the full road being resurfaced but will certainly remove the worst areas. A decision on scheme limits and delivery time will be agreed following a final engineering assessment planned for early October, and will then be communicated to local divisional member. Following deliver of the patching programme, Surrey Highways will monitor condition to confirm if works have resolved issues, or if the road will require a further more significant reconstruction at a later date.

Question from Mr Mike Ward, Dorking South and the Holmwoods Resident

Parking nuisance in Hookwood

The Committee is well aware of the concerns about anti-social parking activities in Hookwood. Residents are still complaining about these activities, especially the noisy changeovers of parked cars by airport related businesses. These occur at really unsociable times such as 4am and are accompanied by shouting and loud conversations with obvious impact on residents' sleep.

The problem appears to be particularly acute in Povey Cross Road and it seems unlikely that the change to a no-return within 4 hours rule agreed at the June meeting will have much of an impact on the problem. Maybe the original proposal to ban overnight parking entirely, whilst no doubt causing inconvenience for a few people, needs to be reconsidered. There is also an apparent lack of enforcement, especially at the critical times. Withey Meadows also has a significant problem and no measures have so far been implemented.

What does the Committee now propose to do to ensure that effective measures are in place and that these are regularly enforced at all hours of the day and night?

Response from SCC Parking Team:

In June 2013 the Committee approved proposals to reduce long term airport parking on the roads around Hookwood. This included changes to make the existing 4 hour parking bay in Povey Cross Road, 'no return within 4 hours' instead of the current 'no return 2 hours'. This is to make enforcement easier and should help make sure vehicles don't overstay the time limit.

Following consultation about parking in the village, a night time parking restriction in Povey Cross Road is not considered appropriate because some residents and their visitors would not be able to park overnight. There was little evidence that it would be supported by most residents and night time enforcement of the restrictions would be prohibitively expensive. Without this it is unlikely to provide a sufficient deterrent to stop overnight short term airport related parking.

In response to parking consultations, some Withey Meadows residents have responded that they need long term on street parking making any new restrictions to reduce commuter or airport parking complicated. In addition a residential development is planned on one side of the road which may change parking patterns in the area. If required, new restrictions in Withey Meadows can be implemented in a future parking review.

Question from Ms Steph Melling, Resident Bookham and Fetcham West

I am a resident of Kennel Lane, Fetcham and I am very concerned about the speed at which some vehicles are driving at on this road, this is a residential area with many families residing here which I feel some drivers do not take into consideration.

I feel this road should be a 30 mile an hour speed zone which should be marked by clear and visible signage.

Response from SCC HighwaysTeam:

Kennel Lane is classed as a restricted road under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The system of street lighting in the road indicates to drivers that the speed limit is 30mph. Surrey, as highway authority, has to comply with national regulations covering the signing of speed limits. For a restricted road the 30mph speed limit can only be signed at it's terminal points and it is not permitted to use repeater signs or 30mph road markings. Therefore it is not possible to install additional 30mph signs as Ms Melling suggests.

Surrey Police carried out speed monitoring on Kennel Lane for two weeks during August 2013. They found that the average speed of traffic was 28.18mph which is within the 30mph speed limit. Therefore at this time there is no further action to be taken.

MVLC 11 September 2013