

Minutes of the meeting of the
Woking JOINT COMMITTEE
 held at 6.00 pm on 25 September 2019
 at Woking Borough Council Civic Offices, Gloucester Square,
 Woking GU21 6YL.

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

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Ms Ayesha Azad (Chairman)
- * Mrs Liz Bowes
Amanda Boote
Mr Ben Carasco
- * Mr Saj Hussain
- * Mr Will Forster
- * Mr Colin Kemp

Borough / District Members:

- * Cllr David Bittleston (Vice-Chairman)
- * Cllr Simon Ashall, Heathlands
- * Cllr Gary Elson
- * Cllr Tahir Aziz, Canalside
- * Cllr Ann-Marie Barker
- * Cllr Graham Chrystie
- * Cllr Melanie Whitehand

* In attendance

16/18 OPEN FORUM [Item]

There were 4 members of the public present. No public questions were asked.

17/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ben Carasco and Amanda Boote.

18/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

19/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest made.

20/18 PETITIONS [Item 4]

There were no petitions received.

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21/18 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]

One written public question was received from Mr Keith Creswell, West Byfleet Village Representative, regarding pedestrian improvements and cycle route between Byfleet and West Byfleet.

The full written question and the answer given is attached as Annex 1. There were no supplementary questions.

22/18 WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 6]

Three written member questions were received.

Question 1 – Cllr Gary Elson, regarding verge parking at Beaufort Road, Maybury.

Question 2 – Cllr Graham Chrystie, regarding CIL procedures

Question 3 – Cllr Will Forster, regarding speeds and accidents on Westfield Road.

The full questions asked and the answers given are attached as Annex 2. There were no supplementary questions.

23/18 HIGHWAYS UPDATE [Item 7]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

The Area Highways Manger (AHM) presented a report on progress made with the delivery of proposed highways schemes, developer funded schemes, and revenue funded works for the 2019/20 financial year.

It was noted that the report now included details of gully cleaning (2.8 in the report), which had been highlighted as of particular importance to residents and members in order to avoid flooding. Members were also encouraged (2.3 in the report) to raise any expenditure plans with Highways.

The Joint Committee (Woking):

- (i) Noted the progress with the ITS highways and developer funded schemes, and revenue funded works for the 2019/20 financial year.

- (ii) Noted the budgetary position.
- (iii) Noted that a further Highways Update will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.
- (iv) Agreed that a notice is advertised in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to revoke any existing traffic orders necessary and introduce a 7.5 Tonne structural weight limit in Lock Lane, Pyrford, where it crosses the Wey Navigation; and
- (v) Agreed that any objections to the Traffic Regulation Order should be considered and resolved by the Area Team Manager for Highways in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee and the local Divisional Member, and that this issue only be returned to Committee if any objections prove insurmountable; and
- (vi) Agreed that the Order be made once any objections have been considered and resolved.
- (vii) Approved the relocation of the Guildford-bound bus stop on Westfield Road, Westfield near its junction with New Lane, to a point approximately 30m in advance of its current position.

Reasons for recommendations:

The above recommendations are made to enable progression of all highway related schemes and works.

24/18 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY UPDATE [Item 8]

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a standing item on the agenda, however, there was nothing to report.

25/18 WOKING PARKING REVIEW [Item 9]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Peter Wells, Engineer, Parking Strategy and Implementation Team, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

The Parking Engineer presented a report which outlined that Surrey County Council's Parking Strategy and Implementation Team had carried out a review of on street parking restrictions within the borough of Woking and identified

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changes which would benefit road safety and reduce instances of obstruction and localised congestion.

Joint Committee approval was required in order to progress these changes firstly to the stage of 'formal advertisement', where the proposed restrictions will be advertised for 28 days and open to support, comments or objections from members of the public and then to implementation.

It was noted that the parking review had covered 138 locations – which had been requested by residents, businesses and members. Each location had been assessed during June / July, with visits on at least 2 occasions. Councillors publically thanked the Parking Engineer for his hard work and for including local members fully in all discussions and visits.

The Joint Committee (Woking) agreed that:

- (i) the proposed amendments to on-street parking restrictions in Woking as described in this report and shown in detail on drawings in annex A be approved.
- (ii) the joint committee allocates funding as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of this report to proceed with the introduction of the parking amendments.
- (iii) the intention of the county council to make an order under the relevant parts of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to impose the waiting and on street parking restrictions in Woking as shown on the drawings in annex A is advertised and that if no objections are maintained, the orders are made.
- (iv) if there are unresolved objections, they will be dealt with in accordance with the county council's scheme of delegation by the parking strategy and implementation team manager, in consultation with the chairman/vice chairman of this committee and the appropriate county councillor.
- (v) the intention of the county council to advertise the making of a consolidation Order (without change) of the existing Traffic Regulation Orders to Woking is approved, and that approval for future consolidations, when they become necessary, can be granted by the committee chairman.

Reasons for recommendations:

It is recommended that the waiting restrictions are implemented as detailed in Annex A. They will make a positive impact towards:-

- Road safety
- Access for emergency vehicles
- Access for refuse vehicles
- Easing traffic congestion
- Better regulated parking
- Better enforcement

26/18 ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATH BETWEEN PYRFORD COMMON AND UPSHOT LANE [Item 10]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Debbie Prismall, Senior Countryside Access Officer,
SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

The Senior Countryside Access Officer presented a report which outlined that the County Council has a duty under Section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to modify the Definitive Map and Statement if it discovers evidence which can be reasonably alleged to support a modification.

An application has been received for a Map Modification Order to add a public footpath on land between Pyrford Common and Upshot Lane, Pyrford to the Surrey County Council Definitive Map.

There was no public discussion on this item. Members noted the evidence that the path was well used and provided key access.

The Joint Committee (Woking) agreed that:

- i) Public Footpath rights be recognised over the route shown on drawing no. 3/1/79/H66 as Alleged Public Footpath no. 422, Woking between points A – B – C – D – E and that a MMO under sections 53 and 57 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 be made to modify the Definitive Map and Statement for Surrey.
- ii) In the event of the County Council being directed to make a MMO by the Secretary of State following an appeal by the claimant, the County Council as surveying authority will adopt a neutral stance at any Public Inquiry or Hearing, making all the evidence available to help the inspector determine the case.

Reasons For Recommendations:

The County Council has a duty under Section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to modify the Definitive Map and Statement if it discovers evidence which on balance supports a modification.

In this instance the evidence submitted in support of the application was considered sufficient to establish that public footpath rights are reasonably alleged to subsist over the claimed route, having been acquired by virtue of use by the public on foot under statutory deemed dedication (under s.31(1)) of the Highways Act 1980).

Evidence suggests that landowners have not sufficiently challenged users or taken sufficient actions to demonstrate their lack of intention to dedicate during the relevant period.

27/18 HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY PRESENTATION [Item 11]

Cllr Alison Griffiths, Deputy Cabinet Member for Public Health and Cllr Sinead Mooney, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health gave a presentation on the emerging Health and Wellbeing Strategy. It was noted that the aim was to address significant priorities, with a focus on engaging and working in partnership with partners, districts and boroughs and residents.

The priorities were place based and relevant with a particular focus on prevention. Localities could influence up to 80% of health outcomes – healthy lives, access to services and leisure, open spaces and particularly healthy housing.

Members noted that the Health and Wellbeing Task group priorities were aligned with the Countywide priorities and the group extended an invitation to the speakers to attend and look at working more closely in partnership.

28/18 COMMUNITY SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT [Item 12]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Camilla Edmiston, Community Safety Manager, WBC and Inspector Andrew Greaves, Surrey Police

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

The Community Safety Manger presented a report which gave an update on the activity and impact of the Safer Woking Partnership in the year 2018/19, and reported on community safety budget spend.

Members were very pleased to note the excellent projects and work undertaken and it was noted that the Art Exhibition at the Lightbox was well worth a visit. The Community Safety team were commended and thanked for the excellent work that they do.

The Police Inspector outlined the challenges of resources (with staffing levels at 83% of capacity) and public demand. Particular focus had been on closure orders, targeting of key offenders and the introduction of disbursal orders at Warton Court and West Byfleet. Work at Warton Court had also included partnership working to clean, paint and manage behaviour.

Several operations had been held – Op. Barricade working with the British Transport Police with Military support and Op. Popcorn – both targeting drug related violence, supply and crime.

Members discussed the anti-social behaviour and intimidation at West Byfleet and noted the many other approaches with schools and businesses prior to the disbursement order.

Members welcomed the fact that the Police would soon be based at the Civic centre and asked that the retiring schools liaison officer be thanked for his many years of hard work.

The Joint Committee (Woking):

- (i) Noted the contents of the report and progress made in 2018/19
- (ii) Noted the community safety budget spend during 2018/19 (Annex 1)
- (iii) Noted the 2019-22 Safer Woking Partnership Plan (Annex 2)
- (iv) Agreed that authority be delegated to the Community Safety Task Group to agree expenditure of the community safety budget in accordance with the criteria and principles stated in this report.
- (v) Noted that the Community Safety Task Group receives updates on the project(s) funded, on behalf of the committee and provides information on those projects in the quarterly community safety reports circulated to councillors.

Reasons for Recommendations: The updated Safer Woking Partnership Plan is in place and publically available on the Woking Borough Council website. In order to ensure the timely publication of the next plan, authority to sign the document off on behalf of the committee is delegated to the Chief Executive (Woking Borough Council) in consultation with the Community Safety Task Group.

29/18 NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING TASK GROUP [Item 13]

The Joint Committee (Woking) noted the new Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Task Group – with the following two amendments:-

Membership to include Adult Social Care
 Membership of Woking Borough Council to read “for example – Family Services / Health and Wellbeing

It was noted that Cllr Saj Hussein would replace Cllr Simon Ashall on the Health and Wellbeing Task Group and the Community Safety Task Group, both of which meet in the daytime.

30/18 DECISION TRACKER [Item 14]

The decision tracker was noted.

31/18 FORWARD PLAN [Item 15]

The forward plan was noted.

Meeting ended at: 7.30 pm

Chairman

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