

Minutes of the meeting of the
Woking JOINT COMMITTEE
 held at 6.00 pm on 4 March 2020
 at The Council Chamber, 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

46/18 PUBLIC FORUM [Item]

There were 15 members of the Public present and 5 questions were put to the Committee as follows:-

- 1 Marian Malcher, regarding Sopwith drive crossing point
- 2 Woking Extinction Rebellion regarding Climate change
- 3 Rod Lofting, regarding speeds on the junction of Shaftesbury Avenue with Maybury Hill
- 4 Elizabeth Lofting regarding speed controls on Maybury Hill
- 5 Martin Crossley regarding road surfaces and pavements on Maybury Hill

The notes from the public forum are attached to these minutes as Annex A.

47/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Cllrs Amanda Boote, Liz Bowes, Ben Carasco, Colin Kemp and Graham Chrystie..

48/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest made.

ITEM 2

49/18 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.

50/18 PETITIONS [Item 4]

There were no petitions received.

51/18 WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 5]

There were 3 public questions received

Question 1 – Will Harnden regarding cycling on pavements Broomhall Road to Horsell Park

Question 2 – Marion Meinke regarding parking review in College Road / Oriental Road

Question 3 – Norman Johns regarding cycling through the Town Centre

Two questioners attended the meeting and both asked supplementary questions.

The full written questions and the answers given are attached as Annex B, along with the additional questions asked.

52/18 WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS [Item 6]

There were no written member questions.

53/18 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - APPLICATION FOR FUNDING OF 3 BENCHES [Item 7]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Ernest Amaoko, Planning Policy Manager, WBC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

The Planning Policy Manger (PPM) presented a report on a funding bid for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds. Members noted that this was the first application for CIL money, that the benches were needed and would test the system for funds. Members were encouraged to work with residents to encourage further applications.

Woking Joint Committee agreed that:

- (i) The application submitted by Ward Councillors for West Byfleet Neighbourhood Area to install three benches at West Byfleet Recreation Ground be approved;

- (ii) The Deputy Chief Executive be authorised to approve payment for the total cost of installing the benches when the works have been undertaken and the invoices have been submitted to the Council. The cost of installing the benches is estimated at £1,594.68 and will be drawn from the total CIL income earmarked for the West Byfleet Neighbourhood Area, this currently stands at £385,032.20; and
- (iii) The Ward Councillors for the West Byfleet Neighbourhood Area be asked to oversee all works relating to the procurement and installation of the benches in accordance with their project plan, project specification, costs and quality control.

REASON FOR DECISION

To enable funding to be secured for the installation of three benches at the West Byfleet Recreational Ground, West Byfleet Neighbourhood Area.

54/18 MAKING SURREY SAFER [Item 8]

Members received a presentation on Making Surrey Safer from Denise Turner-Stewart, Cabinet Member, Sarah Kershaw, Chief Fire Officer and Steve Owens-Hughes, Chief Fire Officer. The presentation covered the Making Surrey Safer Plan but also the creation of the new Community Protection Group.

The group was created in September 2019 and brought together Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, Trading Standards, Emergency Management, Armed Forces & Resilience and Corporate Health and Safety. All these services play a role in keeping people safe and have key links to services within the County Council and partner organisations in order to deliver outcomes for residents.

The presentation highlighted the small but vital services that have a real impact on residents and communities. The plan for 2020 to 2023 is a response to inspectorate concerns and the need to improve and do more to protect citizens of Surrey with prevention services. Although fire numbers have reduced, flooding and traffic incidents have increased.

This includes tackling high risk identified groups but to also do more to gather intelligence and respond to local concerns. It also includes the Safe Drive Stay Alive scheme for young people, Trading Standards work, consultation on Building Regulations and also working with the Police on scams, knife crime and selling of knives and HGV enforcement action.

Members raised their concerns over the reduction in appliances but were assured that response times would not be affected as resources were directed towards more prevention services. Members also noted that lessons had been learnt from the Grenfell enquiry and that Surrey Fire Service had the tallest ladders in the UK.

Discussion also focussed on the potential Covid 19 pandemic and it was noted that contingency plans were in place to deal with potential fire crew sickness using commercial contingency staffing and retired staff. Woking Borough Council also confirmed that they were looking at how their organisation would cope, together with SCC Emergency planning teams and the Community Resilience team.

55/18 CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS UPDATE TO COUNCIL [Item 9]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Andrew Milne, Area Highways Manager, SCC

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

The Area Highways Manger (AHM) presented the briefing on behalf of the Cabinet Member. Cabinet Members provide a briefing on their portfolios to council meetings. The most recent briefing was provided for the local committee's consideration and comment.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Joint Committee (Woking) noted the briefing.

56/18 HIGHWAYS UPDATE REPORT [Item 10]

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.

The Joint Committee agreed to:

- (i) Note the progress with schemes and revenue funded works for the 2019/20 financial year.
- (ii) Note the budgetary position.
- (iii) Note that a further Highways Update will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.

(iv) Agree the proposed capital works programme for 2020/21 shown in Table 2 in section 2.3 of this report.

(v) Authorise the Area Highways Manager to undertake all necessary actions to deliver the capital works programme, consulting with the Chair, Vice Chair and Divisional Members where necessary

Reason for Decision

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

57/18 DECISION TRACKER [Item 11]

The decision tracker was noted.

58/18 FORWARD PLAN [Item 12]

The forward plan was noted. Members suggested additional topics could include an update on climate change and a cycle network review in the Town Centre.

Meeting ended at: 8.00 pm

Chairman

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