

## **ECC/EFDC LOCAL HIGHWAY PANEL MINUTES**

**Committee:** ECC/EFDC Local Highways Panel    **Date:** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016

**Place:** Committee Room 2, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping    **Time:** 18:00 – 20:00

**Members Present:**    **County Councillors:**

Councillors J Knapman, A Jackson, Mrs V Metcalfe, C Pond and J M Whitehouse.

**District Councillors:**

Councillors R Bassett, E Webster and K Chana.

**Other Councillors:**    Councillors G Waller and C Pond.

**Apologies:** County Councillor M McEwen and R Gadsby. District Councillor, G Chambers, C Roberts, P Keska and N Avey.

**Officers Present:** M Valentine (Highways Liaison Officer (HLO) - Ringway Jacobs | Essex County Council) and S Church (Highways Liaison Manager – Ringway Jacobs | Essex County Council), Anthony-Louis Belgrave (Chigwell Parish Council)

### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

The Chairman, Councillor J Knapman welcomed those Members present and those attending in an observational role.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST SCHEME RECOMMENDATIONS 2016/17**

There were no declarations of interest pursuant to the Council's Code of Member Conduct.

### **3. MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016 be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**4. OAKWOOD HILL (LEP152003) - UPDATE**

The Chairman, and Local Highway Panel (LHP) were advised by the Highways Liaison Officer of the present cost of the aforementioned scheme. They were further advised as to the reasoning for the underestimation of the cost to complete this scheme. The allocated budget previously stood at £14,000 whilst the present cost is now estimated to be £18,504.69. A thorough and detailed discussion took place, during which the HLO explained the tender process and quantitative analysis procedure for such schemes. The Chairman and members of the LHP also expressed severe questions for the apparent absence of proper monetary accountability in respect of such schemes and the gross underestimation of the Oakwood Hill scheme in particular. After further discussion it was agreed the scheme should proceed as described and that the Chairman would correspond with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to convey the concerns expressed by the LHP.

**5. SCHEME RECOMMENDATIONS 2017/18 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Chairman, HLO and members of the LHP considered the 2017/18 Scheme list to determine which potential schemes should be commissioned within the 2017/18 financial budget and those to be removed.

**(1) Cycling**

To be deferred to 2017/18.

**(2) Passenger Transport**

Item 2 – Bushfields, Loughton; Install metal bus shelter. To be progressed.

Item 3 – Colson Road, Loughton; Install a bus cage road marking. To be progressed.

Item 4 – Bushfields, Loughton; Install a bus cage road marking. To be progressed.

Item 5 – Newmans Lane, Loughton (Hatfields) – PT; Install bus cage road markings. To be progressed.

Item 6 – 42001003 Stops at Baldwins Hill, Loughton – PT; Increase hardstand area, provide barriers and general bus stop improvements. After discussion it was agreed that this project would remain on the scheme list and be re-considered at the meeting in March 2017.

**(3) Public Rights of Way**

Item 6 – Footpath 18 – Staples Hill, Loughton – PROW Improvements; Resurface the footpath. To be progressed.

Item 7 – Public Footpath 109, Loughton. Known locally as the ‘Oatley Path’ – PROW Improvements. Surfacing works are required along the path to the rear of Harwater Drive. To be progressed.

Item 8 – Bridleway 16, High Ongar. Lay a layer of crushed concrete to provide long lasting firm base and to raise existing surface slightly above surrounding ground level. Top with plantings and compact to provide suitable surface for all users. To be progressed.

**(4) Safer Roads**

Item 1 – St. Leonards Road/Nazeing Road/North Street/Middle Street, Lower Nazeing; highway widening project. After discussion it was agreed that this project would be removed from the potential schemes list.

**(5) School Crossing Patrol**

No Change.

**(6) Traffic Management**

Item 1 – B172 Abridge over River Roding –TMI. Introduce warning signage on the approach to the bridge (highlighting that the road narrows and that oncoming vehicles would be in the middle of the road.) Remove the centre line marking where the carriageway reduces to less than 5.5 metres in width – In line with the northern end of the bridge and around 10 metres to the south of the bridge. Introduce ‘solar light’ studs adjacent to the carriageway edge throughout the area where the centre line marking is removed. Replace the existing double yellow lining along the B172 Abridge Road with 50mm wide primrose ‘conservation’ lining to accommodate the proposed road studs. To be progressed.

Item 2 – Salt Bins – Loughton. Salt Bin requests. After discussion it was agreed that this project would be removed from the potential schemes list.

Item 3 – B1393 High Road/Theydon Road, Epping – Studies for junction widening. Ecology Impact assessment and Land acquisition investigation to determine if junction widening can be carried out. After discussion it was agreed that this project would be removed from the potential schemes list.

Item 4 – Station Road, Chigwell – Design for road widening. Legal Fees for land acquisition, topographical survey and detailed design for widening Station Road. After discussion it was agreed that this project would be removed from the potential schemes list.

Item 5 – Pyres Lane, Chester Road, Hillyfields – Implementation of a speed table; Removing the existing material and replacing with new material to current road specification. Remove old warning signs related to the junction and install new 'staggered junction ahead, warning signs on yellow backing board plus new posts along Chester Road and Hillyfields. Install two new grey backed give way 'X' yards ahead warning sign on Pyres Lane (north and south) with new posts. Take down some of the existing guard railing which is sited within the visibility splays for Pyres Lane give way position and replace with PG2 type guard railing. After discussion it was agreed that this project would remain on the potential schemes list.

Item 6 – All roads leading into and through the forest – Signage review, Epping Forest; Signage investigation to direct any 'lost' HGV drivers to the more suitable roads. After discussion it was agreed that this project would remain on the potential schemes list.

Item 8 – Lower Road, Loughton – A feasibility study to determine if Lower Road can be a 'one way' road. After discussion it was agreed that this project should progress.

Item 9 – Loughton Way j/w River Road. Buckhurst Hill- dropped kerbs. Install dropped kerbs with tactile paving and pedestrian refuge. To be progressed.

Item 10 – Laundry Lane; no through road or install lockable gate; after discussion it was agreed that this project would remain on the potential schemes list and would be further discussed at a subsequent Highways Surgery.

Item 11 – Upshire Road, Waltham Abbey – TMI. For safety measures and packing bays by Upshire Primary School. After discussion it was agreed that this project would be removed from the potential schemes list.

Item 12 – B181 Lindsay Street, Epping – VAS Sign; Install a VAS Sign by Shaftsbury Farm going west. After discussion it was agreed that the respective Validation report concerning this project would be made available to the LHP by the HLO.

Item 13 – Tidy's Lane, Epping TMI; Feasibility study to look at the options to prevent the verge from being torn up along Tidy's Lane. After discussion it was agreed that the pursuance of a solution to the issues described would be a more efficient endeavour than a feasibility study.

Item 14 – Hoe Lane, Nazeing – TMI; A detailed design to be created with a view to look into installing kerbs and appropriate drainage from Tayness and opposite Parkers Farm. To include a topographical survey. To be progressed.

Item 15 – Powdermill Lane j/w Leaview, Waltham Abbey – Overrun area; detailed design to determine whether an overrun could be constructed. To be progressed.

Item 16 - Pump Hill, Loughton – Signage; Install ‘give way’ triangle to highlight the give way markings. To be progressed.

Item 17 – Kendal Avenue, Epping – TMI; Traffic Calming measures. After discussion it was agreed that this project would be removed from the potential schemes list.

Item 18 – The Street j/w Crown Close, Sheering – TMI; To add deflection at the mini-roundabout with both physical measures and ghost white lined islands directing the traffic to drive around the dome instead of straight over it. A new dome should be installed in the centre of the mini-roundabout at only 2m diameter to permit the safe passage of public service vehicles (bus). Relocate the warning sign on the eastern stretch of The Street closer to the junction. This will give drivers enough warning of the junction ahead instead of notifying them more than 100m in advance of the roundabout as it is existing. After discussion it was agreed that this project be progressed but the installation of the dome would be abandoned.

Item 19 – Willingale Road, Loughton – TMI; A feasibility study to be carried out to determine whether the build outs can be improved, or replaced with other traffic calming methods. To be progressed.

Item 20 – Baden Drive, Waltham Abbey – TMI; Install junction protection marking for 15m. To be progressed.

Item 22 – A113 London road, Stanford Rivers – Speed limit; Install a 40mph buffer zone, move the existing 30mph limits to a more appropriate location, carry out the Traffic Regulation Order and formal consultation. To be progressed.

Item 23 – Station Approach, Loughton – Bollards; to install 37 bollards at 1.5m apart to stop cars parking on Station Approach. To be progressed.

**(7) Quiet Lanes**

No Change

**(8) Walking**

No Change

**(9) Potential Revenue**

No Change

**RESOLVED:**

That the 2017/18 Scheme Recommendation list be altered in compliance with the suggestions from the members of the LHP, and possible future schemes be proposed by members at subsequent meetings.

**6. INDICATIVE PROGRAMME LIST**

The HLO advised members of the Highway Panel on the schemes approved and delivered from 2012/13 to 2016/17.

That this information be **NOTED**.

**7. S106/RANGERS UPDATE**

The HLO advised members of the Highway Panel on the completed schemes, and those presently being undertaken by the Highway Rangers.

That this information be **NOTED**, and the HLO facilitate the attendance of a senior representative of the Highway Rangers at a subsequent LHP meeting if required.

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(1) Accountability**

After discussion the Chairman expressed concerns of the lack of transparency in the budgetary processes in respect of approved schemes. This concern was reiterated by members, and after further discussion it was agreed that the Chairman would correspond with the respective Portfolio Holder to investigate the feasibility of more transparency with respect to how the allocated budget is calculated for suggested, as well as approved schemes.

**(2) LHP Terms of Reference**

The HLO advised members of the new LHP Terms of Reference that is available on the ECC website.

**9. FUTURE MEETING ARRANGEMENTS**

Members agreed that the next meeting of the LHP would be held at the Civic Offices on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 6.00pm.

**RESOLVED:**

(1) That the next meeting of the Local Highways Panel would be held at the Civic Offices on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 6.00pm.

**CHAIRMAN**