

MALDON DISTRICT LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL MINUTES

FRIDAY 5 JUNE 2020 at 09:15hrs

REMOTE MEETING

Chairman:	Councillor M F L Durham
Panel Members:	Councillors J Anderson, Mrs P A Channer, CC, B E Harker, M W Helm, R Pratt CC and Mrs M E Thompson
Officer:	Sonia Church – Highways Liaison Manager
Secretariat:	Berna Casey

Item		Owner
1.	Welcome and Introductions: The Chairman welcomed all Members to the first remote meeting of the Maldon District Local Highways Panel and advised on the protocol for today' meeting. He informed the meeting that the Highways Liaison Officer had sent apologies due to a family bereavement.	Chairman
2.	Apologies for absence: An apology for absence was received from Tom Eng, Highways Liaison Officer.	All
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting: The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2019 were Received and Confirmed.	All
4.	Matters Arising from Minutes of the previous meeting: 6 December 2019 Page 9 – Extension of a walkable verge in Tolleshunt Major – Councillor Mrs Thompson asked for an update on this scheme. The Highways Liaison Manager reported that according to the Highways Liaison Officer no form had been submitted for this scheme. The Chairman concurred and said he had no email correspondence relating to this. Councillor Thompson said she would pursue this through the Parish Clerk.	

	<p>Page 9 – Request from a resident regarding a road closure – Councillor Mrs Channer asked for an update on discussions between the Highways Liaison Manager and the enquiry team at Essex County Council as one of her residents had received a response from them to seek the support of their Councillor. The Highways Liaison Manager said that she had liaised with the enquiry team at Essex County Council but would enquire further through the Traffic Management Team and report back.</p> <p>The Chairman reminded Members that it was paramount to remove the name and personal details of all enquirers when forwarding correspondence from Essex Highways.</p>	
5	<p>Report on Funded Schemes – 2019/20 and 2020/21:</p> <p>The Highways Liaison Manager drew Members attention to page 10 of the report.</p> <p>Budget Summary 2019/20 Capital Budget - £200,000 Safer Roads Schemes - £27,750 Estimated Value of other Commissioned Schemes - £130,000 Remaining Budget to Allocate £42,250</p> <p>For ease of reference those schemes shaded green denoted completed. Where an update had been provided by Officers, this was shaded yellow, schemes that had been cancelled were shaded grey and those for removal were red.</p> <p>The Highways Liaison Manager reported that pages 11 and 12 denoted those schemes completed since the last meeting. She took Members through the details on some of the schemes.</p> <p><u>Item 8 – Limebrook Way j/w Mundon Road/Wantz Road, Maldon – Signage improvements A414 (Mundon Road) to Hythe Quay and Promenade Park</u> - Noted that this scheme was due to be completed in June this financial year. The scheme was a lot larger scheme than originally anticipated. Agreed that the Highways Liaison Manager discuss final signage issues separately with Councillor Mrs Channer.</p> <p><u>Item 4 – Eves Corner B1021 Southminster Road j/w Mill Road/Green Lane, Burnham-on-Crouch</u> - Bend signs, carriageway markings and kerb improvements - Noted that out of all the schemes commissioned for 2020/21 this was the only scheme that had been part installed on site. Lining was completed with signage yet to be completed.</p>	
6.	<p>Report on Schemes Awaiting Funding:</p> <p>For ease of reference those schemes shaded green denoted they</p>	

have been validated as being feasible and are available for consideration. Those shaded amber were awaiting the results of a feasibility study and red denoted schemes that were against ECC policy or there was no appropriate engineering solution. Finally, white was where a request has been received and was in the initial validation process.

The Highways Liaison Manager drew the Panel's attention to page 13 of the report.

Budget Summary

Safer Roads	£0
Traffic Management	£26,000
Walking	£0
Passenger Transport	£10,000
Public Rights of Way	£0
Total	£36,000

She advised Members that these were validated schemes that could be funded should the panel decide to do so. She then reminded Members that should they know of other appropriate schemes, they could serve as a backup and be brought in to replace those not proceeding to ensure maximum use of available funding.

With reference to the COVID-19 situation it was noted that there may be an impact on any schemes in or around Maldon High Street due to the need for social distancing. A communication was imminent from Councillor Bentley, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, regarding potential delays. Some designers were being redirected to COVID – 19 schemes as they were a priority, however, the Highways Liaison Manager felt that it was possible to deliver all schemes, albeit a little later in the year.

Traffic Management

Item 1 – Blockhouse Farm Cottages, Steeple Road, St. Lawrence – Traffic management - Noted that this was currently amber, awaiting a site visit but not previously possible due to COVID-19. The Highways Liaison Manager said she was ready to co-ordinate once confirmed by Councillor Pratt.

Item 2 – Chimney Pot Lane Hazeleigh – Investigation into the possibility of placing restrictions to prevent HGVs from using the route – Agreed that given the results of the HGV survey this scheme be removed temporarily from the list.

Item 3 – Witham Road, Wickham Bishops – Investigation into the possibility of undertaking a review of the signing and lining along the route – Agreed that this scheme be funded.

	<p><u>Item 4 – East End Road, Bradwell on-Sea – Parish Council requested traffic calming measures and a 20mph limit</u> – Noted that this scheme was in validation.</p> <p><u>Item 5 – Witham Road, Little Braxted – Parish Council requested additional signage to prevent vehicles from travelling along Witham Road</u> – Agreed that this scheme be removed as the cost was prohibitive.</p> <p><u>Item 6 – Walden House Road, Great Totham – Parish Council have requested traffic calming measures within the vicinity of the Primary School</u> – Following discussion of the issue here it transpired that the problem was idling cars. The Panel agreed that it would be best to liaise with the School regarding a 3PR scheme and at the same time discuss how to address the issue of idling cars with the Head Teacher. The Chairman said he was happy to write to the Ward Member to raise both issues with the School. Agreed to leave on list for now as amber.</p> <p><u>Item 7 - Kelvedon Road, Wickham Bishops - Parish Council have requested measures to prevent parking around the bus stop</u> – Noted still in validation, awaiting results.</p> <p><u>Item 8 – Old Heath Road j/w Tinkers Hole, Southminster - Councillor Pratt requested an investigation into changing the priority at the junction and signage improvements</u> - Noted that this scheme was coded red, the validation recommended not to proceed as the work was not supported by the Road Safety Team. It was acknowledged that something may happen as a result of a future large development going forward but that it be removed from the list for now.</p> <p>It was noted that schemes 9-14 were feasibility studies or designs completed last year that have come back with no outcome.</p> <p><u>Item 9 - Mill Lane j/w Buckingham Street, Tolleshunt Major - HGV signage improvements</u>. Noted that the feasibility study suggested that it not be implemented, and consultation be undertaken with businesses in Beckingham Business Park. Councillor Thompson advised that businesses were co-operative, the problem was with drivers from abroad. The Highway Liaison Manager suggested that since there was nothing further that could be done by way of signage the postcode could be removed from professional SATNAVs. Agreed that the Chairman write to Councillor Bentley suggesting that an email be sent to all Members to compile a comprehensive list of postcodes with the same issues which could then be submitted to the appropriate department in Essex Highways for action.</p>	
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<p><u>Item 10 – Factory Hill/Brook Road/D’Arcy Road, Tolleshunt Knights – Traffic management improvements to mini-roundabout</u> – Noted that the feasibility results recommended not to proceed as there were concerns with carriageway widths. Agreed to remove.</p> <p><u>Item 11 – Tiptree Road, Wickham Bishops – Footway – investigation into the possibility of linking the footway</u> - Noted that this would remain for now subject to a quote for the works. If deemed prohibitive it would be removed.</p> <p><u>Item 12 – Main Road, Mundon, traffic management improvements – road narrowing and/or priority working</u> – Agreed to remove from the list as farm vehicles would not be able to navigate road narrowings.</p> <p><u>Item 13 – Woodham Road/The Street, Stow Maries – Traffic management improvements – road narrowing and/or priority parking</u> – Agreed to remain on the list and remove reference to speed limit increase.</p> <p><u>Item 14 - Fambridge Road, Maldon (Limebrook Way RAB to Royal Oak P/H) – Footpath. Detailed design of footpath.</u> Noted that this was only physically possible to design behind the hedge, but landowners weren’t happy. Agreed to leave it on the list for now, subject to discussions with landowners.</p> <p><u>Item 15 - Carters Lane, Wickham Bishops - Request to install measures to prevent HGVs from using the route.</u> Agreed to remove as a result of the HGV survey. The Highways Liaison Manager to report back to the Chairman on the duration of the survey.</p> <p><u>Item 16 - Steeple Road, Mayland Request to investigate the possibility of reducing the speed along Steeple Road.</u> Noted still in validation, awaiting results.</p> <p><u>Item 17 - Maldon Road A414 - HGV Signage Improvements Request to investigate possible HGV signage improvements to direct HGVs up Wycke Hill.</u> Noted still in validation, awaiting results.</p> <p><u>Item 18 - Limebrook Way, Maldon - Speed reduction Request to investigate a possible speed reduction along the route.</u> Noted that Essex Highways deemed this was against the speed management strategy and recommended removal. Agreed to remain on list for now to be escalated via Councillor Channer to Councillor Bentley for a surgery discussion and report back.</p> <p>The Highways Liaison Manager reminded Members that completion of validations would be delayed at the moment due to the impact of COVID -19.</p>	
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	<p>Walking</p> <p><u>Item 1 - B1010 Chelmsford Road (Spar Lane to Veterinary Practice), Purleigh – Footway - Investigation into possible footway/walkable verge.</u> Noted recommended remove from the list due to prohibitive cost. Agreed that since it cost above budget can take it to Councillor Bentley for adding to the Major Schemes list. In the meantime, Councillor Channer to discuss other possible avenues of funding (Crowd Funding, CIF) with the Parish Council to explore match funding opportunities.</p> <p><u>Item 2 - Wycke Hill, Maldon - Crossing Improvements Request to investigate possible crossing improvements.</u> Noted still in validation, awaiting results.</p> <p>Passenger Transport</p> <p><u>Item 1 - Fambridge Road, Maldon, New bus stop poles/flags/timetables.</u> Agreed to leave on the list and await the outcome of the COVID-19 process.</p> <p><u>Item 2 - B1018 Southminster Road near Dairy Farm Road, Althorne/Mayland, New bus stop.</u> Noted that this scheme description should not include 'kerbing'. Agreed that a formal stop for passengers be put in place.</p> <p>Public Rights of Way</p> <p><u>Item 1 - Byway 32 Purleigh (Roundbush Road to Howe Green Road)Improve drainage, rebuild surface, install heavy duty removable bollards.</u> Noted that further works were currently being investigated.</p>	
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Councillor Channer raised the issue of a sensory guide and charter for Maldon and the possibility of a funding contribution from the panel for this purpose. It was agreed that once the scheme was submitted and deemed suitable the Panel would contribute £5,000 towards this initiative.</p> <p>Councillor Thompson assured the Panel that she would be submitting a scheme application for the extension of a walkable verge in Tolleshunt Major.</p> <p>Councillor Anderson, referring to an earlier meeting with the Highways Liaison Officer and Manager asked for an update. The Highways Liaison Manager asked that he complete the form with all the pertinent issues about signage and submit to Councillor Pratt, for onward transmission to Essex Highways.</p>	

	<p>Councillor Harker asked about the budget for signage and fencing cleaning across the district. The Highways Liaison Manager said that the Rangers budget could be used but that they were not allowed to work outside of a 30mph zone where a lot of white fencing denoting the entrance to villages etc were located. She advised that Members alert the Highway Liaison Officer to the locations in question and they would determine what could reasonably be done.</p> <p>Some Members noted that a number of parishes and residents took care of communal fences and signage cleaning.</p> <p>In response to a query around the works on Mundon Bridge it was noted that the website had up-to-date detail on this.</p> <p>Councillor Channer suggested that a message of condolence be sent to the Highways Liaison Officer, Tom Eng on behalf of the Panel and the Chairman said he was happy to do so.</p> <p>Finally, the Chairman thanked all for their contributions.</p>	
8.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>To be determined</p>	

The meeting closed at 11:30am