

Minutes

Essex County Council with Brentwood Borough Council Local Highways Panel (LHP)

26 January 2016

Membership/Attendance

Cllr Dr Naylor (ECC) – Chair
Cllr Chilvers (BB)
Cllr Cloke (BB) – Vice Chair

Cllr Kendall (ECC)
Cllr Parker (BB)

Apologies

Cllr Aspinell (ECC)
Cllr Hirst (ECC)
Cllr Squirrell (BB)
Cllr Tee (BB)

Officers Present

Sonia Church – Highways Liaison Manager (ECC)
Jean Sharp – Governance and Member Support Officer (BBC)
Gregg Speller – Highways Liaison Officer (ECC)

1. Welcome and introductions

Cllr Dr Naylor welcomed all present to the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

None were received.

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Aspinell, Hirst, Squirrell and Tee and under the constitution of the Local Highways Panels, no substitutes were allowed.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

On behalf of Cllr Aspinell, Cllr Kendall advised that notification of the final costs of the Ashwells Road scheme had yet to be received. ECC officers informed Members that as at the end of November 2015 the costs stood at £200,157 and a final figure should be available by the end of January 2016.

Cllr Kendall also asked whether the proposed meeting had taken place between Cllr Naylor and Cllr Aspinell to discuss Danes Way issues. ECC officers advised that a meeting was to be arranged with Cllrs Aspinell and Dr. Naylor.

5. Public Questions

None were received

6. Potential Schemes List

ECC officers advised they had been working with the Design Manager on the forecast up to the end of the financial year and it was anticipated that delivery would be at 109% of Brentwood's budget for this year, ie delivering £472,000 worth of schemes, leaving £120,000 worth of schemes in the rolling programme. The budget for 2016/17 was to be delivered on 9 February 2016 following which decisions could be made regarding the proposed schemes for 2016/17.

Cycling

ECC officers drew the Panel's attention to the new cycling schemes set out on Page 7 of the agenda which had emanated from the Brentwood Cycling Strategy for which validation should be complete by the 21 March 2016 LHP meeting. The Chair requested that information on these proposed schemes be annexed to the published Cycling Strategy. ECC officers advised that individual schemes would need to be funded separately. The Chair suggested the schemes be considered and prioritised by a cyclist and ECC officers advised that each scheme was being evaluated by a civil engineer to ascertain deliverability.

Public Rights of Way

Two new schemes had been put forward by the PROW team: improvements to Byway 22 (Doddinghurst) between Solid Lane and Days Lane and Bridleway 10 (through Bentley Golf Course) Brentwood, at estimated costs of £27,500 and £20,000 respectively. Full details of each were included in the agenda, and they would be considered for progression at the 21 March 2016 LHP meeting.

Whilst Members acknowledged the duty to repair public rights of way, Cllr Parker advised that improvements to bridleways in his Ward had resulted in better access for flytippers and an increased number of flytips.

Passenger Transport

Members agreed to the removal of Item 1 from the list since the proposal for replacement of a vandalised bus shelter in Clarence Road, Pilgrims Hatch had been rejected by residents.

Safer Roads

Regarding Item 3 – Eagle Way/Hartswood Road/ The Avenue/Childerditch Lane, Members were pleased to note that a comprehensive report on this junction was due for completion in a fortnight and would be circulated to Panel members.

Cllr Kendall advised that he had approached Cllr Johnson (ECC) regarding funding of works at this junction, also at the Sandpit Lane/Ongar Road junction which the LHP budget would not cover.

Traffic Management

ECC officers commented on items in the list as follows:

Item 1– Investigation of safety measures in Chafford Gardens, West Horndon – this was a new addition and whilst costly was supported by Cllr Hirst.

Item 7 – Rayleigh Road junction with Poplar Drive, West Horndon – the feasibility study had established that the proposal was against ECC criteria and therefore it would be removed from the list.

Item 6 – Middleton Hall Lane – investigation into potential zebra crossing near to the junction with Shenfield Road – land acquisition was needed from the school but Cllr Cloke advised that SEPP had severe reservations regarding safety issues due to the close proximity to Shenfield Road and requested SEPP be involved in future consideration of the proposal.

Item 5 – Roman Road near to the Plough Public House – an engineer had re-visited the site and a report should be available in time for the March LHP meeting.

Item 9 – Dark Lane, Warley – this road was viable for Quiet Lane status where walking, cycling and horse riding would be encouraged and motor vehicles discouraged. ECC officers agreed to circulate the practice document for Quiet Lanes.

Item 10 – Cameron Close, Warley – installation of bollards due to anti-social parking problems. Members noted additional problems had been identified therefore the cost might increase.

It was proposed that the possibility of the ECC maintenance budget for grass areas and verges being utilized for this scheme be investigated.

Items 11 (Ingrave Road), 13 (Church Road, Kelvedon Hatch) and 14 (The Avenue, Warley) would be removed from the list as speed surveys in each location showed good traffic speed compliance.

Item 17 – Hutton Mount - a third party agreement might need to be made with residents as much of Hutton Mount was privately owned.

Item 22 – A128 Brentwood Road, Herongate – following concerns raised by the '20 is plenty' campaign group surrounding the school, possible safety measures were being considered including footway widening and average speed cameras. The panel would be kept informed of proposals.

Item 24 – Warley Road, Warley – speed data had been supplied by the police to assist with the validation process.

Item 25 - Thorndon Avenue j/w Station Road, West Horndon – review of weight limit - this item had been listed for validation.

Walking

Item 3 - Sawyers Hall Lane - it was recommended that the footway outside Becket Keys School be widened.

Item 5 - Shenfield Road, Brentwood - widening of the footpath or installation of railings had been requested but cannot be installed. Highway Rangers cutting back the grass bank encroaching on the footway might solve the problem.

7. Update of Approved Schemes

2014/15 Capital Schemes

Item 25 - Burland Way/Wates Way: hoarding had been erected around this private site and works halted therefore the Panel agreed to remove the trial scheme modifying the junction.

Item 27 - Eagle Way/Devil's Head: the draft report was complete and final version expected shortly.

Item 28 – Sandpit Lane/junction with Ongar Road: finalised report expected by the end of February 2016.

Item 32 – School Road, Kelvedon Hatch – ECC officers would request an update on this scheme and advise Members.

Item 55 – Warley Hill, Pedestrian crossing - Cllr Kendall was keen to move forward with the scheme as contribution to funding had been agreed by Tesco.

Item 69 - Danes Way, Pilgrims Hatch – no engineering solution could be identified therefore would be removed from the list. Cllr Aspinell had expressed concern regarding this proposal and ECC officers would meet with him.

8. Alfred Road LHP decision

The ECC Cabinet Member considered it appropriate for the LHP to make a decision on how to address the serious issues affecting residents of Alfred Road. However the Panel was advised that more background work was needed prior to the options being considered at a future meeting also consultation with the ward Councillors.

9. Any Other Business

1. Cllr Kendall requested a meeting be arranged with ECC officers to discuss contingency plans when the 2016/17 LHP budget was announced following the Cabinet Member's decision.
2. Cllr Cloke requested that road markings at junctions on the Three Arch and East Ham estates be renewed and was advised that this was already being addressed.
3. Cllr Cloke also requested a safety review be carried out in relation to parking in Ingatestone High Street as SEPP had advised this was outside their remit. ECC officers requested Cllr Cloke submit a form requesting a road safety audit.

10. Date of next meeting

The next LHP meeting would take place at 7.00pm on Monday 21 March 2016.
