

CASTLE POINT LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL – MINUTES AND ACTIONS

	PRESENT:	
Date: 24th September 2014	Panel Members: ECC Councillors Ray Howard (Chairman); Alan Bayley, Dave Blackwell and Jamie Huntman, CPBC Councillors Steven Cole; Simon Hart and Martin Tucker.	
Venue: Committee Room 1, Castle Point Council Offices, Benfleet		
Apologies: ECC Councillor Jill Reeves and CPBC Councillors Bill Dick and Tom Skipp	Other Attendees: Will Price – ECC Highways Liaison Officer, Beverley Gould – ECC Senior Strategy & Engagement Officer; Antony Buston, ECC Senior Strategy & Engagement Officer, Peter Wright – ECC Design and Consultancy Manager, Mark Evershed - CPRP Regeneration Delivery Manager, Trudie Bragg – CPBC Head of Environment, Stuart Jarvis – CPBC Contracts Manager, Cheryl Salmon – Minute Taker	
Item:	Action:	Action Owner:
1.	Welcome and Introductions:	
2.	Declarations of Interest: There were none.	
3.	<p>Minutes of meeting held on 22nd July 2014</p> <p>Agreed.</p> <p>Climmen Road, Canvey Island</p> <p>Cllr Blackwell reported that the “Keep Left” sign had still not been fixed and it was difficult to see the concrete post at night when the street lights were switched off. It was stated that a work order had been raised by a maintenance engineer. WP reminded the Panel that this was outside the remit of the Panel, but that he would follow it up with our maintenance engineers.</p> <p>Street Lighting</p> <p>The Chairman reported that the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation, Cllr Rodney Bass, had stated that Canvey Island should have more street lights on at night. The Chairman therefore requested that Members suggest suitable locations.</p>	WP

	<p>Marine Parade</p> <p>Cllr Blackwell requested an update on the signage he had requested for Marine Parade to dissuade heavy vehicles from using the road. A similar sign had been installed in Herbert Road.</p>	<p>WP</p>
<p>4.</p> <p>(a)</p> <p>(b)</p>	<p>Update on Major Schemes and Capital/Revenue Schemes Approved</p> <p>Update on Major Schemes – Outcome of SELEP EGS Funding Bid</p> <p>It was confirmed that although the Somnes Avenue Scheme had been included in the original bid it had not been approved for funding. It was planned to submit the scheme again in the next round of bids in October/November. The Chairman emphasised the importance of the scheme, not only for Canvey Island but the wider area as traffic congestion in Somnes Avenue also led to congestion in other parts of South East Essex.</p> <p>Update on Capital and Revenue Schemes Approved</p> <p>Members received a report on the schemes which had been agreed by the Panel for progression in the 2014-15 financial year.</p> <p>During consideration of the item Members raised the following points:</p> <p>Craven Avenue, junction with Long Road, Canvey Island</p> <p>The Chairman stated that the entrance into the road was in a poor state of repair and there had been further reports of near accidents at this location. The Chairman requested that works be carried out urgently. Peter Wright advised that maintenance of the existing road surface was outside of the remit of the Local Highway Panel, but said that he would take this up with the maintenance team following the Chairman's request.</p> <p>Craven Avenue, junction with Thorney Bay Road, Canvey Island</p> <p>Cllr Cole reported that vehicles were repeatedly parking at the junction restricting visibility and requested that double yellow lines be installed. Trudie Bragg to report to South Essex Parking Partnership (SEEP).</p>	<p>PW</p> <p>TB</p>

<p>Update on Removal of Bus Lanes - Bread and Cheese Hill, Benfleet and Hadleigh Town Centre</p>	<p>AB</p>
<p>Removal of the bus lane on Bread and Cheese Hill had been agreed. A decision on Hadleigh was awaited. It was estimated that both, if agreed, would be removed by April 2015.</p>	
<p>Kiln Road, Benfleet – Layby outside Newsagents</p>	<p>WP</p>
<p>Cllr Cole reported that two railings had been put either side of the lay-by but now cars were parking on the grass verge and blocking access to properties. It was requested that further works be carried out to prevent parking. Will Price advised that Councillor Cole should send him a scheme request, at which point he could investigate the viability of Panel funded improvements.</p>	
<p>Hilton Road (Silver Jubilee Site) and Somnes Avenue, Canvey Island</p>	<p>SJ</p>
<p>Cllr Cole reported that now the Silver Jubilee site in Hilton Road was closed there was litter everywhere including the pathway and in nearby Somnes Avenue. It was requested that the Rangers clear it.</p>	
<p>Weeds on Seawall, Canvey Island</p>	<p>SJ</p>
<p>The Chairman reported that this was being dealt with. The EA had given permission to pull out weeds and it was planned to undertake this work in the winter months.</p>	
<p>Wall outside Butchers on Jones’ Corner, Craven Avenue, Canvey Island</p>	<p>SJ</p>
<p>Cllr Cole requested that the wall outside the Butchers be knocked down as people gather to sit on the wall drinking alcohol. The Chairman stated that the wall was part of the Jones’ Estate and the owner’s permission would be required to remove the wall.</p>	
<p>Rangers</p>	<p>SJ</p>
<p>Trudie Bragg took opportunity to report that a third Ranger had now been employed. The Chairman reported that the Rangers had begun working on Canvey Way to clear the weeds.</p>	
<p>Cedar Road, Canvey Island – Speed Survey</p>	<p>WP</p>
<p>Cllr Tucker stated that the location of the speed survey in Cedar Road had been changed after the last meeting and should have been placed outside No.63. however it appeared the survey had still been carried out</p>	

	<p>at the junction of West Crescent.</p> <p>Romsey Road/London Road, Benfleet Cllr Bayley stated that whilst the vegetation at Romsey Road and London Road had been cut back it had grown quickly and needed cutting again.</p> <p>Lyton Road, Benfleet Cllr Bayley reported that a repair to the road carried out by one of the utility companies had caused the road to dip in that area. Cllr Howard to report.</p> <p>Hatley Gardens/High Road, Benfleet – Car Park Cllr Bayley stated that the car park needed resurfacing but he could not find out who owned it. It was stated that the CPBC Legal team had confirmed the land was part of the highway and owned by ECC.</p> <p>Kents Hill Road/Bowers Road, Benfleet – Restricted Visibility Cllr Bayley reported that the vegetation at the property had now been cut back and visibility was improved.</p> <p>Benfleet Railway Station – Cycle Racks Cllr Bayley stated the cycle rack was still not being used. The Chairman reported that the level of usage had increased but asked Councillors to promote the use of the cycle rack where possible.</p> <p>Runnymede Road/Clifton Road, Canvey Island – Road Markings Cllr Blackwell enquired when the road markings would be repainted as there had been two serious accidents at the location last month. It was confirmed that Will Price had reported the need for works here both to Member Enquiries and directly to the Maintenance Team. Will said he would again chase these works on behalf of Councillor Blackwell.</p> <p>“Saint’s Estate” – Speed Survey Further to a request at the last meeting a specific location for the speed survey was required. Cllr Blackwell stated that the junction of St Michael’s Road and St Peter’s Road would be the most suitable location.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>Chairman</p> <p>WP</p> <p>WP</p>
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<p>20mph Speed Limits</p> <p>The Panel discussed 20mph limits and whether they could be introduced in smaller roads and outside all schools in Castle Point. It was explained that Basildon Borough Council had carried out a feasibility study with the aim of introducing 20mph speed limit outside all schools, although certain criteria would need to be met before any schemes could be introduced.</p> <p>Cllr Cole suggested that all schools be asked if they would like to put up “20 is Plenty” signs outside the school however it was unclear if that particular scheme was still running. Will Price said that he would check this and return to the next meeting with advice on 20mph restrictions.</p> <p>Seaview Road, Canvey Island – Removal of School Crossing Patrol</p> <p>Cllr Blackwell stated that it was unacceptable that the School Crossing Patrol at the junction of Seaview Road was being removed. The volume and speed of traffic in this area was high and a lot of children from the nearby Leigh Beck School crossed the road at this junction. It was suggested that a speed survey was undertaken to assess whether a Casualty Reduction Scheme was necessary. It was agreed the survey be carried out in Seaview Road between its junction with Sheldon Road and South Parade. The results to be reported back to the Panel.</p> <p>Condition of Roads in Borough</p> <p>The Chairman reported that ECC had agreed to repair the 100 worst main roads in the County and 50 of the worst potholed roads/pavements in each district/borough. The Chairman asked ECC Members to suggest roads where funding was needed and report them through the ECC Member enquiry system, copying in Cllr Howard.</p> <p>CCTV Roscommon Way, Canvey Island</p> <p>Mark Evershed (ME) reported that the CCTV camera had been installed and was working successfully however the problem of cars racing/speeding had now moved to Northwick Road Roundabout and it had been suggested that another CCTV camera be purchased for this location. It was explained that any new projects the Panel wished to fund would have to be taken out of next year’s budget. Anthony Buston advised that the Panel should be cautious about buying another camera only for the problem to move to another area. It was necessary to look at the wider picture and plan ahead rather than following the problem around with CCTV cameras.</p> <p>ME stated that an action plan had been agreed with the Police on how to</p>	<p>WP</p> <p>WP</p> <p>ECC Members</p>
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manage the whole area in relation to this issue and the CCTV cameras had helped. There was not the same intensity of racing at Northwick as at Roscommon Way. The ultimate solution was to get more businesses on sites in the area, more buildings would equate to more lights/more traffic in the area and subsequently less racing. The Inner London Group had bought land in this area and hoped to be on site in 2015. ME to approach Inner London Group to ask if they would fund the CCTV camera.

ME

6. **Potential Schemes for consideration of the Panel Including Casualty Reduction Schemes:**

Will Price spoke about the necessity of compiling a full programme of works for 2015/16 by March. He advised that Panel Members should submit detailed scheme requests on scheme request forms to aid a more efficient scheme delivery process.

Will asked the Panel was asked to consider the following schemes in advance of the 2015-16 programme. He advised that he would be assembling a list of all provisionally approved schemes for 15/16 which could then be finalised in March.

Casualty Reduction Schemes:

Location/Problem	Estimated Cost:	Action:
Eastern Esplanade, Canvey Island/ Collision Site	£6,500	Agreed
Seaview Road junction with High Street, Canvey Island / Collision Site	£24,000	Agreed
Thundersley Park Road Junction with High Road, Benfleet / Collision Site	£19,000	Agreed

In addition the following concerns/schemes had been passed to the validating engineer for recommendations:

Location	Description
Lidl, London Road, hadleigh	Cars turning right when exiting Lidl

		causing safety concerns	
	Robert Drake raised junction, Church Road, Benfleet	Vibrations caused by raised junction, concerns over road safety and aesthetics	
	Hart Road Junction with Dark Lane, Hadleigh	Request for advance warning of crossing and school, alongside measures to discourage inconsiderate parking.	WP
	Daws Heath Road junction with Rectory Road and Poors Lane	Request to improve safety to pedestrians and drivers	
	<p>Disabled Parking Bays, Town Centre, Furtherwick Rd, Canvey Island It was reported that there had been a delay in the relocation of the disabled parking bays outside Barclays Bank as the legal order did not match the current restrictions on the ground. It was agreed that Will would investigate further to see if the bays could be relocated more quickly.</p>		WP
	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Croft Road, Benfleet Cllr Bayley reported that vehicles parking outside Appleton School blocked the road. Whilst the problem had been exacerbated recently due to works at the school it was still an ongoing issue for local residents. Trudie Bragg stated that it was not the policy of SEPP to put yellow lines outside schools, particularly as the problem was only at certain times of the day.</p> <p>Tarpots Parking Bays, London Road, Benfleet Cllr Bayley reported that the safety barrier (outside KFC) had been damaged and the brickwork was broken. Mark Evershed agreed to look at it to see if it was a design issue. It was questioned whether the parking bays were still necessary in this location. It was stated that the parking provision at Tarpots could be reviewed once the new Aldi store had been opened although it was recognised that the local shops in that area did not want to lose the parking spaces provided.</p> <p>Lamp Columns, Various Locations Cllr Blackwell enquired what ECC's policy was on the removal of lamp columns. On Canvey Island a number had been cut down leaving just a</p>		ME

	<p>stump remaining which was considered both unsightly and unsafe, particularly as many of them had been left in that condition for months, sometimes years. It was explained that often the delay was due to waiting for the power supply to be connected. Antony Buston and Beverley Gould to investigate further. Specific locations to be reported by Councillors through Member Enquiries.</p> <p>Broughton Road, Hadleigh</p> <p>Cllr Hart requested that the direction of this one way street be changed in the other direction. Will Price advised that he could look into this as a potential Panel Scheme upon receipt of more information in the form of a scheme request.</p> <p>Rangers</p> <p>Stuart Jarvis informed Members they could report potential jobs for the Rangers to him via email between Panel meetings. It was also reported that CPBC were currently in discussions with the McDonalds franchise in the borough regarding sponsorship of litter bins. An update to be given at a future meeting</p>	<p>AB/BG</p> <p>WP</p>
	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>To be confirmed.</p> <p><i>(It has subsequently been arranged for Tuesday 25th November 2014)</i></p>	