

**ROCHFORD DISTRICT LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL
NOTES OF MEETING HELD 10 OCTOBER 2013**

County Councillors: Cllrs T C Cutmore, K Gibbs, M Hoy, M Maddocks and C G Seagers
District Councillors: Cllrs C I Black, K H Hudson, Mrs G A Lucas-Gill, M J Steptoe and T E Mountain

Visiting Councillors: Cllr E Johnson, Deputy to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation

Officers: S Scrutton (RDC Head of Planning & Transportation), S Perry (ECC Principal Area Transportation Co-ordinator), N Szpigelman (ECC Highways Liaison Officer), M Valentine (ECC Highways Liaison Officer), R Wilkins (ECC Cycling Officer), P Wright (Essex Highways Design and Consultancy Manager) and M Power (RDC Minutes)

Agenda Item	Key observations	Decision/Action
Apologies for Absence	Apologies were received from Cllr M Maddocks.	
Notes of the meeting on 12 July 2013	The notes of the meeting of 12 July 2013 were agreed as a correct record, with the following amendments:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 8: The wording should be amended to read, 'Mucking Hall Lane 30mph advisory signage not agreed due to on-going consultation as part of ECC's Speed Limit Review. Horse warning and cyclist warning signage agreed'. • Page 10: Lower Road is in Hockley, not Hawkwell. 	
Potential Schemes for Consideration of the Panel	<p>Fountain Lane: Following survey results, this scheme to reduce the size of the bellmouth to prevent vehicles from turning the wrong way down the road is now at the design stage.</p> <p>Poynters Lane, Great Wakering: Complete the footpath through the most dangerous section of Poynters Lane to its Cupids Corner junction with Shoebury Road.</p>	Issue over land being owned by MoD. MV to investigate. Feasibility study to be undertaken and brought to Panel meeting

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	<p>Ashingdon Road, Rochford: PV² survey to be undertaken prior to determining if the existing zebra crossing can be upgraded to a signalised crossing.</p> <p>Gardeners Lane, Canewdon: Speed survey to be undertaken. It was noted that it is unusual for the speed limit to be reduced from 60 mph to 30 mph. The request would be referred to Essex County Council Network Management as part of the review.</p> <p>Lower Road – between Abbey Road and Burnham Road (speed survey): Speed survey to be carried out along this stretch of road.</p> <p>(This scheme has links with the casualty reduction scheme (LROC131012): to undertake a feasibility study for design options for this location/ to investigate upgrading the crossing and pedestrian facilities along the route.)</p> <p>Lower Road j/w Watery Lane: Design to change the junction control to a mini roundabout. Although the proposed development at this location is likely to proceed (which may impact on the junction), Essex County Council has a duty of care to proceed with all identified casualty reduction schemes. There have been a number of accidents and issues at this junction, so the scheme cannot be delayed. SP would meet with</p>	<p>January 2014.</p> <p>MV to action</p> <p>Speed survey to be undertaken and results brought to Panel meeting January 2014.</p> <p>Feasibility study for design options to go ahead at a cost of £2,210 (dependent on speed survey results).</p> <p>Design to go ahead at a cost of £1,000. SP to meet with engineers prior to design being finalised.</p>
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	<p>Road Safety engineers to discuss whether the design could pick up potential development issues. The design would be progressed following this discussion. (It was noted that the cost of implementing the scheme would be in the region of £25,000.)</p> <p>Bus Stop Improvements These schemes were previously funded/delivered under the Passenger Transport scheme. The responsibility has now been transferred to the Highways Panels.</p> <p>Cycling Improvements Rosemary Wilkins, County Council Cycling Officer advised the Panel on the proposed strategy for improving cycle links across the county: a route from Southend sea front to Chelmsford had been identified and plans would be emailed to Panel Members. There is a good public rights of way network within the Rochford District and the District's parks are well used by cyclists. The proposals would form part of national cycle network being developed (Sustrans) and would utilise the existing network of lanes and quiet roads. The cost of the scheme would be largely for erecting signage to alert people to cycle routes. As part of the joint area action plan (JAAP) there are proposals for routes around London Southend airport and into Rochford. The feasibility study would ascertain whether rural footpaths/bridleways would be viable for use by cyclists. It was felt that a network of cycle paths would provide an opportunity for people to cycle who do not feel safe on</p>	<p>The four bus stop shelter schemes detailed in the report were agreed for funding by the Panel.</p> <p>Agreed that a cycle path feasibility study through Rochford District (in the region of £7,500) be funded. This would provide a detailed design to ascertain the cost of implementation of the proposed cycle scheme.</p>
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	<p>the roads, which potentially would reduce congestion on the roads. It was hoped to encourage more school children and their parents to cycle to school.</p> <p>It was noted that maintenance of the cycle track alongside the A127 was in a bad condition. Members advised that maintenance of cycle paths generally was a concern. Essex Highways would have the responsibility for maintaining the cycle paths and cleaning would be undertaken by the District Council.</p> <p>The total cost of the feasibility study would be in the region of £15,000; the cost of the route through the Rochford District would be approximately £7,500. The cycle schemes themselves would not fall within the Panel's budget.</p>	
<p>Indicative Programme for Schemes Approved 2012-13</p>	<p><u>Rawreth Lane, Rawreth - playing fields.</u> Using bollards or an alternative measure to prevent parking by playing fields was discussed. The engineers had advised that a rural clearway was the better option and that enforcement would be cheaper. This would be effected in 2014/15.</p> <p><u>Warwick Road j/w Clarence Road - casualty reduction scheme.</u> This was for the design only (the scheme itself would cost in the region of £36,000). The proposed traffic calming measure would be a raised table with a standard 1:10 gradient. There would be no damage to</p>	<p>That a rural clearway be established in the area of the Rawreth Lane playing fields.</p> <p>Agreed that the feasibility and design proceed for the scheme.</p>

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	<p>neighbouring property.</p> <p><u>Southend Road j/w Ravenswood Chase, Rochford.</u> The programme had been cancelled due to it not satisfying the set casualty reduction scheme rate of return. In respect of moving any signs, this was a maintenance item and would involve no cost to the Panel.</p> <p><u>Barling Road (village gateways) and Little Wakering Road, Little Wakering (parking restrictions)</u> These schemes had been due for delivery in August 2013; they were both scheduled to be completed during 2013/14. N Szpigelman to advise of the reason for delay and confirm exact locations to Cllr Steptoe.</p> <p><u>Spa Road, Hockley (pedestrian guard rail).</u> The order for railings has been placed with the contractor and is due to be installed by the end of 2013/14 financial year. Precise dates would be emailed to Members.</p> <p>Members could contact M Valentine with any further questions on the Rochford District Approved Scheme List.</p>	<p>MV to investigate with the maintenance team.</p> <p>MV to action</p> <p>MV to action.</p>
<p>Hullbridge Road – Bus Stop Relocation</p>	<p>The Panel watched a traffic survey video of the existing bus stop. During discussion, the following was noted:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General design practice is to have bus stops within the road rather than in a layby. 	<p>Option D – to locate a bus bay on Hullbridge Road, north of Rawreth lane within the grass verge area – was agreed. This would be subject to trial hole investigation and presence of Statutory</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option D would improve parking and access to the shops as well as bus stop layby. <p>It was confirmed that a total of £70,000 had been allocated for re-location of this bus stop.</p> <p>It was agreed by a majority of Members that Option D (to locate a bus bay on Hullbridge Road, north of Rawreth Lane within the grass verge area) be recommended. This would be subject to trial hole investigation and the presence of Statutory Undertakers services). In the event that a full-sized layby is not possible, officers would contact Cllr Seagers for a decision.</p> <p>(Cllr C I Black wished it to be recorded that he had voted against this option.)</p>	<p>Undertakers services and the provision of a full-sized layby to ensure the bus is fully off the road. Officers to contact the Panel Chairman if this is not possible. (SP/MV)</p>
<p>Watery Lane – Road Closure</p>	<p>Watery Lane would be closed for reconstruction of the Beeches Bridge, with work expected to start on 14 October 2013 and last for 12 weeks: as well as 10 weeks from 6 January 2014 for reconstruction work to the Hanover Bridge.</p> <p>Both reconstruction works have been rescheduled for Summer 2014.</p>	
<p>Any other business</p>	<p>The issue of missing chevron signs in Shopland Road, Sutton was with engineers. A timescale for completion of the work was requested.</p>	<p>MV</p>

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	<p>The missing chevrons on the sharp bends in Lower Road, Hockley are clearly visible embedded in the mud. MV to investigate progress.</p> <p>Pooles Lane, Hullbridge. Residents using the hump in the road as a crossing. Cllr Hoy to email details to MV.</p> <p>Issue with inconsiderate parking opposite Rochford Primary School outside private properties. A traffic regulation order to stop this parking in school times was requested – SP to raise this with the Parking Partnership and report back to Cllr Mrs Lucas-Gill. The issue of cars being advertised for sale in this area could be referred to TS.</p> <p>It is envisaged that the future role of the Panel will be to recommend schemes to be designed/funded within the current financial year, with implementation taking place the following year. Funding will be allocated to the Panel accordingly.</p>	<p>MV</p> <p>Cllr Hoy/MV</p> <p>SP/MV</p>
Date of forthcoming meeting	Thursday 30 January 2014 at 10 am	

The meeting started at 10 am and ended at 12.15 pm.