

**ROCHFORD DISTRICT LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL
NOTES OF MEETING HELD 23 NOVEMBER 2012**

County Councillors: Cllrs S C Castle and Mrs T Chapman
District Councillors: Cllrs C I Black, K H Hudson (Chairman), Mrs G A Lucas-Gill and M J Steptoe

Officers: S Scrutton (RDC Head of Planning & Transportation), S Perry (ECC Principal Transportation Co-ordinator), N Szpileman (ECC Highways Liaison Officer), Andy Hillsdon (Maintenance Group Manager), Beverley Gould (Integrated Transport Programme Manager), Andy Champ (ITS Congestion Specialist) and M Power (RDC Minutes).

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs E M Hart, R A Pearson and T E Mountain

Agenda Item	Key observations	Decision/Action
Notes of the meeting on 14 September 2012	The notes of the meeting of 14 September 2012 were agreed as a correct record.	
Rawreth Lane Proposed Roundabout	<p>Members considered the report and supporting papers. County Highways delivered a presentation on Rawreth Lane/Hullbridge Road Traffic Management Options, which showed the results of monitoring the junction for a two-week period. It was noted that the roundabout is performing within its design parameters, which was demonstrated by the absence of stationary traffic on any of the approaches to the roundabout during the monitoring period. (During this period there was a significant increase in traffic during the three days when Watery Lane was closed.)</p> <p>The presentation showed video footage of a delay in traffic caused by the bus stopping for a prolonged period at the bus stop in Hullbridge Road. The option of</p>	<p>Decision:</p> <p>It was agreed to recommend the following to go ahead:-</p> <p>(1) Rawreth Lane/Hullbridge Road: relocating bus stop to lay-by at a cost of £50,000</p> <p>(2) Improve mini-roundabout and right turn to service road at a cost of £43,000</p> <p>(Section 106 monies to be used to part fund)</p>

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	<p>relocating the bus stop at a cost of £50,000 was considered, which would involve liaison with the bus company to ensure the bus layby is wide enough. Signing should also be improved. Parking next to the shopping parade must not be reduced. The traffic lights have a cumulative effect along Rawreth Lane so there is a need to look at Rawreth Lane as a whole: this could be a future piece of work.</p> <p>Watery Lane is closed once a month for foliage clearance and works were undertaken earlier this year to repair gullies. As a result of these works Watery Lane had been less prone to flooding than usual; the effect would continue to be monitored over the winter period.</p> <p>There is a short gap between the two ditches on the south side of Watery Lane, which contributes to the flooding in this area. The ECC Flood Department would be asked to produce a flooding investigation report if there is no survey currently. It was noted that the need to tie the Highways drain into an Environment Agency drain may be expensive.</p> <p>There was a request that the cost of the 2-week traffic survey be ascertained so that it may be considered for use at other junctions if appropriate. Funding would be taken from the Panel revenue budget for any surveys undertaken.</p> <p>The option of adopting the wider area improvements on</p>	<p>NS</p> <p>NS</p> <p>The option of adopting the wider area improvements on the A129 London</p>
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	<p>the A129 London Road/Downhall Road signal installation (cost: £500k) would not be considered at present because of the High Street/Websters Way capacity improvements (cost: £400,000).</p>	<p>Road/Downhall Road signal installation would not be considered for 2012/13.</p>
<p>Crossing: Bradley Way footpath and signal pedestrian crossing: Hullbridge Road</p>	<p>Although the survey data does not support either of the schemes, Members asked that both projects be designed, with detailed costings for both schemes available for the next meeting.</p> <p>Of the budget available to the Panel for 2012/13, £215,000 had been used to date, with £200,000 remaining from the total budget.</p> <p>The Police have raised concern that members of the public are parking on the zigzag lines at the crossing in Spa Road, Hockley. Sainsbury's lorries are parking just before the zigzags and traffic overtaking the lorries is then immediately on the crossing. The Police have enforced the parking restrictions, but the problem persists. The Police have now requested that railings be instated on the side of the road opposite the crossing.</p> <p>It was noted that a guard rail in this location would have to match the existing ornate rail as the location is in the Conservation Area. The total cost of the works would be in the region of £20,000 in total and Sainsbury's have agreed to contribute to this. It was requested that the amount of this contribution be established for the next meeting. The works could be considered in the 2013/14</p>	<p>Detailed costings for the footway schemes for Bradley Way, Rochford and Hullbridge Road to be available for the next meeting. (NS)</p> <p>(NS)</p>

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	Panel budget.	
Potential Schemes for consideration of Panel	<p>London Road, junction with Vernon Avenue, Rayleigh: Tesco are making a planning application to revamp the car park area and will approach ECC to purchase part of the site splay. It would be inappropriate, therefore, to proceed at this point with the scheme to install bollards on the grass verge to prevent vehicles parking. A further risk assessment will be undertaken with a view to putting pedestrian safety barriers around the area that has been damaged by lorry wheels. Tesco deliveries are being monitored. The funding for this scheme will be kept on hold but can only be retained for a scheme if it has been chosen before the end of the financial year – otherwise funding will be lost.</p> <p>A request had been received for a vehicle activated sign to be instated at Greensward Lane. N Szipgelman to ascertain where this request originated and provide further information at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Funding earmarked for works at the junction between London Road and Vernon Avenue, Rayleigh to be retained.</p> <p>(NS)</p>
Update on Maintenance Programme	It was discussed that the reason cyclists use the road rather than the cycle path along Cherry Orchard Way is that the cycle path is not maintained. This will be fed back as appropriate.	(AH)
Any other business	Request from Hawkwell Parish Council for a Stop sign at the junction of Hall Road/Rectory Road. When the housing development commences in this area, the	

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junction will be remodelled and a left turn lane introduced. The issue will be revisited at this time.

Ashingdon Road closure from Hall Road to Daly's Road. A handout was distributed that showed the proposed Ashingdon Road closure between Hall Road and Daly's Road in order that the carriageway, which is in extreme disrepair, can be repaired. A drainage survey and footway works have been undertaken and there would be liaison with the Environment Agency due to the presence of tar in the road surface. The preferred option would be to complete the works during the February 2013 half-term week, at night-time only. However, if this is not possible there may be a need to close this section of the road totally for the 7-day period. It is likely that traffic would be diverted through Rochford town centre and HGVs diverted separately along Lower Road. It was recognised that there would be a further impact on Rochford town centre if HGV's were to ignore the diversion signs. The Panel requested advance sight of any publicity regarding these works.

(AH)

Members raised the issue of congestion at the junction of Weir Pond Road and East Street. County Highways could remove the island at this junction as part of the above resurfacing scheme.

(AH)

Lorries at the road works at Apton Hall Road are destroying the grass verge – this would be looked into.

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	<p>Southend Road from Anne Boleyn to Warners Bridge will be resurfaced during the period January to March 2013.</p> <p>The JAAP report would be going to Rochford District Council's Executive on 5 December and Southend Borough Council's Cabinet on 4 December. There will be no facilities provided to access the airport railway station from the Southend Road; a green-belt buffer would be retained.</p> <p>Any maintenance issues can be reported on-line or sent direct to County Highways.</p>	
<p>Parking Partnership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request was made for the Parking Partnership to look at the issue around parking of Sanctuary Housing white vans at Locks Hill, Rochford. • Parking of vehicles at the junction of Love Lane/High Road, Rayleigh, which makes it difficult to access and exit at the junction – this would be referred to the Parking Partnership. • The build-out scheme outside Baring School had failed to include provision of yellow lines – this would be referred to the Parking Partnership. 	<p>Parking Partnership</p> <p>Parking Partnership</p> <p>Parking Partnership</p>
	<p>A written request had been received from the Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils to have a representative on the Panel. The request was declined</p>	

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	<p>as Parish/Town Councils have access to their County Council Member Panel representative, all of whom are Panel Members. In addition, there is a standing item on the Agenda for Public Questions.</p> <p>A request had been received from Cllr J McPherson about speeding along White Hart Lane. No action would be taken.</p> <p>Essex County Highways is looking at the Sutton Ford Bridge scheme strategically as a key part of the airport expansion. Possible funding avenues include the Local Enterprise Partnership as it can be demonstrated that the road will have economic benefit; or the Department for Transport as it is a primary road.</p> <p>It was requested that the junction of Shopland Road and Sutton Road be added to the list, as Members have concerns about the safety of this junction.</p> <p>The bollards placed along either side of the new Sutton Ford bridge had been removed: this would be passed to the Structures Team.</p>	(SS)
<p>Dates of forthcoming meetings</p>	<p>Members requested that an additional meeting of the Panel should be scheduled to take place in late January. Forthcoming meeting dates, as follows:- A date in late January 2013 (to be arranged) Wednesday 13 March 2012 at 10am</p>	(SP)
		<p>An additional meeting of the Highways Panel be organised for late January 2013. (SP/NS)</p>

The meeting started at 10 am and ended at 11.43 am.

