

ROCHFORD LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL MINUTES 14 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 2.00PM

REMOTE MEETING

Chairman:	Cllr Mrs J R Lumley (ECC)
Panel Members:	Cllr B T Hazlewood (RDC), Cllr Mrs C A Weston (ECC), Cllr M J Steptoe (ECC), Cllr I H Ward (RDC) and Cllr P J Shaw (RDC).
Officers:	D Maclean – ECC Highways Liaison Officer (DM)
Secretariat:	L Morris – RDC Democratic Services Officer

Item		Owner
1.	The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.	
2.	<p>Apologies from Cllr M Maddocks, Cllr Mrs C E Roe and Sonia Church (Highway Liaison Manager). Cllr A Marriott was not in attendance. Cllr G Ioannou observed the meeting with the Chairman's permission.</p> <p>Declarations of interest in items on the agenda: Cllr I H Ward declared a non-pecuniary interest by virtue of being Members of Barling Magna Parish Council. Cllr I H Ward and Cllr Mrs J R Lumley declared a non-pecuniary interest as members of Rayleigh Town Council.</p>	
3.	The Minutes of meeting held on 15 June 2020 were agreed as a correct record.	
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Ward requested an updated on Brocketts, Eastwood Road, Rayleigh and was advised by DM that this had been investigated and could see there was a historic defect where the bollards had been knocked down and removed, and as with any bollards throughout the county, they are not deemed an urgent issue, but could look to replace them through the Local Highways Panel. • Cllr Steptoe raised a point on Pointers Lane, j/w Wakering Road, Great Wakering and stated that the undergrowth was growing through the railings but on the wrong side of the ditch to where the 	

	<p>rangers would usually operate. He argued that if Highways could get involved with this, this may aid the situation. DM advised that the Casualty Reduction Team were currently redesigning the junction as cutting back the vegetation had proved insufficient. The junction redesign will be presented as a potential scheme next year. It was advised that this would not be completed until quarter 4 as a result of COVID-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Steptoe also referred to the two grasscrete schemes in Great Wakering and questioned when this was likely to be delivered. DM advised that the finance team had been liaising with SEPP directly regarding the funding, but hadn't heard anything for a little while, therefore it depends on how quickly Essex County Council received the funds. • Clarification was needed on who the lead member of SEPP was, as some Members were under the impression that this was Cllr Steptoe. • Cllr Steptoe asked for a further update on High Street, Great Wakering – bus cage and was advised by DM that the only feasible option would be to move the bus stop as installing a bus cage would cause additional safety options. Cllr Maddocks had previously advised that as the LHP should not fund this, as correctional works should be funded by the team responsible for the incorrect placing of the crossing. • Cllr Phil Shaw requested clarification on the bus shelter in Stambridge as mentioned in section 8 of the previous meetings' minutes. DM advised that a scheme request form had not been put forward for this site, so could not advise. The Chairman asked Cllr Weston if this was the item brought forward by herself, who advised that she had been speaking to Cllr Steptoe regarding this as it was near a corner. Cllr Shaw advised that he felt all that needed to be done was to move the sign for the bus stop, and Cllr Lumley asked Cllr Steptoe, Cllr Weston and Cllr Shaw to liaise on this. 	
5.	<p>Funded Schemes List 2020/21</p> <p>The programme was only 4 schemes; the design engineers had to prioritise COVID-19 work therefore the</p>	

	<p>completion date of the majority of schemes was not until quarter 4.</p> <p>Pointers Lane, j/w Wakering Road, Great Wakering. DM advised that the Casualty Reduction Team were currently redesigning the junction and were aware that cutting back the vegetation would not be sufficient, and this would be presented as a potential scheme next year. It was advised that this would not be completed until quarter 4 as a result of COVID-19. Cllr Steptoe queried the allocated budget of £4,000 and if this was just for validation or also for works, and was advised by DM that this was for design only, as they were looking at the junction and the whole road to see what could be done to significantly increase the road safety.</p> <p>Spa Road, Hockley – Eldon Road, Hockley. No update was given on this scheme.</p> <p>The Chase, Rayleigh – speed table. No update was given on this scheme.</p> <p>Eastwood Road, Rayleigh – Signalised Crossing. Started on 14 September and due to complete soon. Cllr Mrs Lumley queried if this had some SEPP funding and if this had been received, and was advised that the panel had agreed to fund the scheme but were awaiting the funds.</p>	
6.	<p>Schemes Awaiting Funding</p> <p>Star Lane, Great Wakering. A feasible scheme which could be considered.</p> <p>Two grasscrete schemes in Rochford Garden Way, Rochford and Twyford Avenue, Great Wakering. Both been validated and considered feasible schemes, awaiting SEPP funds to be released but once this had been received, the schemes could be added to the programme for delivery.</p> <p>Ashingdon Road, Rochford – bollards. The scheme is feasible, it was noted that as there was a school nearby, putting these bollards in place could displace some of the parking. DM highlighted that this was something to bear in mind at the point that the scheme was considered. Cllr Ian Ward asked if DM had been in contact with RDC Planning Department regarding the planning application going in on this road. DM advised that he had not, to which the Chairman advised that it was further south from</p>	

	<p>the school. Cllr Steptoe advised that he had had a meeting with Cllr Weston and the planning engineers where a number of schemes had been mentioned and were being taken into account with regards to their response, therefore this was being worked on behind the scenes. Cllr Steptoe advised that this was being discussed between RDC officers and LHP officers, to which DM responded by stating he would speak to the other officers.</p> <p>Main Road, Hockley – bollards. A feasible scheme which could be considered.</p> <p>New Road/Shoebury Road, Great Wakering – signing. Request to install a ‘bend ahead’ sign prior to the sharp bend where a number of collisions had taken place previously. Considered to be feasible and a price of £5,500 had been provided. DM highlighted that it could be less than this as there was an existing pole on the site that could be potentially used.</p> <p>Rochford Town Centre, Market Square. Last year this had to be placed on hold as the surveys could not be carried out. DM advised that the speed survey restriction had now been lifted, so the scheme should be able to be finalised, however, as the surveys are quite specific, DM waiting on confirmation that they can recommence. Cllr Steptoe asked for clarification on if speed surveys could continue and was advised DM that he had requested all speed surveys and that they had been submitted in the order that they had been received. Cllr Steptoe stated that it would be useful to have a listing on the speed surveys that had been requested so that there was no duplication and was advised that this was in the appendix that is sent over following the panel, and would be received at some point in the week.</p> <p>Eastwood Road/High Street – Pedestrian railings. Roll over scheme from the previous year, awaiting Feasibility Study to be completed once SEPP funds are released. The Chairman noted this item and stated that the longer we wait on this, the bigger issues we face, and was frustrated at the lack of SEPP funds.</p> <p>A127/A129 Rayleigh Weir Roundabout – Lane Signage and Markings. Roll over scheme from the previous year, awaiting Feasibility Study to be completed once SEPP funds are released.</p>	<p>DM</p> <p>DM</p>
--	---	---------------------

Little Wheatley Chase, Rayleigh. A feasible scheme which could be considered. DM advised that there was a second potential scheme for Little Wheatley Chase to install a zebra crossing and that PV2 surveys can now be carried out, therefore has been requested.

Waking Road, Great Waking – 40mph buffer zone. A feasible scheme which could be considered. Cllr Steptoe stated that he thought that this would be tied in with the Pointers Lane, j/w Waking Road. DM advised that this is a feasible scheme within itself, but would not be tied in with Pointers Lane, j/w Waking Road.

Anchor Lane, Canewdon. A feasible scheme with two options; can either move the village gate which would cost approximately £6,500 or alternatively move the gate and extend the 30mph speed limit which would cost £11,000. DM advised this was a scheme to consider next year should the panel wish to.

Stambridge Road, Stambridge – 20mph outside Stambridge Primary School. One of a number of schemes that has been awaiting a speed survey which has now been requested, and DM advised the results would be shared as soon as possible. Cllr Shaw stated that he came down Stambridge Road yesterday and saw strips down there, so concluded this was going ahead.

Stambridge Road, Stambridge – 20mph outside Mini Marvels Pre-School. One of a number of schemes that has been awaiting a speed survey.

Little Waking Road, Barling. Relocation of wig-wag as has been struck multiple times. DM advised that the recommendation was that it cannot be rebuilt in the current location, it would need to be moved further back and slightly over which would mean putting in a new connection hence why it carried quite high costs. A feasible scheme which could be considered.

Anchor Lane/Lambourne Hall Road, Canewdon. Request for a 20mph limit outside entrances to Canewdon Primary School. Speed survey requested.

Coronation Close, Great Waking – grasscrete. In validation.

Cheapside West, Rayleigh – grasscrete. In validation.

<p>Thorpe Road, Hockley – vehicular access restriction. Third party request, not something that would usually be funded by LHP although it is assessed by LHP process and is in validation. Unfortunately, usually request around 3 months for a validation, but because of COVID-19 works, all validations are taking longer across county. DM advised would update when results returned. Cllr Ward wondered if there was any value in having a blanket '20 is plenty' scheme across the District when it comes to the local schools. The Chairman advised this isn't a question easily answered but advised this was being considered at County. Cllr Steptoe advised that the 3PR scheme was in effect around the District which did include this, and is for the schools to take up. Cllr Ward felt that it would be good to find out if the schools do know about this scheme and if they are responding, to which DM advised that schools had been contacted. DM also advised that he was not aware of a county wide '20 is plenty' scheme, but there was always the possibility to suggest these through the panel.</p> <p>Hall Road, Rochford. Currently with the engineers for validation.</p> <p>Upway, Rayleigh – grasscrete. In validation.</p> <p>Hawkwell Park Drive, Hockley. The only option deemed feasible in this case is parking restrictions, therefore the recommendation is to contact SEPP as it is not something that can come through the LHP. DM advised that he would speak with Cllr Maddocks in regard to this to see if it could be removed from the programme.</p> <p>Barling Road, Great Wakering – speed limit. Currently in validation with the engineers.</p> <p>London Road, Rayleigh – pedestrian crossing. Waiting for the development's first occupants to move in, then the scheme can move forward.</p> <p>Nelsons Gardens, Rayleigh. A feasible scheme which could be considered.</p> <p>Ashingdon Road, Rochford – zebra crossing upgrade. Pedestrians had previously been hit when crossing and panel had agreed to fund this as soon as possible. Awaiting SEPP funding for Eastwood Road at which point funds could be reallocated. DM advised that this would hopefully be a deliverable scheme this year. Cllr Steptoe</p>	<p>DM</p>
--	-----------

	<p>advised that he had been in discussion with engineers on this point.</p> <p>Anchor Lane, Canewdon – pedestrian crossing. Waiting for PV2 to be carried out.</p> <p>Little Wheatley Chase, Rayleigh. Waiting for PV2 to be carried out.</p> <p>PROW 285 Improvements – Hockley. To improve the condition of PROW 285 running between Sunny Road and Elizabeth Close, Hockley. Awaiting SEPP funds to be cleared which was due to happen the same week, therefore DM advised this would hopefully be delivered within the next few months. Cllr Steptoe advised it would be beneficial to have this completed prior to the bad weather, to which DM advised the team were confident this would be able to be done.</p> <p>PROW 71, Rayleigh – Street Lighting. A feasible scheme which could be considered for delivery in the 2021/22 financial year. DM advised estimated cost of £39,000. The Chairman advised she had had a conversation at the Town Council and possibly with Rawreth Council to help to contribute towards this scheme, as she felt that this was essential. Cllr Ward felt that this area had a lot of safety issues and therefore supported this scheme. DM suggested that at the next meeting, it would be worth going to the Parish Council's and advising that we could fund this with their support. The Chairman raised concern that at this point decisions may have already been made in these Parishes, and would need to be raised before this in order to have an understanding of the sum that the Council's may wish to contribute.</p>	
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>VAS Sign – Sutton Road. Cllr Steptoe asked if there was any further update on this, and noted the update was that the manufacturer was no longer trading so an alternative was being sourced. DM advised the current situation was that the technicians had inspected the unit which was considered to be beyond economical repair and would therefore need replacing, which would typically come through the LHP. DM advised he had raised the question as to if it could come from the maintenance budget as it was technically an asset that was already there. Cllr Steptoe suggested it came back to the panel to do a speed survey to see if it was required.</p>	DM

	<p>The Chase, Rayleigh – speed table. Cllr Ward highlighted this scheme as a matter of urgency, and the Chairman raised another issue of a missing sign there. DM advised that he would chase for an update on this and report back to the panel.</p> <p>Hockley Road, Weir Gardens – speed issues. Currently applied to police for permissions, and two areas have been told that the Town Council cannot conduct speed surveys because it is too dangerous, therefore felt that this would need to be added to the table. The Chairman advised that there were two distinct points where there were speeding issues and asked if it would be possible to conduct two speed surveys, to which DM advised this was possible and that following confirmation, he would put these forwards for surveys.</p>	<p>DM</p> <p>DM</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting – Monday 14 December 2020 at 2pm.</p>	