

MINUTES OF THE FLEET TOWN COUNCIL HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

**29 June 2011 at 7.30pm
The Harlington**

Councillors

R. Appleton (Chair), C. Axam, S. Forster, D. Gotel, A. Hope, D. Pierce, R. Schofield.

Also Present

2 members of the public
Shar Roselman – Clerk
Cllr Woods

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Cllr Macallan, and Cllr Appleton apologised for being a few minutes late owing to public transport problems.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 2: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Forster declared a personal interest in that he lives in Birch Avenue.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 3: PUBLIC SESSION

The attending members of the public were asked if they would like to comment at this point, or would prefer to leave their comments until the item on the agenda in which they were interested. It was agreed that their statements would be left for item 5.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 4: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved to receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the Highways and Transportation Committee meetings held on the 23rd March 2011, and 25th May 2011.

Prop: BS Sec: RA

It was noted that Cllr Schofield should have been listed as an official member of this committee for this year, at the Annual Meeting of the Council.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 5: COMPLAINTS

A complaint had been received from a member of the public regarding parking in Queen Mary Close, which was leading to cars turning into the junction having to drive a long way on the wrong side of the road. The attending member of the public explained that the blind bend caused by the curve in the road lead to lack of visibility.

The committee discussed whether this was a matter of inconvenience for residents, or whether it posed a true safety hazard. It became apparent during the discussion that the main cause of parking in this road was people leaving their cars in the road to travel to the station.

Resolved to write to Hart District Council to request that a restriction period of one hour be introduced in the middle of the day on Queen Mary Close, between the junction with Elvetham Road and the curve in the Close, during which cars could not park in the road.

Prop: SF Sec: RA

Action: The clerk to write to Hart District Council on this issue.

A second complaint had been received by a member of the public. Several issues were mentioned in this letter.

Resolved that the Council write to the complainant stating the following:

On the point about a safe crossing needed between the Prince of Wales Pub and the zebra crossing at Tesco in Reading Road South, the complainant be advised that this matter was addressed by the FTAP plan.

On the question of a safe place to cross on Reading Rd North, and on Crookham Road, the complainant be advised that crossings at these points are going to be installed under the safer routes to school proposals. The crossing on Reading Road North will be in place by the start of the next school term.

On the issue of the need for a roundabout at Tweseldown Road, the complainant be advised that this lies within the Church Crookham Parish, and that the clerk at that parish has accordingly been advised.

On the question of the Fleet Rd/Church Road junction, there is no room available for a roundabout at this point in time, although if the opportunity arises this will be addressed when the Fleet Vision is developed.

Action: The clerk to write to the complainant

Complaints had been received by members of the public living on Lee Wood Road about members of the public driving over curbs in their hurry to collect or deliver children at school.

Action: Cllr Schofield to canvass residents living in the road to investigate whether they would like bollards placed on the pavements.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 6: PARTNERSHIP MEETING

The committee received the minutes of the Partnership Meeting held on 5 April 2011.

Councillor Appleton reported that since then, consideration was being given by HCC Education Department to providing a primary school on the QEB site. It was noted that since discussing the matter at the Partnership Meeting, the pavements had been swept. The matter of the pinch point for cyclist on the canal bridge needs further exploration at the Partnership meeting, and the committee suggested that funding be found for this from the proposed development in the area.

The following items were identified and agreed to be the prime priorities to be raised on behalf of Fleet Town Council at the Partnership Meeting:

- 1. Further road engineering on Crookham Road to reduce travelling speeds.**
- 2. A reduction in speed for the whole of Reading Road North to 30 mph.**

Prop: RA Sec: SF

- 3. How to prevent HGV's from travelling through Fleet from the Pyestock development.**

Prop: CA Sec: BS

Action: Cllr Schofield to raise these matters at the Partnership Meeting, and to also discuss the light phasing at the Fleet Road/Kings Road junction.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 7: OBJECTIVES FOR THE YEAR

The committee discussed the objectives they wished to set for the year ahead. A concern was raised that pinch points such as those on Reading Road South were not being adequately addressed owing to lack of funding.

Resolved that the following would be key objectives for the year ahead:

- A statement of the Town council's view on highway works and infrastructure required to meet the Core Strategy and Local Development Framework, including traffic through Fleet, parking in Fleet and parking at the station.**
- An action plan proposal for furthering the usage of Fleet Link, including how future funding is to be secured.**

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 8: SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

A list of intended placement positions for Speed Indicator Devices was received by the committee. A query was raised in that no such device had been observed in the position on Blackbush Road during the planned period.

Action: The clerk to correlate this list with the list Fleet Town Council has provided to Hart District Council, and to write to the District Council enquiring as to when the areas not currently being monitored would be addressed.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 9: RUSHMORE AND HART PASSENGER FORUM

The committee received a report on the Rushmore and Hart Passenger Forum. It was noted that bus services have been stopped to Link Way. The service provided is a commercial service and this area had not been commercially viable. Subsidies were limited, and often targeted rural areas, whereas new development in Fleet was placing additional demands on the public transport. This area may potentially be a target for further use of the Fleet Link.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 10: FLEET LINK

Cllrs Woods and Schofield listed issues mentioned at the meeting with Fleet Link that had taken place on 22nd June 2011. A concern was raised at that meeting that the livery of the vehicle remained the Call and Go, whereas the new name was an attempt to rebrand the image of the service to encompass a wider audience. Assurances had been given that new livery would be forthcoming. It was noted that Sentinel Housing could be contacted to add promotional material to housing developments.

Action: Cllrs Axam and Woods to develop a proposal for Fleet Link to increase usage of the service.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 11: PARKING BAY BIRCH AVENUE

Cllr Forster commented that he had surveyed residents and retailers on the need for the last parking bay on Fleet Road just after the junction with Birch Road. He reported that in the opinion of those canvassed, there was no requirement for the parking. Having measured the site lines of cars travelling out of Birch Road, when a vehicle was parked in the last parking, visibility was reduced to 25 feet, which is less than the legal requirement.

Hart District Council has recently altered the status of this parking bay from car parking to loading only. This has exacerbated the problem because large vehicles are now continuously parked in the bay, thereby decreasing visibility even further.

Cllr Gotel had also surveyed retailers, and he reported that they were requesting that the parking be returned to a car parking space.

Resolved that the Council would write to Hart District Council to request them to review the site lines at that point in the road.

Prop: RA

Action: The clerk to write a letter to HDC.

H&T JUNE 2011 ITEM 12: PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FLEET ROAD OPPOSITE WATERFRONT BUSINESS PARK.

The committee noted that a reply had been received from Hampshire County Council regarding the cost of this crossing at £100 000.

Resolved not to contribute the available S106 funding to this project.

Prop: RA

The committee noted that there was a concern over some of the cost estimates being prepared by Hampshire County Council.

H&T JULY 2011 ITEM 13: HGV'S THROUGH THE TOWN

A reply has been received from Hampshire County Council regarding the routing of HGV's leaving Pyestock away from the town centre. The committee discussed the fact that this process installed by Hampshire County Council can only identify HGV's with 6 axels, over 35 tonne. It was noted that simply because this was the definition used in the planning application, it did not need to be used to define road restriction traffic regulations.

H&T JULY 2011 ITEM 14: UPDATE ON THE KING'S ROAD CYCLE TRACK

Cllr Wheale was not available to provide this update.

H&T JULY 2011 ITEM 15: DSLAM EQUIPMENT BOXES

The committee received notification of placement of 11 DSLAM equipment boxes by BT.

The committee resolved to write back to Hart District Council planning department, to advise that the Town Council had no particular problem with any of these sites, but would appreciate them communicating with BT to ensure that boxes were placed at suitably set back sites, and not extended into protruding areas near the road.

Prop: RA Sec: DG

Action: The clerk to write to Hart District Council on this issue.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 10.30 pm.

Please note that the next meeting will return to the regular schedule and will be held on 27th July 2011 at 7.30 at the Harlington.

Signed.....

Date:.....