

MINUTES OF THE FLEET TOWN COUNCIL HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

**22 December 2010 at 7.30pm
The Harlington**

Councillors

R. Appleton (Chair), R. Schofield, D Pierce, S. Fisher, S. Forster, A. Macallan.
Councillor S. Fisher arrived at 7.45 pm.

Also Present

Shar Roselman – Clerk
Cllr Sharyn Wheale
Julian Higgins from Hampshire County Council.

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Cllr A Macallan for the meeting, and from Cllr Fisher, for arriving late. Cllr Forster had tendered apologies because he would be away on holiday during this period.

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 2: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 3: PUBLIC SESSION

There were no questions from members of the public.

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 4: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved to receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the H&T meeting held on the 27 November 2010, with the minor amendment of changing Connel Road to Connaught Road.

Resolved to change the order of the items on the agenda to accommodate Cllr Wheale.

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 6: WINTER RESILIENCE

Cllr Wheale explained that Hampshire County Council had drawn up two programmes for managing winter resilience:

The Operation Restore Programme – to investigate the damage caused by harsh winter events, and to effect repairs.

The Operation Resilience Programme – to monitor and review current practices on a continuous basis to determine how County was coping with bad weather.

Information of these programmes was available on the website.

Cllr Wheale further explained that all areas for gritting hold a priority rating 1 or 2 but a community priority category had also been introduced. Feedback was received from various bodies which helped to formulate these community priorities, such as the feedback received from Meals on Wheels.

In areas where schools are clustered together and hold more than 500 pupils, these have now been made priority routes.

Other priorities have been added for Victoria and Albert Halls, and for Church Road in Fleet to cater for the hospital.

The committee for Operation Resilience meets after every spell of bad weather, while the problems are still fresh in everyone's mind.

The delivery of grit bins has been successful, and Fleet have now received all the grit bins that met the strict conditions on the criteria list. This was a sum of 11 out of 35. Hampshire County Council is willing to review the basis of its criteria, and the Fleet Town Council should note that requests can be made for further areas for grit bins.

Cllr Appleton raised the point that 5 bins were purchased under Fleet Special Expenses and asked Cllr Wheale to investigate whether Hampshire County Council would consider filling these bins in light of the other non-county bins that were being filled in Crookham Village.

Action: Cllr Wheale to reply and Cllr Appleton to track down the 5 bins.

Cllr Wheale indicated that she strongly supported Fleet getting more grit bins than the original number allocated, but that these would have to fit into the criteria.

Councillor Fisher raised the point that pedestrians had not been sufficiently catered for in the allocation of bins and that where grit bins had been provided, for example, near a bridge, a provision for one at each end would have been useful.

A further problem was the private road to the station forecourt which was hazardous for travellers. While the Fleet Town Council accepted that this road was owned by the railways there was nevertheless a concern that if Hampshire County Council wished to promote travel by means other than car, the gritting process should be extended to include the road not owned by county. In addition, the footpath from Mingley Road down into Fleet Road was extremely hazardous as was the area where pedestrians crossed the railway bridge and the steps down into the station.

The footpath past the police station on Crookham Road near the station lodge was also a concern.

Action: Cllr Sue Fisher volunteered to prepare a new list of bin requirements to send to Hampshire County Council in time for the next meeting in January.

Cllr Wheale indicated that there was a need for better meshing between Hart District Council plans and those of Hampshire County Council, as in the case of the previous weekend where plans had been made by County to ensure the pavements and road surfaces were clear to facilitate as much shopping as possible for the retailers, but the car parks had only been cleared on the Sunday.

Cllr Woods raised the point of the route through the shopping centre at Ancells which had become clogged with snow, causing driver mayhem. A grit bin had been noticed on the site, but was not being filled as it was on private land.

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 5: HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL STREET LIGHTING PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE

A presentation on the work being done by Hampshire County Council to replace street lights throughout Hampshire was given by Julian Higgs.

The problems with corrosion and twisting of the metal of the street columns was highlighted.

The policy of this programme allows for:

Replacement of existing lights only in National Parks and Rural areas.

Upgrading of lighting to modern British Standards in areas with high safety concerns and high crime urban areas.

Julian Higgs indicated that Fleet has, over the last few years, had a number of replacements of lighting, and that the new programme will come into Fleet in the year 2012. All columns that will not last for a further 30 years will be replaced. Consultation starts one year before the programme begins in the area. In the High Street only lanterns will be replaced to encompass remote monitoring.

It was noted that LEDs were a significant technical advance that the programme had been able to incorporate, although not during its early stages. LEDs resulted in huge savings in energy.

The planned targets of the programme are:

To reduce CO2 emissions by 15%.

Remote Monitoring.

Dimming during night hours by 25%, between the hours of 2am to 5am.

Reduced burning hours (trimming) because modern lighting lanterns do not require a warm up or cooling off period, allowing for 10 minutes to be clipped of the time of lighting at both the beginning and end of the night.

A concern was raised by Fleet Town Council about the replacement of pavements. Julian Higgs indicated that Hampshire County Council lighting were working closely with the Highways to ensure that total resurfacing work (where it was planned) was done after the columns had been replaced. Contractors were responsible for restoring the pavement back to its original condition after replacing the columns.

Discussion will need to be held with Martin Pearson, the consultant working on the High Street vision, to discuss proposals for lighting the High Street. It was important to note that where changes were not like for like, there would be an additional cost burden which would not be born by Hampshire County Council lighting.

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 7: HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIP

Resolved to put the following items from Fleet Town Council on the agenda for the next Highways and Transportation Partnership Meeting.

1) **Speeding enforcement/restrictions. Specifically how speed could be kept to 30mph or below and how to target infrastructure funding for this purpose. Also included in this topic would be the feasibility of introducing a blanket speeding limit throughout Fleet.**

2) **Ancells farm bus lay-byes.**

Action: Cllr Woods to prepare a report on this issue.

3) **The priority rating of the lights on King's Park road/Fleet Road.**

4) **The clutter caused by BT putting up cabinets.**

Action: Cllr Appleton to provide the clerk with a picture illustrating this concern.

5) **Section 278 works causing problems so that busses could not get around the bend.**

6) **HGV's in Fleet particularly in relation to the enforcement of the Pyestock planning conditions.**

7) **The use of verges for parking by Hampshire County Council and various contractors, such as BT, which resulted in destroying the verge. Examples are Heron on the Lake and Stockton Avenue.**

8) **The misaligned curb on the Canal bridge, causing problems for cyclist.**

Action: Cllr Macellan is again requested to produce a plan outlining this problem, before this matter can be discussed at the Partnership Meeting.

9) **Areas to place SID's. (See agenda item below for details.)**

It was important to note that 50% of the traffic monitored on SID's were doing over 30 mph and 25% were travelling over 40 mph.

10) **Contribution to road signs into Fleet.**

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 8: SID LOCATIONS.

Cllrs Appleton and Forster had together produced a list of areas where SID's should be placed.

These were:

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|-----|------------------|--|
| 1. | Reading Rd North | northbound between Harlington Way and Calthorpe Pk |
| 2. | Reading Rd North | southbound between Broomrigg Rd and Herbert Rd |
| 3. | Hitches Lane | southbound between Glendale and Fitzroy Roads |
| 4. | Hitches Lane | northbound between Belvedere Close and Fitzroy Rd |
| 5. | Elvetham Road | eastbound at Church Rd Junction |
| 6. | Evetham Road | westbound at Church Rd Junction |
| 7. | Aldershot Road | eastbound near to Montrose Close |
| 8. | Kings Road | northbound between Wood Lane and Westover Rd |
| 9. | Kings Road | southbound at bottom of hill near to stream |
| 10. | Crookham Rd | southbound between Glen Road and Lea Wood Rd |
| 11. | Crookham Rd | southbound between Grenville Drive and Sycamore Crescent |
| 12. | Ancells Rd | eastbound to northern entrance to Farm Drive |
| 13. | Ancells Rd | westbound on bend to north of southern entrance to Farm Dr |
| 14. | Albert St | westbound between Church Rd and the sports bar |

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 9: ROAD SIGNS INTO FLEET

Resolved not to contribute towards the cost of replacement of road signs into Fleet.

Prop: RA Sec: SF

Action: The matter of placing the town council logo on these signs would be discussed with Hampshire County Council at the next Highways and Transportation Partnership Meeting.

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 10: LAYOUT OF THE NEW FLEET STATION

This item was not addressed at the meeting.

H&T DEC 2010 ITEM 11. TIMING OF THE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The issue of whether this meeting could be reconstituted with new terms of reference to act as the committee overseeing the two Partnership Meetings was discussed.

Resolved to hold this meeting bi-monthly from now on.

MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Steve Pellatt of Hampshire Highways had agreed to provide Fleet Town Council with the schedule of major road works for the forthcoming year in January.

Action: The clerk to invite Steve Pellatt to make a presentation of this at the next Highways and Transportation meeting in January.

A human interest story and a write up on the Fleet Link needs to be produced for the next newsletter.

Action: Cllr Fisher has volunteered to unearth a human interest story and Cllr Woods to write up a piece on the background to the Fleet Link. If needed John Walton, Press Officer at Hart District Council, might be persuaded to write up a piece.

On the issue of Parking Charges as they affect the Harlington, the clerk is to write to Cllr Stephen Parker, asking if we could take up his kind offer of conversation.

Action: Cllr Schofield and the clerk.

The S106 money available for transport issues is to be discussed at the next meeting. Suggestions thus far include:

- Parking Spaces at Ancells Farm Playing Fields
- Lay-bye for school bus provision at Ancells Farm.
- Repair to the footpath and Access Road at Calthorpe Park
- Pedestrian refuge/crossing over Crookham Road, between Glen Rd and Lea Wood Road.
- Pedestrian refuge/crossing between Netherhouse Moore and Coxheath Road.
- Pedestrian crossing on the walk up to the station behind the Links Pub.

A response is needed for the proposed cycle track on the King's Road route.

Action: Cllr Pierce will draft a response for consideration at the next meeting.

A report on Flights over Fleet is awaited and will be addressed at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr Forster.

The next meeting will be held on 26th January 2011 at 7.30 at the Harlington. Please note that, in accordance with the decision to hold these meetings bi-monthly from now on, there will be no meeting in February, and the next meeting will be on 23rd March 2011.

Signed.....

Date:.....