

MINUTES OF THE FLEET TOWN COUNCIL HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

**29th November 2011 at 7.30pm
The Harlington**

Councillors

R. Appleton (Chair), (for part of the meeting,) R. Schofield (chairing this meeting in the chair's absence) A. Hope, S. Forster, D. Gotel, R. Schofield, D. Pierce.

Also Present

Cllr Sharyn Wheale
Cllr Stephen Parker (for part of the meeting)
Cllr George Woods
Shar Roselman – Clerk

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Cllr Axam, Cllr Macallan, and Cllr Appleton for late arrival owing to attendance at an HDC meeting.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 2: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 3: PUBLIC SESSION

There were no questions from members of the public.

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

The minutes of the meeting dated 28th September 2011 were approved with an adjustment changing Cllr Holt's name to Cllr Hope.

Prop: AH

Resolved to defer Item 5 until later in the meeting, to allow Cllr Parker to be present during the discussion.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 6: PARTNERSHIP MEETING

The minutes of the Highways Partnership Meeting dated 4th October were received.

Action: The clerk to follow up with Cllr Macallan to enquire as to whether any discussion had been held with HCC on the matter of the pinch point on the Canal Bridge.

Resolved that the following items be brought onto for the next Partnership Agenda:

Elvetham Road Speeding and Pedestrian Crossing
Road markings for speed reduction purposes
Current HDC and HCC thinking on infrastructure planning with respect
to new built and the junction at the station.
Speeding on Crookham Road beyond the Fox and Hounds.

Cllr Wheale stated that there was some funding in the budget for small alterations, and that she was currently investigating the possibility of a refuge on Crookham Road near Nederhouse Moore.

Post Meeting Note: It has since been reported to the clerk that this project and the Ancells Farm Bus Lay Bye will definitely be in the small capital projects list. The Pedestrian Crossing on Elvetham Road is being investigated.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 7 : HDC LIST OF LOCAL TRANSPORT SCHEME

A list of proposed projects with costings had been received from Hart District Council. It appeared that there was no information amongst members as to how this list had originated, or who it was that had placed these projects on the list. There was a concern that many of the projects for Fleet were nice-to-have projects. It was also noted that the land at Elvetham Heath previously designated as a park and ride for the station could still be made available for that purpose under certain conditions.

Action: Cllr Wheale agreed to establish how the HDC Master Projects list had been derived.

Action: The clerk to write to HDC to ask why the three projects that had been given to Rob Hardyman of HCC as projects for future CIL funding, did not appear on this list.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 8: LEA WOOD ROAD

Cllrs Gotel and Hope had investigated whether it was feasible to turn the land owned by FTC outside All Saints School into parking spaces to assist in the school drop off parking problem. Cllr Gotel reported that the headmistress at All Saints Junior School had held some reservations about this proposal, as the area serves as a meeting point for children and parents alike. It was noted that 7 – 9 bays could be added to the New Barn Close area without affecting children entering and leaving the gates, and a further 11 parkings could be placed directly in front of the school. The cost per bay would be approximately £3500 each for grass crete surfacing, plus a further £1000-£2000 for dropped curbs.

Cllr Gotel had also investigated the cost of changing the parking regime on Merrivale to the park side of the road, which would increase the parkings by approximately 10 bays. A pavement would be required on this side of the road at a cost of £25000. However, this area was renovated and the parkings changed only 4 years ago. Any proposed changes would require a public consultation to include all neighbours and users, and involve a Road Traffic Order.

It was noted that if this project went ahead it would have to come out of Hampshire's Minor Schemes Budget, and would mean dropping another project such as the Ancells Farm Bus Lay-Bye scheme. As HCC Education may well be looking to expand All Saints and Tavistock Schools in the future, this might be a good time to examine this project again.

Resolved not to pursue this matter at this time, but to start a highways project priority list, and add both projects to this list.

Action: The clerk to start the project list.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 9: RUSHMOOR & HART PASSENGER FORUM

Cllrs Gotel and Pierce reported on this meeting, noting that the Toolbox programme was concentrating on optimising services to enable parish councils to co-ordinate transport facilities.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 10: FLEET LINK

The Fleet Link would be trialling a route from the Verne through to the Town Centre during December. The success of this would be reported on at the next meeting.

Resolved to approve spending £35 on developing leaflets to advertise this route.

Prop: GW

Cllr Woods and Cllr Axam were still investigating a strategy to get more people using the Fleet Link bus service. It was noted that passengers were commenting on how much they appreciated the personal service of both bus drivers and controllers.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 5: PARKING IN THE TOWN CENTRE.

A verbal report was given to the committee on a meeting held with HDC on this matter. The HDC position was to try to maintain longer periods of loading on the High Street between 9 am and 6 pm, but to add additional parking on side roads. The Town Council's position was that loading bays be retained as hybrid bays with parking from 11 am onwards. It was noted that the District Council had raised safety as an issue with respect to cars waiting to get into parking bays. Supporting information had been given to HDC on the retailers' survey of loading requirements, and John Foggo had added additional information on accident statistics to the report sent by John Elson to HCC.

It had also been reported that HCC Highways had safety concerns with the Town Council's proposal. The advice had been such that it would lead HCC to not support the change of hybrid bays to introduce parking from 11 am. It was noted that, although HCC concern had stated that evidence of safety issues existed, no such evidence had been provided to HDC. Concerns were raised regarding double parking outside of the Sainsbury store in particular. A later suggestion by Fleet Town Council was that some bays were dedicated to all day loading, whilst others were designated for parking only. This proposal had the advantage of doing away with hybrid signage. Cllr Parker asked for a formal written amended proposition

from Fleet Town Council. It was noted that this change could be made under an experimental order.

Resolved to approve submitting an amended proposal to remove the hybrid bays and designate 4 x 2 for loading with the rest of the bays (11) to become all day parking bays.

Prop: RA Sec: AH

Action: Cllr Schofield will provide Cllr Parker with the amended proposition.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 11: SID'S IN CROOKHAM ROAD

The committee received from HDC information regarding the positioning of the SID's in Crookham Road. It was noted that a Cllr Wheale was investigating a further refuge on this road.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 12: TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Cllrs Woods and Schofield had met with Andy Wren of HCC Traffic Lighting Department to discuss concerns with traffic lights on the corner of Fleet Rd/Kings Road, and at the Oatsheaf. It was noted from an on site investigation that there were two areas with road sensors, but it was possible to park in places where the sensor does not monitor cars on the Fleet Rd/Kings Road junction. Also the Fleet Road can be affected by cars turning right into Kings Road from Albert Street, and cyclists did not register on the sensor. However, this entire junction is due to be overhauled in February, and the current timer system will be replaced with an interactive reader system that identifies the numbers of cars approaching the lights from all directions.

A longer pedestrian phase on the lights at the Oatsheaf would significantly affect the build up of traffic on two main roads. It was deemed unlikely that the situation could be improved for pedestrians without adversely effecting traffic.

It was noted at this junction that 3 cars turning right into Reading Road North could readily back up traffic along Fleet Road due to the road configuration. There was no ready solution to this problem.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 13: KINGS ROAD/ALDERSHOT ROAD JUNCTION

A computerised traffic turning swept path analysis had been sent to Fleet Town Council to allay concerns about how large vehicles turned left into Kings Road from Aldershot Road. However, in member's view, the traffic modelling outlined exactly how precisely a driver would have to follow the projected swept path with little or no room for error, and how drivers would have to start their turns from the correct place in order not risk damaging curbs, running traffic bikes and motor cycles on their near side or presenting potential danger to pedestrians.

Resolved to write to HCC highways expressing these concerns, and requesting copies of the risk assessments on vehicles not following the exact trajectory outlined on the computer models.

Prop: SF Sec: BS

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 14: INFRASTRUCTURE WORKING GROUP

This working group meets on the 5th January 2012. All suggestions to the group on road infrastructure projects required to be passed onto the clerk

Action: All councillors

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 15: BUS SHELTER

The committee received various proposals for costed bus shelters.

Resolved to approve requesting HDC to arrange for erection of a refurbished ADSHELL bus shelter, with seat, at the earliest possible opportunity, outside the cemetery to be funded from existing S106 Highways and Transport Funding.

Prop: SF Sec: DG

Action: The clerk

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 16: BLACK TARMAC PATCHED IN THE HIGH STREET

Cllr Forster and Cllr Hope volunteered to mark out the areas where utilities companies had left black tarmac patches instead of replacing paving stones in the High Street.

Action: Cllrs Forster and Hope. The clerk to arrange for a map to be provided for this purpose.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 17: 10K RUN THROUGH FLEET

It was noted that the 10 kilometre run through Fleet had resulted in closure of a main entry point into Fleet.

Resolved to write to HDC to request them to consider consulting on such road closures with the Town Council.

The clerk to write to HDC and to advise event co-ordinators.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 18: ROAD CLOSURE FOR ROADWORKS

Concerns had been raised about the scheduling of multiple projects in Fleet on the same day. This matter was discussed in relation to forthcoming projects in both Reading and King's roads that were scheduled during the same dates. Cllr Wheale pointed out that it was likely these projects would not occur simultaneously as the timing provided on the schedule was always longer than the project itself.

Action: The clerk to contact HCC about this matter.

H&T NOV 2011 ITEM 19: CLERK'S REPORT

The committee received a report from the clerk. An issue to be resolved was the placement of two grit bins to be received from HDC. Cllr Gotel volunteered to suggest suitable sites to place these.

Action: Cllr Gotel

Cllr Wheale mentioned that there was likely to be more upheaval on Reading Road South, as the road works had not been completed to satisfaction.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 10.20 pm.

Please note that the next meeting will be held on 25th January 2012 at 7.30 at the Harlington.

Signed.....

Date:.....