

**AYLESBURY VALE LOCAL COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AYLESBURY VALE LOCAL COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2000 IN THE MAIN HALL, WINSLOW CENTRE, WINSLOW, COMMENCING AT 6.35 PM AND CONCLUDING AT 8.40 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**Council, Organisation or Society**

Aylesbury Vale District Council	Mr C Ashenden
	Mrs C Paternoster
Buckinghamshire County Council	Mr W J Y Chapple Mrs M P Clayton Mr J W Cartwright Mr C Graves
Bierton with Broughton Parish Council	Mr B Robson
Brill Parish Council	Mr M Munson
Bucks Federation of Women's Institutes	Mrs S Frost
Charter Trustee	Mr S Patrick
Cyclists Touring Club	Mr T Bithrey
Dinton with Ford & Upton Parish Council	Mrs M Hobden
Haddenham Parish Council	Mr D Goodenough
Halton Parish Council	Mrs A Jimson
Ivinghoe Parish Council	Mr A Reynolds
Little Horwood Parish Council	G Atkins
Maids Moreton Parish Council	Mr M L Beck
Marsworth Parish Council	Mr M J Frost
Mentmore Parish Council	Ms E Twining

Mursley Parish Council	S R Oldham Mr J C N Williamson
Quainton Parish Council	Mr J Coote
Stewkley Parish Council	Mrs P Wilkinson
Stoke Mandeville Parish Council	Mr I Lindsay
Stone with Bishopstone & Hartwell Parish Council	Mr J Rush
Thames Valley Police	PC N Biggs
Weedon Parish Council	Mr M J Moore
Weston Turville Parish Council	Mr M Foote
Wing Parish Council	Mr H R Ayris
Winslow Town Council	Mr D Alsford

### **Officers**

Mr I Duncan  
Mr S Essam  
Ms A James  
Ms A Smith  
Mr C Williams  
Mr S Orchard

### **APOLOGIES/CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP**

The Head of Administration received apologies from Mr S Kennell; Mrs F D Roberts MBE; Long Crendon Parish Council; Pitstone Parish Council; Cuddington Parish Council; Drayton Beacham Parish Council; Wendover Parish Council and Buckingham Town Council.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were received.

### **1 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2000, copies of which were previously circulated, were confirmed subject to the correct spelling of the representative from Dinton with Ford and Upton Parish Council – Diane **Coole**.

## 2 MATTERS ARISING

### **Well Street, Buckingham**

The representative from Thames Valley Police updated the Committee with his views following the meeting of the Highways and Public Transport Sub-Committee on 21 September 2000. It was noted that following the steer from this Committee, the Highways and Public Transport Sub-Committee, having discussed in depth and considered all the factors from both sides, including residents of Well Street resolved not to impose waiting restrictions in Well Street.

The Thames Valley Police representative emphasised that should a situation arise requiring an emergency vehicle, the emergency services may not be able to fully access Well Street or St Rumbold Lane, therefore putting lives at risk.

The Chairman read out to the Committee the full resolution from the Highways and Public Transport Sub-Committee at its meeting on 21 September 2000:

**“That whilst the Sub-Committee recognises advice given by the Emergency Services that the waiting restrictions should be pursued, the Sub-Committee agrees not to impose these restrictions as it is not the residents’ wish to do, because they cannot find alternative parking and therefore wish the status quo to prevail despite any risks that this incurs.”**

The Chairman went on to explain that the County Council would have supported the proposed restrictions, as is indicated in the resolution, but residents, whilst recognising the dangers, are prepared to accept the risks in favour of parking on the roadside outside their own homes.

## 3 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee noted the report which set out to clarify outstanding issues which the Committee felt uneasy with, regarding the adoption of the Terms of Reference.

It was noted that the County Council has been working closely with AVALC to resolve the issues of Representation, Voting on Financial Matters and Free Voting on Non Parochial Issues. In relation to representation it was pointed out that the existing Terms of Reference allow for anyone to attend and speak on a matter. In order to clarify the Parish Councils’ position it was proposed that each Parish Council nominate a representative to attend the meetings.

In relation to Parishes voting on Financial Matters, at present further advice is still being sought from the National Association of Councils (NALC) to clarify their advice regarding Parish Councils not voting on financial matters. The County Council does not delegate a budget to the Local Committee by the Director of Environmental Services uses delegated power and will be bound by custom and practice to follow the views of the Committee.

In relation to voting on non-parochial matters AVALC suggest that every Parish Council have a vote and that the figure should be calculated to equate to 7 votes when voting on non-financial matters.

Following discussion it was agreed to adopt the Terms of Reference.

#### **4 FEEDBACK**

The Committee received a report on the feedback from the questionnaires from the last meeting. It was noted that of the 18 questionnaires returned:

- 14 preferred the fact file style of report
- 10 felt the Committee gave an adequate opportunity to raise points
- 10 felt the County Council was listening
- All liked the Rose Room as a venue.

Members were given a questionnaire from Trading Standards to complete and return.

#### **5 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT REQUESTS AND PETITIONS**

The Committee received and noted the report on the various traffic management requests and petitions received during the period 13 June to 6 October 2000 together with the priorities for investigation allocated to the requests and the proposed action in response to the petition received.

It was noted that this report will feature on each of the Committees agendas.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the priorities allocated and action proposed to the Council and Chairman of Environmental Services be recommended.**

#### **6 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE SPEED MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

The Committee received and noted the report on the recently produced Draft Buckinghamshire Speed Management Strategy which will become one of the attachments to the recently revised Road Safety Plan.

The Plan addresses how speed management issues in the County are dealt with and includes reference to the work with partners (Police), information on Traffic Calming, the Forbearance Fund and Road Safety Education.

Members were asked to submit any comments they or their representative groups may have to the Area Manager by the end of November. All comments will be taken into account when the Speed Management Strategy and the Road Safety Plan are finalised early in the New Year.

During discussion, representatives asked for clarification on the criteria for speed limit reductions to be implemented. It was noted that if a scheme to reduce speed limit is appropriate for the road in question, the County Council will investigate and consider in

conjunction with local people the appropriate speed limit that should apply . Any new speed limit may require additional measures such as gates, rumble strips or signage to ensure that the new limit is effective.

The representative from Thames Valley Police added that the Police experience an exceptionally good working relationship with the County Council especially where speed issues are concerned.

## **RESOLVED**

**That local Councils consult with their representative groups so that any comments on the Draft Speed Management Strategy are returned to the Head of Transportation by the end of November 2000.**

## **7 LOCAL SAFETY AND AREA STRATEGY SCHEMES PROGRAMME 2000/01 – UPDATE**

The Committee received and noted a report which gave an update on the current year's programme of schemes. This will become a regular report to all future meetings of the Committee.

The Committee discussed the report, making the following comments:-

- Aylesbury Town Centre – A member was concerned that the rising bollard scheme in the town centre is still not operational. In reply the officer said that due to problems identified over a period of time some of the equipment was still not in place, it is hoped that the scheme will be operational by mid-November. Unfortunately, due to issues on both sides including a specification change, no penalty payments could be requested from the contractors.
- Area Strategy schemes – traffic calming requests are added to a list which is reviewed each year. The annual review is about to take place and the recommendations arising from this will be the subject of a report to the Committee in January. Any community funded schemes submitted by local Councils will be added to the programme update sheets but there is currently a backlog of these which means there will be a delay in progressing these. They are usually dealt with in the order that they are received. Any local Councils who feel that their schemes are not listed should ensure that they are resubmitted at annually.

It was also noted that this year's winter maintenance leaflet, giving information on the routes to be salted will be available within the next few weeks.

## **RESOLVED**

**That local Councils forward any possible Area Strategy schemes for inclusion in this Programme, when it is revised in January 2001, to the Head of Transportation by the end of November 2000.**

## **8 STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE BUDGET PROGRAMME FOR 2000/2001**

The Committee received and noted the report which updated members on the overall Structural Maintenance Schemes for 2000/2001 and reported on the successful bid for the £100,000 centrally held budget allocated by the Highways and Public Transport Sub-Committee on 21 September 2000.

It was noted that the six schemes approved at the Local Committee on 18 July 2000 for the locally held £100,000 are all either substantially completed or will be completed early in 2001.

The successful bids for off-road parking at the Health Centre in Wendover and kerbing in Buckland Village from the centrally held £100,000 are now in progress and currently at the design stage.

The Committee was urged to continue submitting schemes for both funding sources to the Area Manager for assessment.

The report was discussed and noted.

### **RESOLVED**

**That the Local Committee:**

- i Noted the progress of the locally agreed Structural Maintenance Schemes 2000/2001;**
- ii Noted the allocation of funds to two schemes in Aylesbury Vale Area from the centrally held budget;**
- iii Discussed Schemes for the 2001/2002 bid for funding from the centrally held £100,000 budget.**

## **9 BYPASSES AND MOTOR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS IN AYLESBURY VALE AREA BUCKS STREET ATLAS PAGES 58, 69, 70, 79, 80, 88, 89 AND 102 NO PLANS DISPLAYED**

The Committee received and noted a report on the proposed A4146 Stoke Hammond and Linslade Western Bypass and Improvements to the A418 road east of Bierton including a Wing Bypass.

### **A4146 Stoke Hammond and Linslade Bypass**

It is hoped that before Christmas the unresolved issue of financing will become clear and the County Council will know if it is to receive funding via the PFI or from the Transport Supplementary Grant (TSG) rules.

As planning approval expires in January 2001 for the section of the scheme in Bedfordshire, an application to renew the original approval has been submitted to South Bedfordshire District Council.

Additional supporting information will be provided to Aylesbury Vale District Council to enable them to consider renewal of the existing planning permission at their January meeting.

It is expected that renewal, in both cases, will be granted.

### **A418 Improvements to the road east of Bierton including a Wing Bypass**

The residents of Wing are supporting the County Council in the development of a bypass for Wing. This bypass and proposed improvements to the A418 from the east of Bierton up to the A4146 Stoke Hammond and Linslade Western Bypass will be developed by a panel of County Councillors and Parish Council members from Wing. This Panel will consider the options and guide the development of the bypass for Wing. It is proposed to undertake a topographical survey of all the possible route corridors within this financial year.

The report was discussed and noted.

## **10 AYLESBURY LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY PANEL**

The report on the Aylesbury Land Use and Transportation Strategy Panel (ALUTS) was received and noted by the Committee. It highlighted the joint work of the Panel, made up of representatives from both the County Council and District Council and the issues it considers in relation to issues which affect the Aylesbury Vale Area, ie the County Structure Plan (1991-2011) the preparation of the Local Plans to 2011, a requirement for all District Councils to undertake, transportation issues and any related issues including highway improvements.

## **11 TRIAL OPEN DISCUSSION ABOUT LOCAL AREA RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

This regular item allows for the Committee to discuss issues of concern that may affect the area as a whole or be of a parochial concern.

A representative from the District Council raised the issue of large vehicles over driving grass verges, breaking down verges which become both dangerous and unsightly. As the area is very rural a number of these rural roads become flooded due to verge damage and the drainage systems become unable to cope.

Officers referred the Committee to the Fact File which includes information on what can be done, but, recognising that there is no easy solution to the problem.

Through the Local Transport Plan (LTP) money may become available to implement schemes which will discourage driving on grass verges, these would include: double height kerbing, widening roads. Mapping of routes currently taken by HGVs will give

information and allow these routes to be made undesirable to large vehicles through positive signing and traffic calming schemes.

Also discussed was the poor work carried out by contractors following completion of highway contracts. In reply the Area Manager assured the Committee that Utility Companies and contractors are being contacted regarding this and where the Authority has had to take action refund of costs are being sought.

The Committee felt that spot checks on all contractors should be carried out as a matter of course as the quality of work is not always of a high standard.

Other issues raised included:-

- Grass cutting, using strimmers which destroy bulbs planted on grass verges.
- Local Transport issues – it was noted that members of the Local Committee are welcome to attend a planned joint meeting of transport providers, date to be arranged.

## **12 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Wednesday, 17 January 2001, at 6 pm for 6.30 pm, Winslow Centre.

Thursday, 5 April 2001 at 6 pm for 6.30 pm, Winslow Centre.

**CHAIRMAN**

**CONTACT OFFICER : JILL HALL (01296) 382590**