



# Buckinghamshire County Council

## Minutes *CHILTERN LOCAL COMMITTEE*

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### AGENDA ITEM 3

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHILTERN LOCAL COMMITTEE  
HELD ON TUESDAY, 30 JANUARY 2001, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,  
CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, COMMENCING AT 6.30 PM  
AND CONCLUDING AT 9.50 PM**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

##### **Council, Organisation or Society**

Buckinghamshire County Council

##### **Representative**

Mr H G W Wilson  
(in the Chair)

Mr B G Allen  
Mrs P M Bacon  
Mr M E Brand  
Mr N L Brown  
Mrs S D Hodgkinson  
Mr C F Robinson  
Mr J S Ryman

Amersham Town Council

Mrs D I Allen

Ashley Green Parish Council

Mr B Dale  
Mr J Toovey  
Mr C Edenborough

British Horse Society

Ms B Wickham

Bucks Federation of Women's Institutes

Ms J Lynch

Chalfont St Giles Parish Council

Mr A J Rand

Chalfont St Peter Parish Council

Mrs J Priestley

Chartridge Parish Council

Mr K C Baxter

Chesham Town Council	Ms S Jordan
Chiltern District Council	Mr N Rose Mr J Warder Mr P Newman
Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards Parish Council	Mr C Brown
Great Missenden Parish Council	Mr G Maher
Little Missenden Parish Council	Mrs M A Hamilton
Pedestrians' Association	Mr J Whitehead
Penn Parish Council	Mr M J Bayley
Seer Green Parish Council	Mr A Mitra
The Lee Parish Council	Mr B Usborne
Thames Valley Police	PC A Baverstock

### **Officers**

Buckinghamshire County Council	Mr G Bartlett Mr G Batchelor Mr J Currell Miss A Derrick Mr K Moloughney Mr G Spenceley Mr J Stevens Mr M Thompson Mrs H Wayland
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### **In Attendance**

Representatives from the Little Kingshill Village Society and the Green Lane Traffic Action Committee.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP**

Apologies were received from Mrs Crawford with Mr Brand substituting and Peter Lawrence.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were received.

## **1 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Local Committee held on Thursday, 5 October 2000, copies of which had been previously circulated, were agreed.

The Local Area Co-ordinator, Alison Derrick was introduced to Members of the Local Committee. She explained that her role would be to support the County Council to further develop relationships with Town/Parish Councils, District Councils and other stakeholders. She would also assist the Area Manager to improve the flow of information to the various stakeholders.

## **2 MODERNISING AGENDA**

The Committee received a presentation from the Head of Select Committee Support on the modernising of local government. A short video presentation was shown which outlined the following models that had been consulted upon:

- Elected Mayor and Cabinet
- Cabinet and Leader
- Mayor and Council Manager

The Local Committee was advised that the Council had moved to a Cabinet and Leader style administration for the interim structure. The interim structure also included five select committee's and a number of consultative groups and statutory committees. The final structure would be put place following a decision by the Secretary of State on the submission from the County Council, which would be made in April.

Following the presentation, Members were urged to take a questionnaire, copies of which were available at the meeting, to complete and return it to the Head of Select Committee Support at the County Council by early March which would assist in the decision making process.

## **3 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN – FINANCIAL SETTLEMENT FOR 2001/2002**

The Local Committee received and noted a report from the Head of Transportation which informed Members of the LTP financial settlement for 2001/02.

It was reported that the Local Transport Plan submission to Government confirmed, in December, that £14.408m had been secured for capital schemes in 2001/02. This represented an increase in excess of 120% on the £6.5m available for the current year. It was reported that the £14.408m was broken down into three areas:

Maintenance - £8.227m  
Integrated Transport - £4.8m  
Major Schemes - £1.381m

During discussion Members raised a number of points, which included:

- The representative from the British Horse Society felt that insufficient mention of the safety of the horse and rider was given in the strategy and believed that this should be addressed;
- Access for residents in rural areas who were necessarily more dependent upon the car as a mode of transport was highlighted – it was noted that it was the intention to encourage and facilitate more bus companies to operate on rural routes but that more work was required in this area;
- The safety of children travelling to school was highlighted and it was noted that this was one of the Council's priorities.

Following discussion, a Member of the Committee thanked Officers for their submission with the greatly enhanced funding obtained from the LTP for this and for the next financial year.

#### **4 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT REQUESTS AND PETITIONS**

The Local Committee received a report from the Head of Transportation, which set out the requests received for various traffic management measures, of a significant nature, during the period 15 September to 22 December 2000 and the petitions received during the same period, with the action proposed or taken in response. A flow chart was tabled which set out how traffic and road safety requests were considered and the processes that were followed in the assessment of programming.

Members were advised that in future comments arising from discussions on this report would be considered by the Head of Transportation and the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation as part of the final decision making process to allocate the priorities and the actions proposed. The decisions taken by the Head of Transportation and the Cabinet Member would be reported to the subsequent meeting.

The following petitions were discussed:

##### **Green Lane, Prestwood**

A 196-signature petition had been submitted by the Green Lane Action Committee, on behalf of local residents, for the introduction of traffic calming measures to control vehicle speeds in Green Lane. Representatives from the Green Lane Action Committee were present at the meeting. It was reported that the County Council would only consider traffic calming measures at sites where there had been four or more injury accidents, two of which involved vulnerable road users in a three year period; or where six or more injury accidents have occurred during a three year period, whether or not vulnerable road users were involved. It was noted that during the last three year period only one injury accident had been recorded in Green Lane. Local residents however, had reported a number of 'damage only' accidents which had occurred. It was noted that David Liddington MP was supportive of the petition.

The Senior Area Traffic Management Technician reported that a full review of the signs/road markings was to be conducted with further survey work on the volume and speed of traffic along this stretch of road, the results would be submitted to a future meeting. Mr F Robinson spoke on behalf of Mrs Hodgkinson in support of the proposals, and stated that Green Lane was used as a short cut, it was a twisty country lane with traffic travelling at speeds unsuited to the conditions. Over many years there had been numerous accidents, a wall having been knocked down six times in five years. Most of these were unreported accidents. During the last three years, 24 accidents had been notified to the Action Group who had full details of each accident. Mr Robinson agreed that signage would assist the situation but did not consider it sufficient. A higher priority for a traffic-calming scheme along this stretch of road should be considered.

Members were advised that traffic calming schemes could be funded by other routes, for example Parish/Town and District Councils, and that this may offer a way forward.

### **Austenwood Lane, Chalfont St Peter**

It was reported that a 364-signature petition had been submitted by local residents requesting the installation of a pedestrian crossing in Austenwood Lane. It was reported that site inspections had revealed that it would be difficult to safely locate a pedestrian crossing along the north-western section of this road. This was due to a number of side junctions, private accesses and bus stops along this section of road. It was noted that only one injury accident had been recorded on Austenwood Lane between its junctions with Bull Lane and Criss Grove. During discussion concern was expressed over the whole area and it was noted that the signing could be improved and that this would be investigated.

### **Little Kingshill**

It was reported that a 755-signature petition had been submitted by the Little Kingshill Village Society requesting the provision of measures to reduce the volume and speed of traffic through the village. Representatives from the Little Kingshill Village Society were present at the meeting. It was reported that difficult decisions would have to be made about what could be included within the programme. Members noted that the signing needed to be improved and partnership funding to construct gateways at each end of the village was a possibility. Mr F Robinson highlighted that one fatal accident, five serious accidents and 14 slight accidents had occurred in the village over the past three years, with the main problems being speed of the traffic. He commented that much could be done by improving signage in the village and he urged officers to look at the problems at the school, where it was noted that the post of Crossing Patrol Officer was vacant. The County Council was trying to fill the position. It was also mentioned that the prohibition of right turning traffic from the A413 into Deep Mill Lane was being considered.

## **RESOLVED**

- 1 That the traffic management measures received and priorities allocated be noted.**
- 2 That the petitions received and the actions to date/proposed be noted.**

### **5 LOCAL SAFETY AND AREA STRATEGY SCHEMES PROGRAMME 2000/2001 - UPDATE**

The Local Committee received and noted the report of the Head of Transportation, which updated Members on the progress of schemes contained within the current year of the programme.

During discussion a number of schemes were commented on, including:

#### **Central Chiltern Traffic Management Project.**

Members noted that this project was ongoing and that the County Council had been trying to recruit a Project Officer to progress the scheme but had not, at this stage been successful.

#### **A413 Amersham Road/Gravel Hill**

A representative from Chalfont St Peter Parish Council requested that comments on the scheme, which would be forwarded to officers, be taken into account.

#### **Chesham Vale Road/Nashleigh Hill**

A representative from Chesham Town Council flagged up the need for a pedestrian crossing at the bottom of Nashleigh Hill. The Member had been informed that this was outside the consultants' brief for the A416 accident remedial scheme but would like it included in the pedestrian crossing programme.

#### **Chesham Lane/Monument Lane**

It was reported that another accident had recently occurred at this junction and Members noted that officers would be revisiting this site.

## **RESOLVED**

**That Local Councils inform their representative groups of the progress of the schemes in their area.**

## **6 ANNUAL REVIEWS:**

- a Traffic Calming Requests**
- b Pedestrian Crossing Requests**
- c Footway Requests**

The Local Committee received the report of the Head of Transportation which advised members of the annual reviews for traffic calming, pedestrian crossings and footway requests which had been received during the year. Appendices relating to each of the reviews were circulated to Members at the meeting.

It was reported that only those requests for traffic calming, which met the agreed policy criteria, were included in the Traffic Calming Appendix. All the requests for pedestrian crossings and footways received had been included. Details of whether the schemes were to be programmed, monitored or linked to other schemes were contained in the Appendices. Officers regretted the short time scale available for consultation with representatives which were beyond their control.

It was noted that the document was not yet complete and that the comments from Local Councils and their representative bodies would influence the schemes that were included. It was noted that if any schemes were included that Members believed were not required, these should also be commented upon.

### **RESOLVED**

- 1 That the outcome of the annual reviews and those schemes that are being recommended for a place in the revised Local Safety and Area Strategies Schemes Programme be noted;**
- 2 That all Local Councils inform their representative groups of the action proposed for any schemes in their area and notify the County Council (via the Area Co-ordinator) of any problems at the earliest opportunity.**

## **7 LOCAL SAFETY AND AREA STRATEGY SCHEMES PROGRAMME – 2001/2002 TO 2005/2006 - DRAFT**

The Local Committee received the report of the Head of Transportation which advised Members of the work currently underway on compiling the draft Local Safety and Area Strategy Schemes Programme for 2001/2002 – 2005/2006 and which sought comments. A copy of the draft programme was circulated. Members were asked to consult with their Local Councils and representative groups and submit their comments to the Area Co-ordinator by 9 March 2001.

## RESOLVED

**That following consultation with their representative groups, Members submit their comments on the draft programme to the Area Co-ordinator by 9 March 2001.**

### 8 STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2001/2002

The Local Committee received the report of the Head of Transportation, which set out the initial list of structural maintenance schemes for 2001/2002. It was noted that the programme for 2001/2002 was now substantially complete and that the programme for 2001/2002 needed to be established. The Committee was requested to make comments on priorities for bids against the locally determined budget of £100,000 and the centrally held fund of £100,000.

A list of schemes was circulated to Members and the Area Manager explained the proposals. Members noted that schemes set out up to number 34 would be funded from the Area Offices budget and would therefore be included in the work programme. Schemes 35 through to 100 would not be funded through this budget. A number of schemes, which had been proposed as part of the previous year's submission, were included and highlighted.

The Area Manager put forward three proposals for the locally determined bid:

- a Select scheme number 35 downwards i.e. those identified with the highest technical rating (UK PMS), until the £100,000 was spent;
- b To fund this year's submissions only;
- c To fund a mixture of last year's and this year's submissions.

Following discussion on the merits of each of these suggestions, the Local Committee agreed that they would recommend the proposal (c); to fund a mixture of last year's and this year's scheme submissions. It was noted that any strong representations contrary to this proposal should be made to the Area Manager as soon as possible preferably before early March.

Members requested that reports be submitted at an earlier stage next year to enable Members to share the information with their representative groups prior to making a decision at the meeting.

The Local Committee agreed that the following schemes be put forward for the centrally held fund:

- a) A413 Amersham Road, Chalfont St Peter, submitted by Chalfont St Peter Parish Council, verge strengthening using grasscrete (as presented to the Local Committee in July 2000). Proposed central fund bid - £25,000; and
- b) A413 London Road East, Amersham submitted by Amersham Town Council for drainage works in the southern lay-by to prevent flooding. The cost of the work would amount to £5,000.



## **RESOLVED**

**That option c) above be recommended for funding from the £100,000 local determined budget, subject to any comments made prior to the next meeting in April**

### **Central Fund Bid**

- a A413 Amersham Road, Chalfont St Peter (submitted by Chalfont St Peter Parish Council) – verge strengthening using grass**
- b A413 London Road East, Amersham (submitted by Amersham Town Council) – drainage works in Southern Layby to prevent flooding.**

## **9 PROPOSED REVIEW OF ENVIROMENTAL SERVICES FACT FILE – PRELIMINARY REPORT**

The Local Committee received a report from the Head of Transportation, which advised Members of the intention to commence a review of the contents of the Environmental Services Fact File.

The Local Area Co-ordinator introduced the report and sought views from Members and their representative bodies on any changes and updates that they would like included in the Environmental Services Fact File. The feedback received, which was requested as soon as possible would be considered and included in a report to the Committee in April.

## **10 OPEN FORUM DISCUSSION**

A number of items were raised, which included:

- Members were advised that they would shortly be receiving a questionnaire relating to the performance of the Local Committees so far, which would need to be returned by 12 March 2001. This feedback would be important to the future development of the Local Committees;
- A representative requested that an item on fly tipping be included on a future agenda;
- Concern was expressed by a Member over the withdrawal of the funding from Bucks County Council for the joint Customer Service exercise in the foyer at the Chiltern Council Offices. The Local Area Co-ordinator sympathised with the view and commented that the matter was being investigated;
- A representative requested that a report on the placement and effectiveness of speed cameras could be considered for a future meeting.

**11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 4 April 2001  
at 6.30pm

**MR H G W WILSON  
CHAIRMAN**

**CONTACT OFFICER : CLARE GRAY (01296) 382101**