

## WYCOMBE LOCAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WYCOMBE LOCAL COMMITTEE HELD AT THE  
 LONGBURROW HALL, STOKENCHURCH, ON WEDNESDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2000,  
 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM AND CONCLUDING AT 8.10 PM

### MEMBERS PRESENT

<b>Council, Organisation or Society</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Buckinghamshire County Council	Mrs C M Aston (Chairman) Mr I S Bates Mr M Oram Mr A Plumridge Mr R C Pushman Dr B R Stenner
Bradenham Parish Council	Mr P Skegg
Chepping Wycombe Parish Council	Mrs M Haywood
Downley Parish Council	Mr J Gowan
Ellesborough Parish Council	Mr L Mason
Great Marlow Parish Council	Mr D Coe
Great & Little Kimble Parish Council	Ms J Power
Hazlemere Parish Council	Mr L Taylor
Ibstone Parish Council	Mr R Harbord
Lacey Green Parish Council	Mr T Molesworth
Longwick-cum-Ilmer Parish Council	Mr O'Neill
Marlow Town Council	Mr D Dunn
Radnage Parish Council	Mr R Pitcher
Stokenchurch Parish Council	Mrs M Shurrock
West Wycombe Parish Council	Mrs V Smith
Wooburn Parish Council	Mr J Dalton

Wycombe District Council (South)	Mr A Collingwood
Wycombe District Council (North)	Mr C B Oliver
Wycombe District Council (Town)	Mrs W Mallen
British Motor Cyclists Federation	Mr I Jennery
Thames Valley Police	PC A Baverstock

## **OFFICERS**

Buckinghamshire County Council	Mr M A Knight Mr G J Bartlett Miss J A Bierton Mrs H Wayland
Wycombe District Council	Mr C Swanwick Mr J Callaghan

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs E Lay, Mr K Morgan, Mr Benifer (Princes Risborough Parish Council), Sir Leonard Figg (Great and Little Hampden Parish Council), Mr Sampson (Pedestrian Association) and Mr Juby (Little Marlow Parish Council).

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mr Oram declared an interest in Agenda Item 10.

### **1 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2000, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed subject to Mr I Jennery being included on the Members present list.

### **2 MATTERS ARISING**

#### **a Refreshments**

The Chairman confirmed that after careful consideration regarding more substantial refreshments being provided at the local committee meetings, the arrangements would remain as they were i.e. tea, coffee and biscuits. It was also confirmed that the starting time would also remain 6.00 p.m.

**b Easy Bus Project**

Officers confirmed that no further suggestions for this project had been received.

**c Weighted Voting**

Officers confirmed that the Aylesbury Local Committee would be meeting later in October and that the trial of the weighted voting system would be reported back to the Wycombe Committee at their next meeting in January.

**d Safer Routes to Schools**

Officers confirmed that no further suggestions had been received.

**3 FEEDBACK FROM QUESTIONNAIRE**

The Local Committee received a report detailing the responses from the feedback forms, full details were contained in the attached Annex.

It was reported that the majority of comments received by Members were positive.

All Members who had taken the time to complete and return the questionnaires were thanked and assured that those Members who had suggested items for future meetings would be given a chance to expand on the comments they had made. It was therefore agreed that the first issue to be discussed would be household waste sites.

Members queried how often they would be given a chance to provide feedback on the success of the Committee, whether it would be after each meeting or periodically. The Chairman advised that it would be periodic but did stress that should any concerns arise that Members felt strongly about these could be feedback at any time.

**4 STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE BUDGET AND PROGRAMME FOR 2000/2001 AND 2001/2002**

The Committee received a report and noted the final list of schemes for 2000/2001 and were asked to nominate schemes for consideration in the 2001/2002 Structural Maintenance Programme. All submissions should be received by the end of October, they would then be assessed and given a priority weighting.

Members sought clarification on the types of schemes to include and if proposals were not submitted would they be accepted at a later date. It was confirmed that the types of scheme to be included should be e.g. footway and carriageway reconstruction, re-kerbing, carriageway surface treatment, drainage etc. For this year unfortunately unless submissions were received by the end of October they would be unable to be included in the 2001/2002 budget. Schemes submitted at a later date will be added to the carry over list.

The Chairman emphasised the importance of ensuring schemes were submitted and urged cluster representatives to ensure that the deadline and information was communicated on a timely basis to the relevant Parish Councils.

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

The Committee received and noted the report from the Head of Transportation on the progress of the schemes contained within the current year of the programme and were requested to forward any possible schemes for inclusion in this programme when it is revised in January 2001. All schemes should be submitted by the end of November 2000.

The Local Committee will regularly receive progress updates on the schemes within the programme.

Members' attention was drawn to the split between the Local Safety element of the programme and the Area Strategy schemes and the importance of the difference between the two categories.

A Representative queried the revision of carriageway markings on the A40 East of Knaves Beach roundabout in relation to cycle lanes as it was felt previous comments had not been taken on board. Assurance was given that this particular issue would be investigated and information reported back to the Representative individually.

Representatives enquired after the traffic calming proposals for the A4010 – New Road. It was confirmed that preliminary investigations had concluded that traditional calming measures, eg road humps were not appropriate because of the status of the road but that other measures including improved street lighting and revised carriageway markings were being considered. Ultimately the County Council may have to consider more significant and expensive schemes, possibly involving traffic signals, roundabouts etc.

An update on the Western Corridor Study was requested, however until the Wycombe Transport Strategy Panel meet in December no further information was available. It was suggested that this would be reported to the Committee at their January meeting.

Several questions were asked on the use and allocation of speed cameras; it was reported that all the County's roads are considered in the annual speed camera review and that a shift in emphasis from permanent sites (grey boxes) to mobile enforcement was now taking place. This shift in policy approach is leading to a wider enforcement regime. Buckinghamshire County Council and Thames Valley Police work together to identify areas that require cameras.

## 6 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT REQUESTS AND PETITIONS

The Committee received a report from the Head of Transportation which set out the various traffic management requests received during the period 7 July 2000 to 27 September 2000 and the relative priorities for investigation that had been allocated. These included:

**a A4155 Mill End, Hambleden**

A petition of 60 signatures had been received from residents in Mill End requesting provision of a speed camera on the A4155, extension of the 30 mph speed limit towards Henley, increased enforcement by the Police of the 30 mph speed limit at Mill End and a site visit to enable residents to explain their concerns face to face.

A review of accidents had been presented to the Highways and Public Transport Sub-Committee that identified that the section of the A4155 between Mill End and the County Boundary warranted investigation to establish whether a lower speed limit would be appropriate or effective. Investigations would be completed within the current financial year and if qualified would be put forward for inclusion in the 2001/02 Local Safety and Area Strategy Scheme Programme.

**b A4155, Well End to Winchbottom Lane Junction**

A request had been received from Little Marlow Parish Council to lower the speed limit on the A4155 from Well End towards Marlow to 40 mph.

A review of accident rates on this section of the A4155 had been conducted and although the Highways and Public Transport Sub-Committee had considered a lower speed limit, it was unlikely to be effective and therefore resolved that no further action be taken under the current review. However, should the pattern of accidents disperse along this section in future, the case for a lower speed limit would be re-examined.

**c Hughenden Parish**

A letter had been received from the Parish Council requesting a wide variety of highway improvements.

It was reported that officers had recently met with Hughenden Parish Council and Members thanked the officers concerned for a very helpful and useful meeting.

**d Princes Risborough**

The Town Council had written requesting that two footway schemes be considered, these were Mill Lane from Aston and Full premises to the railway bridge and Picts Lane from the Whiteleaf Furniture premises to the bridge over the railway line.

Members were particularly asked to note the fact that priorities were not allocated to traffic calming and pedestrian crossing requests at this time. Reports would be presented to the January Local Committee which would deal with outstanding requests and/or requests received in the last 12 months. It was also highlighted to Members that although all petitions received were reported with an explanatory note, not all requests were included in the Appendix to this report as many were dealt with through direct contact, correspondence and telephone calls.

Members were asked to formulate lists of footway requests with the intention that these would be considered and prioritised by the Committee at the meeting in January. It was noted that in the region of 500 requests for traffic calming measures were received each year and that on average only 10 sites would be programmed each year.

### **RECOMMENDED**

**That the priorities allocated and action proposed be agreed by the Council and the Chairman of Environmental Services.**

## **7 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE SPEED MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

The Committee received a report from the Head of Transportation on the recently produced Draft Buckinghamshire Speed Management Strategy, which outlined the actions the County Council had taken and will take to manage vehicle speeds.

Several areas of change were highlighted, these included the County Council's revision of its speed limit policy following the publication, in March 2000, of the Government's Speed Review document "New Directions in Speed Management". The basis of the new policy, was to ensure that any new speed limit was appropriate for the conditions on site, would be understood and respected by the majority of drivers and was enforceable by Thames Valley Police, the enforcement authority.

After some discussion it was felt that the paper was comprehensive, however, one area of concern was the inconsistency between Counties and the difficulties this caused. It was reported that although a national review had been conducted recently on speed policies it had not produced a definitive national policy that had been hoped for.

### **RESOLVED**

**That Local Committees consult with their representative groups and return any comments to the Head of Transportation by the end of October 2000.**

## **8 MARLOW PARKING AND TRANSPORT STRATEGY**

The Committee received a report and briefing note from the Head of Transportation in relation to Marlow Parking and Transport Strategy. The note set out the actions that had taken place since the adoption of the strategy at the end of 1999 and highlighted those actions planned for the short and medium term and gave an indication of longer-term possibilities.

It was confirmed that the text contained within the briefing note would be simplified and turned into an information leaflet which would be made available to the public later in the year. Members agreed that from the briefing statement it was not clear what the objectives were and subsequently agreed that the leaflet should be re-worded to include the aims and objectives.

Clarification was also sought by Members on existing and potential Marlow schemes and whether they were tied up within this strategy, if so, when and how long would the work take and requested confirmation of the funding. Members were informed that existing schemes were already included, that as the reviews would take at least a year, this was being progressed as a matter of urgency. The Committee noted that with regard to the funding, Buckinghamshire County Council was awaiting confirmation from Central Government but did confirm that the Government had confirmed that money was available.

During discussion on this item Mr Oram declared a non-pecuniary interest as Member for Marlow South.

## **9 A TRIAL OPEN DISCUSSION ABOUT LOCAL AREA RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

The Committee received a report from the Head of Transportation, the purpose of which was to enable the Local Committee to hold a short open discussion on topical highway or environmental issues with officers and other Committee Members. It was noted that no specific requests had been received prior to the meeting.

## **10 DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Wednesday, 24 January 2001 at 6.00 pm. Venue to be confirmed.

**Mrs C M Aston  
CHAIRMAN**

**CONTACT OFFICER : JULIE BIERTON (01296) 383386**