

WING AND IVINGHOE LOCAL AREA FORUM

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12th JUNE 2008 IN
EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL COMMENCING AT 6.19 PM AND
CONCLUDING AT 8.35PM

PRESENT –

Avril Davies	Buckinghamshire County Council (Chairman)
Terry Jones	Aylesbury Vale District Council
Netta Glover	Aylesbury Vale District Council
Corry Cashman	Aylesbury Vale District Council
Peter Cooper	Aylesbury Vale District Council
Brian Williams	Slapton Parish Council
Bob Kennedy	Marsworth Parish Council
Sally Missen	Cublington Parish Council
Sally Wiltshire	Cublington Parish Council
Anne Thompson	Edlesborough Parish Council
Lin Sargeant	Edlesborough Parish Council
John Wilkinson	Edlesborough Parish Council
Mavis Berrow	Stoke Hammond Parish Council
Lorna Harvey	Ivinghoe Parish Council
Margaret Kirkby	Ivinghoe Parish Council
Derek Kirkby	Ivinghoe Parish Council
Elaine Wilson	Ivinghoe Parish Council
Chris Poll	Cheddington Parish Council
Joan ??	Cheddington Parish Council
Ken Payne	Mentmore Parish Council
Steven Elvin	Great Brickhill Parish Council
PCSO Jackie Dodson	Thames Valley Police
PCSO Chris Baker	Thames Valley Police

Officers

Trevor Boyd, Madeleine Howe, Simon Dudley, Paul Foot, David Pickard and Karen Jones (all Buckinghamshire County Council)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Brenda Jennings (Buckinghamshire County Council), Neil and Janet Blake (Aylesbury Vale District Council), Tim Fowler and Ann-Marie Davies (Officers-Buckinghamshire County Council).

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Edlesborough Parish Council for the use of the hall. Members and officers introduced themselves.

The member from Stoke Hammond Parish Council asked for the spelling of her name to be corrected to 'Berrow' in the notes of the previous meeting.

RE-NAMING OF FORUM

It was agreed that this item be deferred to a future meeting.

MATTERS ARISING

a) Feedback from meeting to discuss issues on A4146

Madeleine Howe reported that officers had met to discuss the issues on the A4146 and that the following issues had been identified:

- 1) The number of waste lorries using the route
- 2) The particular problems on the route through Dagnall and Edlesborough
- 3) Speeding
- 4) Litter

Members were advised of the following:

- Approximately 150 letters had been issued to waste vehicle users on the A4146.
- Fixed Penalty Notices will be issued for speeding and dropping litter.
- As a result of the road works on the M1 the A4146 has been used as an alternative route. These are due to end in December this year but there is no guarantee that vehicles will revert to that route.
- There is a possibility that a weight limit restriction will be introduced on the bridge at Water End in Hertfordshire of 7.5 tonnes.

The Chairman reported that Tony Blackmore was liaising with Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire County Councils about the possibility of joint action with Buckinghamshire County Council on the above issues.

Simon Dudley advised members that the following actions have been agreed:

- Main Road, Dagnall – the road narrows adjacent to No 9 Main Road over approximately 20m length. Consideration of road narrowing was discussed and it was agreed that this could pose potential inconvenience to the residents of No 9. In line with standard BCC practice, an incremental approach is being taken to this issue and a sign review will be carried out giving consideration to the provision of 'road narrows' and 'vehicles in the middle of the road' warning signs, along with the removal of centre line.
- Leighton Road, Edlesborough –two narrow locations were looked at, where there is conflict in passing HGVs. Road widening was considered, however this would require major works including land take and retaining structures which are far beyond the scope of a minor maintenance/traffic management scheme. A sign review will be carried out and consideration given to the same signs as for Dagnall. Pete Chapman, Casualty Reduction will be taking a look at the proposal to remove centre lines from a Safety Audit point of view before the proposal is agreed. The number and location of crashes over the last three years will be investigated. The proposals will be sent to consultation before Easter 2009 and the implementation will be before the summer of 2009.

Members were invited to comment and the following points were made:

- A member from Edlesborough Parish Council suggested that consideration be given to repositioning the speed camera at the bottom of the hill because the current location is a natural place to slow down. The

member urged the officers from BCC to discuss this with Thames Valley Police.

- During a discussion the Chairman reported that AVDC had spent £6k on clearing up the verges. She noted that Tony Blackmore had sourced the origin of some of the lorries and traced one to East London. A letter will be sent to the Waste Company concerned. **(Action: Tony Blackmore)**
This was noted.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

a) Traffic and Road Issues in Cheddington Questions Raised and Responses:

Simon Dudley explained that £120k had been received from the patching fund. Eight sites have been identified and patching areas measuring between 100 – 900m will be repaired.

- **A member reported that there had been a serious deterioration in the condition of Station Road. Although the road had been resurfaced in 2007 it had returned to its previous poor condition due to the number of waste vehicles using the route. The result was that potholes were being opened and drain pipes were collapsing. The member explained that in his opinion the substructure of Station Road was not strong enough for the current volume of traffic and this was dangerous for cyclists.**
- **It was suggested that the parking problems at Cheddington Station were the result of changes in the parking charges and that a solution would be the introduction of yellow lines.** Simon Dudley reported that he will be visiting the site with Paul Foot.
- **The member from Stoke Hammond reported that at the approach from Newton Longville there is a sharp bend and that drivers frequently travel down the slip road which is dangerous for pedestrians. She asked if consideration could be given to moving the gate forward and to reinstating the sign.** Simon Dudley replied that he will visit the bridge and that the gate should be kept shut at all times. Members were advised that the land had been purchased by BCC and it was suggested that the gate is moved to a location where it states there is no access.
- **A member from Aylesbury Vale District Council reported that in Edlesborough at the end of Pebblemoor he considered that patching is required. Members were advised that this is on the list of works to be completed. The member also reported that the footpath at the end of Ivinghoe Aston needs resurfacing and that currently it is unusable. This was noted.** Simon Dudley replied that there are plans to trim the footway in the next two weeks. Edlesborough is on the patching list.
- **A member from Aylesbury Vale District Council reported that he had been informed by the Cabinet Member for Transportation that work would be taking place on the speed limit between Bierton and Wing and the installation of a crossing at Rowsham. It was noted that the lights had been switched off at Wingrave crossroads and that the bus was now stopping in the dark. There are two street lights adjacent to the bus stop and the member asked if they could be adopted by the Wingrave and Aston Abbots Parish Councils.** Simon Dudley, Ian Duncan, Sian Thomas and Anuradha Fitzwalter will be meeting during the next few weeks to review the proposals for a crossing. A grant of £100k has been secured from GAF3 funding. The switch off in Wingrave is considered

to be a good idea and it was also noted that there are solar powered street lights in South Bucks.

- **A member reported that on Heath Road in Great Brickhill there had been acute flooding the previous week and that this had resulted in the road being closed.** Members were advised that the work is on the programme of works to be completed for the coming year.
- **An Operator's Licence application has been submitted for 25 vehicles and 4 trailers in Mentmore which will make the road very dangerous. A member explained that AVDC has sent an enforcement officer to investigate the site and that an application for an operators' license has been submitted.** The officers were not clear on the progress of Rowan Lane in Mentmore. David Pickard reported that previously consultation was through the Highways Development Control.
- **The PCSOs reported that HGV drivers were trying to reverse from the railway bridge at Ledburn and that Traffic Officers had received frequent calls for them to assist in reversing the lorries.** This was noted.
- **A member from Aylesbury Vale District Council reported that the Rothschild family have requested that a speed camera is installed in Wing and they have asked if there are any other speed calming measures available.** It was suggested that a possibility would be a variable message telling people to slow down and Simon Dudley suggested that the member contacts Sian Thomas or Ian Duncan. **(Action: Netta Glover)**
- **A member reported that a petition is to be presented to the Cabinet Member for Transportation requesting a crossing between Parkgate corner and the Cottesloe School in Wing. This should be presented to Council on 10 July and to Aylesbury Vale Local Committee on 17 July.** The petition was awaited.
- **A member noted that on the new bypass near Leighton Buzzard it is necessary to go into the right hand lane which can be dangerous.** Simon Dudley agreed to investigate this issue and report back to the Forum. **(Action: Simon Dudley)**

The Chairman explained that it was important to raise matters at the Local Area Forum in order for them to be recorded and it was hoped that this would lead to results.

A member asked for an update on Vehicle Activated Systems (VAS) and he was informed that in 2007 the price was approximately £8k. It was noted that the current price has not been communicated to the Parishes and it was suggested that an update on VAS is on the agenda for the next meeting. **(Action: Madeleine Howe).** Members were advised that in addition to cost of purchase costs will also be incurred on future maintenance costs and a member requested confirmation as to whether or not these signs can be independently sourced.

DAGNALL 'BUILD OUT' ACROSS DUNSTABLE ROAD

The Chairman of Edlesborough Parish Council reported that a path had been completed in 2004 to join Edlesborough and Dagnall. Since then traffic flows had increased by 200% and Edlesborough Parish Council has been informed that the route is too dangerous for the path to be opened because it failed a Safety Audit. The decision taken by Aylesbury Vale Local Committee was to defer a decision for a further year. It was noted that another path has been opened at the allotments in order to provide safer access for the children

although it was suggested that a crossing is required in order to provide a safer route for children.

Simon Dudley referred to a note from Mark Oldfield in which the following history of the scheme was noted:

- In 2005 the Parish Council submitted a request for a build out on Northall Road to aid the crossing of children from a footpath they wished to open up again to a playground. This request went to the area office.
- A site meeting was organised with the parish and area office, and Mark Oldfield was asked to attend. At the time funds were available to look at the scheme.
- In early 2006 work with Jacobs began on drawing up plans for a build out at the location specified. It was established that the build out would not be feasible as there is poor visibility at this location. Jacobs were tasked with finding an alternative.
- Jacobs returned with proposals to enhance the entrance to the village with yellow back signing and school crossing warning signs at the village entrance.
- In 2007 the school submitted and were successful in securing funding for a footpath across the allotments into the back entrance to the school with a wet weather shelter on site. The bid did not include funds for any works on the Northall Road.
- In 2008 a footpath and gazebo was built on the school site.

The Chairman of Edlesborough Parish Council reminded members that this was about safety and it was agreed to revisit the issue later in the year and to try and resurrect next year. (**Action: Madeleine Howe**)

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNITY PLANNING

Trevor Boyd gave a presentation on Local Knowledge and Community Planning. Members were advised that the last annual residents' survey completed in 2007 revealed the following results for residents of Wing and Ivinghoe Local Community Area where the results differed by more than 10% with the rest of the county:

Most Important to Households

- Education Provision
- Shopping facilities
- Facilities for young children
- Parks and open spaces
- Low level of anti social behaviour

Areas most in need of improving

- Cleaning the streets.
- Roads and pavement repairs
- Activities for teenagers
- Low levels of anti social behaviour
- Public transport

Priorities

- Highways on call response
- Anti Social Behaviour

- Children and Young People
- Review of school catchment areas
- Transport Health Access
- Availability of outreach services

It was suggested and agreed that the Availability of Outreach Services be on the agenda for the next meeting. **(Action: Madeleine Howe)**

CHEDDINGTON STATION

Mr Corry Cashman from Aylesbury Vale District Council explained that after London Midland took over in November 2007 and introduced blanket changes in car parking fees at Cheddington railway station passengers have been parking on Station Road. The residents of Station Road have complained that the parked vehicles are creating a traffic hazard. Approaches have been made to Cheddington and Slapton Parish Councils, Cheddington residents, AVDC parking, BCC and the Thames Valley Police. Residents travelling to Watford for shopping trips are required to pay to park for a full day.

Proposed Solutions:

- The rail company abolishes charging for off peak, weekends and Bank Holidays
- Introduce parking restrictions on Station Road
- There has been an issue with parking restrictions on Station Road and a further visit has been made to the station car park.
- Consultation was non existent with Parish Councils, AVDC, Thames valley Police, BCC and a meeting is held every 3 months with an officer of BCC. The view is not optimistic that a solution will be achieved.
- Request a meeting and write to London Midland requesting a response and a resolution

This was agreed unanimously and it was agreed that a draft letter be attached to the minutes. **(Action: Corry Cashman/Madeleine Howe)**

LEIGHTON BUZZARD

A member asked if the station car park will still have the capacity to deal with the projected increase in cars as a result of the growth agenda. It was agreed that this be on the agenda for a future meeting. **(Action: Madeleine Howe)**

NORTHALL PETITION

The response has been that all speed limits will be reviewed. Speed limits will be determined after investigation and consultation.

A request was made to consider built up areas outside the 30mph and the impact on grass cutting.

CAIRNS AND CAMIERS SKIPS AT MARSWORTH/CHEDDINGTON AIRFIELD

David Pickard, Group Manager, Planning Development Control explained that there were two waste recycling companies, Cairns and Camiers, operating from the Marsworth Airfield Industrial Estate. These were shown on an aerial photograph.

Camiers consent allows for up to 80 lorry movements per day. They had applied for planning permission to increase this to 120 movements per day last year. This was refused and a subsequent appeal has recently been turned down.

The other site is operated by Cairns and their current consent allows a maximum of 24 HGV movements per day. They had applied for retrospective planning permission for the change in site layout, the installation of a trommel and an increase of lorry movements to some 80 per day. The application was refused consent by the County Council last December. This means that the site is currently operating in an unauthorised manner and work is progressing on enforcement action against the trammel. Also it was considered that Cairns were now in receivership.

One complication was that the definition for an HGV varies between different pieces of legislation.

There is no evidence of large scale systematic breaches at Camiers although obtaining evidence is challenging.

There are two unauthorised other sites towards the south of the airfield near Marsworth village. One site has been cleared and the other is under investigation. Members were advised that enforcement is painstaking and time consuming.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Members were asked to notify Madeleine Howe of items for future meetings.

DATES AND VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

30 September 2008 at a venue tbc.

CHAIRMAN