

These are draft minutes and are subject to approval at the next meeting.



HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

8.00 p.m. on Thursday 23 August 2012

Village Hall Committee Room

Minutes

Present: **Councillors** - Ken Huddart (*Chairman*), Anthony Sheppard, Nick Hayes, Geoff Herbert, Jimmy Cartwright, Kate Hallett
 Co-opted members- Bill Chilcott
 Parish Clerk- Freda Collins

Cllr Hayes was not present at the start of the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Caroline Stevenson
These were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda

Cllr Herbert is also a Borough Councillor.
Cllr Cartwright is also a Borough Councillor.
Cllr Hallett is an employee of Transport for London.

3. Constitution of the Committee

Bill Chilcott was not included as a member of the Committee in the latest *Courier*. This omission will be corrected. Apologies were given to Bill.

4. Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 21 June 2012 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. To report on the actioning of items from previous minutes.

AP37. *Brick planter in The Parade*. Mike Bennison has requested that the plants be removed from the planter so that repairs can begin. Vanessa will move them this weekend.

Cllr Hayes arrived at the meeting.

AP41. *Debris in the ditch past Elm Farm*. Bill walked past the farm after the last meeting and noted large amounts of rubbish in the ditch. It was agreed that this must be rubbish dumped after the ditch had been cleaned by Caroline. It was noted that EBC clear a lorry-load every day from Woodstock Lane South.

AP1. *Old Claygate Lane*. The track has been strimmed. The wet patch remains. It is now believed that this is due to an underground spring. This will mean a change to the usual treatment; planings will need to be laid to raise the level of the ground.

6. Public Transport

a. Bus shelters, Routes & Bus Stops

K3-The route for the K3 is currently being re-tendered as part of a job lot. The contract will be awarded in 2013. There is no indication that it is being re-tendered in any different form/route to what is current. There would have to be consultation if the route were to be changed. It was noted that it currently costs £3.41 per mile; so to include Coverts Road in the route would cost a lot more money. The old Dart buses are now becoming obsolete, so need replacing. It is rumoured that a larger Mercedes bus will be used. These would be too large to manoeuvre round some of the routes and go through the width restrictions in Milbourne Lane.

b. Trains

The work to increase the length of the platforms will go ahead next year. They will be built and tested Apr-Dec 2013, ready for use in 2014. Claygate will get 2 longer trains per day.

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c. Claygate Station

Cllr Huddart has reminded Bill Brittian of the need for increased cycle parking provision, suggesting cycle rack positions in the car park near the ticket machine and CCTV, and at the south (Guildford) end of the UP platform buildings.

Mr Brittian has responded and passed on the suggestions. Previously he had offered increasing provision from 32 to 50, probably by double-decking the DOWN platform stands, and undertook to replace the UP platform bench.

12. Liaison with SCC

i. Footpath in Telegraph Lane- a resident has been in contact with SCC asking for a footpath. The *Focus* consultation recorded the majority of residents are against the proposal. An SCC officer states that there are some highway problems and no obvious funding.

ii. Following Bill Chilcott's information, Cllr Huddart has reported the twisted round mini-roundabout signs at Hare Lane/Oaken Lane.

iii. A resident contacted CPC to report weed growth in the edge of the road in Elm Gardens and Blakeden Drive. Cllr Huddart inspected and found this problem to be in other roads as well. The SCC website was undergoing maintenance over the weekend, so he reported direct to Mike Bennison. He cited the weed growth in carriageway edges of Elm Gardens, Blakeden Drive, Elm Road and Brookfield Gardens as examples of a general problem. SCC contracts this type of maintenance out to EBC who pleaded the excessive rain as an excuse for not spraying the weeds. Cllr Huddart has replied to the resident. We will monitor to ensure that the necessary work is carried out.

iv. Cllr Mike Bennison has asked SCC to remove the damaged bollard outside Champions.

b. Highway Tree Replacement and Maintenance

i. It was noted that there is a tree stump outside 17, Coverts Road. CPC planted a new tree near to the dying tree at 17, Coverts Road. The tree was felled and SCC also planted a replacement tree.

AP2 Cllr Huddart to inform Cllr Bennison of the tree stump.

Both SCC and CPC have planted trees in Coverts Road/Foxwarren. There are still some spaces in Foxwarren. Cllr Herbert has reported that the far end of Foxwarren needs maintenance.

ii. It was noted that some frontagers are not watering the recently planted trees in Dalmore Avenue. Cllr Hayes has been watering on their behalf. He will send notes asking them to water.

iii. The Committee needs to organise a planting programme for the winter. Old Claygate Lane is a potential site.

c. Street Lighting

i. The CVA has submitted an application to retain/replace the transformer on The Green to supply the Christmas tree lights, since the Code of Practice, which is available on the SCC website, allows for Festive Lighting.

ii. Gordon Road residents have continued to negotiate with SCC for four heritage lights.

iii. Telegraph Lane –no report

iv. SCC has undertaken to provide heritage lights in conservation areas, and Elmbridge B.C. has selected option G (Iffley). Action seems to be mostly on hold, as Runnymede is negotiating for a different design. Standard (non-heritage) lighting has been provided in Elm Road as the previously offered reason was that most of the lights were already non-heritage. *Post meeting note: the luminaires have been changed in St. Leonards Road and Church Road, retaining the existing columns, and hence not providing heritage columns; two columns on The Green have not been touched, so these are presumably the ones on hold.*

8. Parking

a. Off- Street

i. It is believed that the Village Club has been sold; a rumour that EBC bid for it has not been substantiated. The footprint of the site is little more than the building itself; the rest of the car park is owned by EBC.

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ii. EBC has re-endorsed a three-year old consultant's report which *inter alia* noted the underuse of the two Claygate car parks, and suggested that other uses might be sought for at least part of them. It was noted that the EBC parking policy is in the process of internal consultation only. At this stage 'nothing has been ruled out, nothing ruled in'.

b. On- Street

i. Hare Lane service road. A resident has drawn attention to the change of three transverse "free-for-an-hour" bays to two in line bays, and to the addition of a disabled person's bay, giving a net reduction of two generally available bays. Cllr Huddart has advised SCC. It is not known why the bays were marked in this way. It was agreed that another disabled bay would be useful outside of the pharmacy but not in the current location.

AP3 Cllr Huddart to inform SCC.

ii. During the past three years, or much longer in some cases, this Committee has raised specific issues with SCC which it has considered in its annual reviews. Several have resulted in action, as identified below. Others have reportedly been regarded as of inadequate priority. This could be regarded as a fair assessment, but we could consider pushing further for them.

Implemented items are:

- single yellow line on east side of Albany Crescent;
- extra "free for an hour" bays in Albany Crescent;
- change of control time for Albany Crescent and adjacent roads to 10-11a.m.;
- double yellow lines on corners of Elm Road/St. Leonards Road;
- double yellow lines on corners of Loseberry Road/Hare Lane;
- double yellow lines on corner of Church Road/Coverts Road.

Outstanding items are:

- double yellow lines on corner of The Avenue/Hare Lane (continuing H&T investigation as to whether this is necessary);
- double yellow lines on corner of Church Road/The Causeway (recently reiterated by David Parks, since the bus and football parking on Sundays can hold up traffic);
- double yellow lines for 10m at the rec. end of Dalmore Avenue
- bus stop clearway in Hare Lane near Dalmore Avenue (London Buses did survey again a few months ago, with a view to shortening and implementing).

The outstanding items were debated:-

- *double yellow lines on corner of The Avenue/Hare Lane*- it was agreed that there is not a strong case as the problem is intermittent. Cllr Sheppard has heard no more from The Avenue residents or the resident in Meadow Road.
- *double yellow lines on corner of Church Road/The Causeway*- this only occurs on Sunday with the football parking. This does not have a strong case.
- *double yellow lines for 10m at the rec. end of Dalmore Avenue* –there is also a suggestion from a resident for double yellow lines at the Hare Lane end of Dalmore Avenue so that sight lines can be preserved for vehicles turning out of the avenue.

It was noted that Dalmore Avenue residents invited a SCC representative to speak to them about parking problems in the road. Residents have experienced serious obstruction due to parked cars as they sometimes cannot get in or out of their drives. The current suggestion is for double yellow lines on one side of the road- the side has not yet been decided. It was agreed that it is very worthy that the residents are trying to sort out their own problems. It was agreed to leave the double yellow lines near the Rec on the list. It was not sure how strong the sightline argument is for the double yellow lines near Hare Lane.

- *bus stop clearway in Hare Lane near Dalmore Avenue*- Cllr Huddart spoke to representatives from the bus company who want the work done, but have to wait for SCC to do it. Cllr Huddart also spoke to John Strachan who agrees that the run-in can be avoided if the bus stop is moved a little way to take advantage of the entrance to the car park. It was agreed that parked cars obstructing a bus stop is not a good situation, so this issue should be pursued.

c. Parking Policy

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There is an inevitably continuing debate as to the desirable extent of controls. Following the historic CARP "Say No to CPZ" campaign some years ago, this view has been re-asserted during the recent CAMP campaign against on-street charges. Two years ago the *Focus* consultation found that residents were against widespread controls. In addition to the campaign and consultation, Cllr Huddart reported to H&T that adding controls just outside the boundary of the existing controls would result in continuing spread of the controlled area, and that evidence from within Elmbridge suggested that it would spread as wide as including Telegraph Lane. Any tightening of the controls has this effect, as a lady in Foley Road claimed that the extra "free for an hour" bays, and the change to 10-11 a.m. controls had resulted in more commuter parking in Foley Road. Introduction of the Esher Residents' Parking Zone had a dramatic impact on Claremont Lane, where double yellow lines had to be installed.

It was suggested that we could assist with some parking problems such as school traffic by supporting 'walking trains'. It was noted that the station car park is an under-used resource; but it is known that the owners will not be persuaded to reduce their fees, even though some thought that this would maximise their revenue stream. It is a shame that the Train companies are not providing a better service to their customers. It is believed that the revenue from the Hare Lane car parks is quite good, but this is due to fines and not fees.

It was pleasing to note that EBC now realises that there cannot be a borough-wide parking policy and have recognised that each area has to be treated differently.

It was AGREED to resist the spread of parking controls.

Post meeting note: the lady from Foley Road contacted us on 29 Jun, and Cllr Huddart emailed a full reply on 8 Jul, making the case that we resisted the spread of controls.

9. Traffic Calming

There has been a lull in Speedwatches over the summer, but it has started again.

It was agreed to thank Malcolm McKenzie and his team.

AP4 Cllr Huddart to action.

10. Bridleway Proposals & Rights of Way

10.1 The Old Claygate Lane track has been strimmed. We may have to pay to put down planings on the wet patch.

10.2 It was noted that on the bridleway starting in Bridle Road, leading under the A3, some of the path has been destroyed by horses hooves. SCC is aware of this, but has no funding. Again, we may have to buy the planings, if SCC will agree to lay them. It was agreed that it is important to keep bridleways open.

10.3 It was noted that the tunnel under the A3 gets flooded, but Caroline rods the drain and solves the problem.

Post meeting note: On 1 Aug Cllr Huddart reported that FP39 between Loseberry Road and Raleigh Drive had rampant encroaching roses, which Steve Wells dealt with, and nettles, which required early strimming; the second strim was promised "before the schools return".

11. Cycling

11.1 At the last Committee we agreed to fund three Plantlocks on the Recreation Ground, subject to confirmation from David Cowie. Nothing has been heard from David. The existing Plantlock in the Hare Lane service road island has not been seen to be used, but it may be that cyclists do not recognise what it is for. It is believed that Plantlocks may work better on the Rec as they will be the only cycle parking provision. Steve Wells gave a figure for the cost of three units as £352.20 + VAT, plus the cost of installation estimated at £100. At the last meeting it was agreed to purchase the three planters and to offer £100 towards the cost of the concrete base. This funding would exceed the amount in the budget provision for 'cycling' but the extra can be vired out of the 'Bridleways' budget.

It is believed that the figures given by Steve Wells may be inaccurate, and may not cover the cost of three Plantlocks; if only two Plantlocks can be provided now, more can be considered when there is evidence of usage. The Clerk will contact Steve and inform him of what was agreed i.e. that funding of £452 plus VAT will be provided. The Clerk will then order the Plantlocks for the CRGT so that the VAT can be claimed back.

AP5 The Clerk to action.

11.2 A letter has been received from the owner of Tip Top computers who is considering leasing premises in Claygate. He has suggested that the cycle parking provision at the end of The Parade be moved to where the CPC notice board currently stands. It was noted:-

- i. The lease has not yet been taken so we can take no action at this time.
- ii. There may be planning applications arising.
- iii. The notice board stands on land owned by Boots.

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iv. The cycle parking provision belongs to SCC.

It was agreed to reply wishing him well with his venture and that we will try to assist if he takes the lease.

12. Street Signage

Bill Chilcott and Cllr Huddart have been in extensive email communication regarding errant though traffic attempting to use Coverts Road; this has been copied to H&T members.

Signage in and to Claygate was discussed, including the following:-

- i. moving the Coverts Road "No Through Road" sign from the junction with Vale Road to the junction with Foley Road; no change recommended.
- ii. seeking to remove signing from the C class through route through Claygate (Hare Lane to Woodstock Lane South), which facilitates unwelcome through traffic; no change recommended.

It was agreed that it would be advantageous to have all entrances to the village clearly signed 'Claygate'. There is no 'Claygate' sign northbound on the A244. Cllr Huddart will ask for a sign.

Cllr Huddart will also check if Manor Road South is on the C network. *Post meeting note: neither Manor Road North nor Manor Road South are on the C network.*

AP6 Cllr Huddart to action.

It was noted that the way the signage issues had been presented and the amount of thought that had gone into the matter by Bill was commendable. The Committee gave their thanks for his work.

13. Website

13.1 Cllr Hallett will complete the document showing the 3-minute walking circle from the car parks and then forward to Cllr Coomes.

13.2 It was agreed to ask Cllr Coomes to upload the hand drawn map of Claygate produced by Cllr Hallett onto the site and also to provide links to the Surrey i-map and the EBC map of the Borough.

AP7 The Clerk to action.

14. Matters for Information Only

It was noted that when the brick planter in The Parade is rebuilt the new design proposed a bench at either end, but there is currently only one bench there at the moment. The new planter will site the bench to face down The Parade. It was thought that a second bench at the other end may be in conflict with the dropped kerb.

Once the bed is redone, there may be a need for a second bench or some sort of planter.

15. Date and place of the next meeting

8.00pm on 18 October 2012 in the Committee Room

Signed.....as a true and fair record of the meeting.

Date.....