

ECC/EFDC LOCAL HIGHWAY PANEL MINUTES

Committee: ECC/EFDC Local Highways Panel **Date:** Monday, 28 April 2014

Place: Committee Room 2, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping **Time:** 6.30 - 7.20 pm

Members Present: **County Councillors:**

Councillors J Knapman (Chairman), Mrs R Gadsby, J Knapman, A Jackson, Mrs V Metcalfe, Mrs M McEwen, C Pond and J M Whitehouse

District Councillors:

Councillors R Bassett, K Chana, T Church, P Keska, Mrs J Lea, L Leonard and Ms S Watson

Apologies: D Sprunt (Principal Transportation Co-Ordinator – ECC)

Officers Present: K Durrani (Assistant Director (Technical Services)), S G Hill (Assistant Director (Governance & Performance Management)), J Leither (Democratic Services Assistant), J Simmons (Highways Liaison Officer, ECC), P Wright (Design & Consultancy Manager – Essex Highways) and K Shenton (ECC)

43. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2014 be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

44. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Advice from the Chairman

The Chairman advised the Panel on how future meetings of the LHP should progress (attached appendix, previously circulated).

Members requested a list of the schemes that had been approved by the Portfolio Holder be brought to the next meeting of the Local Highways Panel.

RESOLVED:

That an approved list of schemes by the Portfolio Holder be brought to the next meeting.

45. SCHEME RECOMMENDATIONS 2012/13

Members noted the Scheme Recommendations Schedule for 2012/13. Meetings had taken place with the Divisional Members and County Officers where the scheme progress had been discussed.

46. SCHEME RECOMMENDATIONS 2013/14

Members noted the Scheme Recommendations Schedule for 2013/14. Meetings had previously taken place with the Divisional Members and County Officers where the schemes progression had been discussed.

47. NEW SCHEME PROPOSALS

Members considered the schedule of Proposed New Schemes.

Buckhurst Hill & Loughton South Division

Councillors Metcalfe and Watson confirmed that Scheme 2 would progress.

AGREED:

That Scheme 2 for Buckhurst Hill & Loughton South Division as listed on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were agreed.

Chigwell & Loughton Broadway Division

Councillors Knapman and Chana advised that Scheme 5, Vicarage Lane, junction with Manor Road be put on hold. Councillor Knapman stated that he had published the feasibility report to the Parish Council and advised that the house on the corner of this junction had a row of trees which obscured the view to motorists and that he would write to the owners of the house and ask if they could come to some agreement regarding moving the trees.

The Councillors confirmed that the remaining schemes for the Chigwell & Loughton Broadway Division as shown on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were to progress.

AGREED:

- (1) That Councillor Knapman would write to the owners of the corner house with regard to moving the trees; and
- (2) That the remaining schemes for the Chigwell & Loughton Broadway Division as listed on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were agreed.

Epping & Theydon Bois Division

Councillors Whitehouse and Church advised that Scheme 10 be removed from the list and be put on hold for consideration at another time.

The Councillors confirmed that Scheme 15, options 1 and 3 should progress.

Councillors Whitehouse and Church advised that the remaining schemes for the Epping & Theydon Bois Division as listed on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were agreed.

AGREED:

- (1) That Scheme 10 be removed from the list;
- (2) That Scheme 15 options 1 and 3 to progress; and

- (3) That the remaining schemes for Epping & Theydon Bois Division as listed on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were agreed.

Loughton Central Division

Councillors Pond and Leonard advised that Scheme 18 would be put on hold for consideration at another time.

The Councillors confirmed that the remaining schemes for the Loughton Central Division as shown on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were to progress.

AGREED:

- (1) That Scheme 18 be put on hold until further notice; and
- (2) That the remaining schemes for the Loughton Central Division as listed on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were agreed.

North Weald & Nazeing Division

Councillors Jackson and Bassett advised that Schemes 24, 26, 27, 29 and 30 would be removed and added to the on hold list.

The HLO stated that Scheme 28 would be passed to the Rangers list as the vegetation needed to be cut back.

The Councillors agreed that the remaining schemes for the North Weald & Nazeing Division as shown on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were to progress.

AGREED:

- (1) That Schemes 24, 26, 27, 29 and 30 would be removed from the Proposed Scheme List and put on hold for future consideration:
- (2) That Scheme 28 would be passed to the Rangers; and
- (3) That the remaining schemes for the North Weald & Nazeing Division as listed on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were agreed.

Ongar & Rural Division

Councillors McEwen and Keska advised that Scheme 46 for 2 wooden bus shelters in High Street, Ongar were to progress. Members noted that the Parish Council would be asked to pay the difference between metal bus shelters and the wooden bus shelters that were requested.

The Councillors requested that the PRow team look into a more cost effective solution for Scheme 48 and report back.

The Councillors confirmed that the remaining schemes for the Ongar & Rural Division as listed on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were to progress..

AGREED:

- (1) That the additional cost of installing 2 wooden bus shelters in High Street, Ongar be paid by Ongar Parish Council;
- (2) That a more cost effective solution for Scheme 48 be looked into and reported back; and
- (3) That the remaining schemes for the Ongar & Rural Division as listed on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were agreed.

Waltham Abbey Division

Councillors Gadsby and Lea advised the Panel that Schemes 51, 54, 55 and 56 would progress.

AGREED:

That schemes 51, 54 55 and 56 for the Waltham Abbey Division as listed on the Proposed Scheme List 2013/14 were agreed.

48. FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND DESIGNS

Members noted the Feasibility Studies and Designs Schedule.

49. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 23 July 2014 at 6.30pm in Committee Room 2 at the Civic Offices, Epping Forest District Council.

CHAIRMAN

Presentation of Data to Essex County Council / Epping Forest District Council Local Highways Panel

The current procedure is repetitive and lacks clarity. It also leads the meetings into going over the same issues notably failures to get approved programmes completed on the ground.

This needs to be addressed so that meetings are not seen predominantly as a waste of time. I would therefore like data presented in the following ways:

(1) Completed schemes

Scheme location, brief description of scheme, completion cost, no longer recorded one year after completion. For noting only.

(2) Approved Schemes

Approval dates by LHP and Portfolio Holder: target completion date; cost. To be discussed only if explanation of lateness in completion or changing costs are required. If scheme is likely to be delayed by more than 3 months beyond its target date then the officer responsible must be present at the first available meeting to explain the delay and to provide a solution which speeds up delivery. A new delivery date must be provided.

(3) Future Schemes and Budget availability

This should be the major function of the LHP Meetings ie the decision making on new schemes emanating from members or other local bodies (preferably via the local committee members).

Schemes should have been put forward via LHP officers so that when they come to the LHP Meeting they have been initially examined and priced.

It is likely that members will still turn up on the night with other schemes and these will simply be recorded taken away for examination and costing before returning in order that a decision can be taken at the LHP Meeting.

Given the now planned meetings between ward members and officers . The full LHP Meetings will only need to concentrate on New Proposals and failures to meet target dates. Then we might have a chance to drive projects forward and get some openness and accountability into the delivery of projects.

John Knapman
Chairman, Local Highways Panel

This page is intentionally left blank