

**MINUTES OF THE HARLOW LOCALISM PANEL
HELD ON**

31 October 2011

10:30am – 102pm

PRESENT:

Members

Cllr Tony Hall (Chairman)
Cllr Eddie Johnson (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Mike Garnett
Cllr John Strachan

Also Present

Cllr Bob Davis
Cllr Muriel Jolles

Officers

Rissa Cahill – Highways Liaison Officer (ECC)
Pam Carpenter – Property and Facilities Management (HDC)
Joe McGill – Property and Facilities Manager (HDC)
Cath Shaw – Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Enterprise) (HDC)
Chris Stoneham – Senior Customer Liaison Officer (ECC)

Public

Heather Adams
Richard Adams
Janet Bamber
Colin Black (Churchgate St Residents Assn)
David Bracey (Churchgate St Residents Assn)
Rufus Cook
Pete Coomber
John Curry (Harlow Civic Society)
John Hester
Lin Hester
Dorothy King
Peter Lainson (Harlow Area Access Group)
Ray Liles
Paul McLintic (Old Harlow NAP)
Nigel Pittey (Altham Grove Residents Assn)
Jane Steer (Harlow Area Access Group)
Sheila Sullivan (Morley Grove Residents Assn)
Kevin Tucker (HCRF Chairman)
Dionne Vince (Lead Petitioner)
B Westby (Town Park User)
Mick Westby (Stort Valley Angling Society)

10. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman subject to the following amendments to the 2011/12 priority schemes listed at Minute 7 (2011/12 programme):

- (a) The deletion of 'Church Langley Way/Kiln Lane – Fencing';
- (c) The location of VAS sign to be confirmed (Moorhall Rd or Hobbs Cross Rd?).

11. **MATTERS ARISING**

None.

12. **WORK PLAN**

The Panel raised various issues for inclusion in the Work Plan.

Following Essex County Council's review of speed limits in Essex, a draft Speed Strategy for Essex had been produced, in which villages had been prioritised and no amendments to speed restrictions had been earmarked for Harlow. It was noted that the Speed Strategy for Essex was available on request from Essex County Council.

The status was queried of the 40mph speed restriction on the A414 between the M11 roundabout and the Southern Way/Potter Street intersection. Confirmation was sought on whether the reduction of the original speed limit from 50 to 40mph (introduced when major road improvements began on this stretch) was in fact now permanent.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Work Plan be noted;
- (b) the following items be added to the Work Plan:
 - (i) Speed Survey Update.
 - (ii) Confirmation of correct speed restriction for A414 from M11 roundabout into Harlow.
 - (iii) Further consideration to introduce speed restriction in Gilden Way;
 - (iv) Development of 2012/13 Programme (January/February 2012)

- (c) a copy of the finalised Speed Strategy for Essex be supplied to the Chairman of the Localism Panel.

13. **PETITION – OLD HALL RISE, CHURCH LANGLEY**

A petition of 134 signatures was received requesting that a 20mph speed limit and VAS signs be introduced in the area.

It was noted that Essex County Council was running a trial of 20mph zones in Chelmsford to establish if it would be feasible to roll it out across the County. In the meantime, until the conclusions had been drawn from this trial, there were no plans to introduce such speed limits.

It was acknowledged that the practicalities of introducing such speed restrictions were problematic and enforcement presented difficulties.

RESOLVED that the petition be noted and referred to the Cabinet for consideration.

14. **CHURCHGATE STREET UPDATE**

It was noted that the highways issues in Churchgate Street were being monitored to ascertain whether the recently completed improvements to the A414 would have a beneficial effect in this area. The results of this monitoring would be submitted to a future meeting of this Panel.

However, following a joint site visit by Harlow District and Essex County Councils' Officers, it was agreed that there were specific issues regarding pedestrian safety at the junction of Churchgate Street with the old Sheering Road, which needed to be addressed. Whilst Essex County Council would be proposing measures to prevent kerb mounting etc it was agreed that parking contributed to the hazard and therefore also needed to be addressed. It was proposed that the current Traffic Regulation Order proposals should be amended to include junction protection.

RECOMMENDED to the Cabinet that consultation be commenced to amend the Traffic Regulation Order to extend car parking restrictions at the junction with Churchgate Street/Sheering Road.

15. **GIBB CROFT/SIBNEYS GREEN – UPDATE**

Further to Minute 5 (27/6/11), it was confirmed that there were insufficient community safety grounds to close this footpath. It was therefore agreed not to pursue the closure of this footpath unless further evidence of anti-social behaviour came to light.

RECOMMENDED that no further action be taken to close this footpath.

16. **THE CHASE, NEWHALL – UPDATE**

Further to Minute 6 (27/6/11), Officers had reviewed the possibility of introducing a Traffic Regulation Order as requested by the managing agents for the New Hall development.

The outcome was that they considered it would be inappropriate to introduce ad hoc Traffic Regulation Orders at this stage, but rather defer a decision until the area could be considered as a whole. This proposal had been included in the Traffic Regulation Order report elsewhere on this agenda. (See Minute 17, Recommendation (g) below).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

17. **TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS**

The Panel received a report on the results of the public consultation on proposed Traffic Regulation Orders and Town Park parking.

Approval was sought to implement the necessary changes in order to introduce various Orders.

RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that

- (a) statutory consultation be commenced on the extension of the No-Waiting restrictions at Templebank for the reasons outlined in paragraphs 6-7 and Appendix 1;
- (b) statutory consultation be commenced at Wych Elm as per paragraphs 8-9 and Appendix 2;
- (c) statutory consultation be commenced on Tripton Road and West Field as per paragraphs 10-12 and Appendix 3;
- (d) statutory consultation be commenced to introduce a permit zone on Park Lane for reasons set out in paragraphs 13-15 and Appendix 4;
- (e) the petitioners request to have the existing Traffic Order amended be refused for the reasons set out in paragraphs 16-17 (see Appendix 5);

- (f) statutory consultation on Moorfield-Paringdon Road be commenced for the reasons set out in paragraphs 18-19 and Appendix 6;
- (g) the application by the managing agents of New Hall be deferred for the reasons set out in paragraphs 20-22;
- (h) the application be deferred until such time as Officers carry out consultation with residents on Hart Road as per paragraph 23-24;
- (i) the Burnt Mill car park proposal be referred to Cabinet for determination on whether a Traffic Order should be introduced in line with consultation as per paragraphs 25-27 and Appendix 7;
- (j) the Town Park Car Park options be referred to Cabinet for determination on the introduction of off-street Traffic Orders in line with current tariffs for the Town Park at the following locations: old Creche Site, Fifth Avenue showground and garage site Altham Grove in line with consultation as per paragraphs 28-29 and Appendix 8;
- (k) an on-street Traffic Order be introduced at Netteswell Lane as per Appendix 8;
- (l) statutory consultation be commenced to introduce off-street parking permits at The Hides garage area for the reasons set out in paragraphs 40-42 and Appendix 9;
- (m) statutory consultation be commenced at Morley Grove garage and paved areas for the reasons set out in paragraphs 42-44 and Appendix 10;
- (n) statutory consultation be commenced for a new off-street Traffic Order at Northbrooks garage site for the reasons set out in paragraphs 45-47;
- (o) following approval by the North Parking Partnership, the necessary changes to the On-Street Consolidation Orders be implemented in line with legislation for all areas including permit areas and be advertised in accordance with statutory process for the reasons as set out in paragraphs 49-50;
- (p) following approval the necessary changes to the Off-Street Consolidation Orders be implemented in line with legislation

for all areas including permit areas and be advertised in accordance with statutory process for the reasons as set out in paragraphs 49-51.

18. **HARLOW DISTRICT COUNCIL – 2011/12 PROGRAMME**

The Panel received a progress report from Essex County Council on schemes which had been agreed at the last meeting of this Panel.

The following issues were raised for further consideration by Essex County Council:

- * Southern Way cycle track – Remedial work on corrugated track surface along the section between A414 and Traceys Road and cracks along whole length.
- * Commonsie Road – Feasibility for pedestrian crossing outside Milwards School.
- * Edinburgh Way – Feasibility Study regarding part-time traffic lights.

RESOLVED that the reports be noted.

19. **ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

(a) Allocation of Highways Responsibilities

It was noted that the Harlow Council was responsible for unadopted highways and Essex County Council for adopted ones. Maps showing which roads were which were available on request.

(b) Speed Surveys

It was noted that specific speed survey results were available on request from Essex County Council.

(c) Removal of Temporary Signage

There was a request to clear redundant temporary signage from Sheering Road, which had been left behind after works had been completed.

(d) Notification of Utilities Work

A request was made to Essex County Council to reinstate the notification of planned utilities work, which had previously been issued to the Harlow Accessibility Access Group.

(e) Highways Rangers – Work Allocation

Rissa Cahill, Essex County Council undertook to investigate concerns about the allocation of work requests for the Highways Rangers.

20. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be arranged for late January/early February 2012.

CHAIRMAN OF THE PANEL