

SEVENOAKS JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Minutes of the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board held on
15 March 2011 commencing at 7 pm

Present: Chairman: Cllr. Brazier

Vice-Chairman: Cllr. London (James)

District Councillors: Mrs Davison, Dibsdall, Underwood, Waller and Williamson.

County Councillors: Brookbank, Gough, Lake, London (John) and Parry.

The representative from the Kent Association of Parish Councils:
Cllr Robson

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Chard.

Officers: Mr. Aspinall (KCC), Mr. Bracey (SDC), Mr. Connor (SDC), Mr. Dines (KCC), Ms. Squires (KCC) and Mrs. Beaumont (SDC).

District Cllrs. Davison, Fleming, Piper and Walshe were also in attendance.

36. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD ON 21 SEPTEMBER 2010 (Item No. 1)

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board held on 14 December 2010 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item No. 2)

Cllr Williamson declared a personal interest in Minute No. 42 as a resident of Watercroft Road.

38. MATTERS ARISING/UPDATES (INCLUDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS) (Report No. 3)

a) Actions from Previous Meetings

Petition relating to Cold Arbor Road, Bessels Green

The local County Councillor informed the Board that he had met with residents to discuss a trial scheme of improvements for the area.

Alternative sighting of the SID in Seal Hollow Road

The Board was informed that a speed indicator device had recently been installed in the Road.

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Road Safety A25 Greatness

It was noted that the speed limit signs had been moved and an interactive sign was expected in March 2011.

Pedestrian Crossing in Main Road, Crockham Hill

It was noted that the speed indicator device had been installed and Kent Police Traffic Management Unit had arranged for additional enforcement in the area.

39. BAYHAM ROAD AND SERPENTINE ROAD PETITION UPDATE (Report No. 4)

Officers explained that the issue of speeding and road safety on Bayham Road and Serpentine Road had been surveyed and considered in consultation with the Police. Although Officers recognised the concern of residents, the area did not meet the criteria for installation of a speed indicator or a speed camera and measures would not be pursued at present.

A representative of local residents was concerned that the view of the Primary School had not been given sufficient weight with regard to safety issues on the roads. He felt that some of the tests carried out to ascertain the speed and safety of traffic on the roads were not relevant to the area and that Appendix H of the report, which highlighted indicative costs of traffic calming, was not detailed enough for Members to consider properly. He hoped that the local Kent County Council Member Highway Fund could be used to implement a solution and suggested further surveys be undertaken with regard to the cost of traffic calming.

The District Council's local Member felt that pinch points would offer a satisfactory resolution to the problems. He also emphasised the concerns of the Primary School.

A Member suggested the situation should be revisited at the next meeting of the Board. However, the Chairman was keen to make a recommendation.

Officers sympathised with residents' concerns, but explained that cuts in the capital programme meant that schemes would only be funded in areas where a proven track record could be improved upon.

Resolved: That a) results of the speed survey be forwarded to the Police for appropriate enforcement action;

b) Members note that neither Bayham Road nor Serpentine Road met the countywide criteria for installation of a speed indicator device or a speed camera;

c) the highway authority be recommended not to pursue measures specific to addressing speeding in Bayham Road and Serpentine Road at this time; and

d) the lead petitioner be informed of the decision of the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board.

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40. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW B2042 UPDATE (A25 WESTERHAM ROAD, BESSELS GREEN TO FOUR ELMS) (Report No. 5)

The report followed previous recommendations of the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board to reduce speed limits on the B2042 and the receipt of a petition requesting the same.

Following consultation with the Police, Officers felt that the speed limit should be reduced to 40mph in Goathurst Common centre. Funding was being sought from the Members' Highway Fund.

It was suggested that speed detection equipment be temporarily installed in order to detect the volume and speed of traffic. The local County Councillor noted that there were other areas with similar problems which would need to be considered before funding could be allocated.

Resolved: That a) Members endorse the speed limits illustrated in Appendices C and E of the report, subject to funding and Police approval; and

b) the lead petitioner be informed of the decision of the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board.

41. HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT SCHEME PROGRESS REPORT (Report No. 6)

It was noted that the majority of works on the improvements scheme had been completed or approved. The two items in Swanley were awaiting the finalisation of consultation before the work was programmed.

The Chairman thanked Members and Officers for the very satisfactory progression of the scheme.

42. PARKING, SAFETY AND CONGESTION ISSUES NEAR KNOCKHOLT STATION, HALSTEAD (Report No. 7)

The Parking Manager explained that the report requested Members to reconsider the introduction of parking restrictions and measures as a solution to manage commuter parking near Knockholt station. Officers had taken legal advice that further formal consultation was required before measures could be implemented. It was noted that the District Chief Inspector of police was in support of the proposals.

The Senior Engineer noted that the traffic situation had become significantly worse during the last year. Photographs in Appendix B of the report indicated the current situation. Parking now occurred on both sides of the road which resulted in restricted road width and unsafe traffic movements. The proposals were shown in Appendix A-E of the report and were unchanged from the previous report presented to the Board in March 2010. Members were asked to approve the scheme and further consultation.

A Member noted that Halstead Parish Council had made alternative suggestions for improving the situation which included single-yellow lines on one side of the road,

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free parking for limited periods and protection of the bus stop. Another Member suggested double-yellow lines on one side of the road.

The Senior Engineer advised that the scheme attempted to manage parking effectively rather than displace it elsewhere. He felt that the proposals had the capacity to address the problems being experienced. He also commented that there was an element of road safety and vehicle crime and that a pay and display scheme would provide the added benefit of the presence of enforcement officers whilst patrolling the area.

The Chairman noted that should the recommendation be refused, the County Council would be responsible for investigating and proposing any mitigating measures.

Resolved: That the remaining elements of the Traffic Regulation Order 2009 Amendment 10 (as per the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board Item No. 9 of 16 March 2010) be implemented, subject to further formal consultation of the proposals.

43. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS – TRO 2009 AMENDMENT 19A – HITCHEN HATCH LANE, SEVENOAKS (Report No. 8)

The report requested reducing the length of a parking bay in Hitchen Hatch Lane by 32 metres following concerns raised by residents regarding visibility and safe egress from properties. Formal consultation had been undertaken.

In response to a query, the Senior Engineer stated that the reduction would lose six parking spaces. However, the area was not over-subscribed.

Resolved: That the comments and objections to the changes in the on-street parking Traffic Regulation Order 2009 Amendment 19a be noted and the proposals be implemented.

44. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS – TRO 2009 AMENDMENT 20A – TUDOR DRIVE & WELL ROAD AREAS, OTFORD (Report No. 9)

The Senior Parking and Traffic Engineer explained that the report requested the introduction of parking restrictions in the Tudor Drive and Well Road areas of Otford to combat issues of on-street parking by non-residents associated with Otford station.

Formal consultation had been undertaken which had received a very high level of response and these were highlighted in the report. Appendix A of the report also illustrated the proposals. Some objections had been received and suggested amendments to take account of these were outlined in Appendix C of the report.

The local Member noted that residents were in favour of the introduction of yellow lines. She noted that funding existed and asked that the proposals be approved.

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In response to a request from a resident of Tudor Drive, the Senior Engineer confirmed that the proposed yellow lines outside No.s 68-74 Tudor Drive could be deleted from the proposal to accommodate parking.

In response to a query, the Senior Engineer explained that parking bays had initially been considered for the area. However, following discussions with the local Members, yellow lines were agreed to be a less intrusive solution.

Resolved: That the comments and objections to the changes to the on-street parking Traffic Regulation Order 2009 Amendment 20 be noted and the amended proposals be implemented, subject to including the omission of yellow lines outside No.s 68-74 Tudor Drive.

45. DRAINAGE UPDATE FOR SEVENOAKS (Item No. 10)

There were no updates.

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 8:07 P.M.

Chairman

