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## SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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**MINUTES** of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne on Monday 25th June 2007 from 5:32 pm to 8:12 pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillor John Wright (Chairman), Councillors Cindy Davis, Sandra Garside, Prescott, Pat Sandle, Manuela Tomes, and Ghlin Whelan.

Kent County Councillor Adrian Crowther (Vice-Chairman) and Kent County Councillors, Bowles, Gates, Harrison and Truelove.

Kent Association of Parish Councils representative Mrs A Lewis.

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Mrs Bescoby and Miss Mackenzie and Messrs Knowles and Planner (Swale Borough Council (SBC)) and Messrs Bateman, Bond, Sammut and Smith (Kent Highway Services (KHS)).

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillors Bobbin, Chris Boden, Bryan Mulhern and Tovey.

**APOLOGIES:** Kent County Councillor Brenda Simpson.

### 172 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th March 2007 (Minute Nos. 858 – 880) were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the deletion of recommendation (1) in Minute No. 869, to be replaced with the following wording:

(1) That proposed waiting restrictions be installed at Middletune Avenue, Volante Drive, Chalkwell Road and Swanstree Avenue, Sittingbourne and Station Road/A2, Teynham.

(2) That further investigations be carried out prior to the implementation of waiting restrictions at Capel Road/Bell Road, Brenchley Road/Bell Road, Sittingbourne and Conyer Road, Teynham.

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 22nd May 2007 (Minute Nos. 48 – 54) were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### 173 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared.

### 174 **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Chairman altered the order of business as hereinafter minuted.

### 175 **PUBLIC SESSION**

The Chairman advised that the registered speakers would be invited to speak under the relevant Agenda item.

### **PART A MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION**

### 176 **BUS STOP ACCESS AND PARKING PROBLEMS AT BYSINGWOOD ROAD, FAVERSHAM**

The Senior Transportation Engineer (KHS) presented his report, which detailed two

options to cater for the interests of the bus operators/users and the demand for short stay on-street parking at specific locations along Bysingwood Road, Faversham. Option One, the recommended option, considered moving the bus stop 30 metres northwest. Option Two proposed installing bus stop clearways at all four bus stop locations to prevent vehicles parking within 23 metres of the road at each bus stop.

Mr Wibberley, of 42 Bysingwood Road, spoke in support of Option One. He advised that the layby had been provided for residents parking 43 years ago; and that since they had requested the relocation of the bus stop, criminal damage to their vehicles had occurred which the Police were investigating. He suggested that signatories to the petition which objected to moving the bus stop were generally people who did not use the bus.

The Ward Member advised that the petition had been signed by 165 people who did not wish to see the bus stop moved, as it would severely impact on elderly and disabled residents who used the bus stop. He considered the problem had been caused by the cycle route. He had no objection to retain the layby for parking but considered the bus stop should be located close to it.

Members considered that given the fact that the layby had been provided for parking, Option One was the best way forward.

In response to a question, the Senior Transportation Engineer advised that consultation would be carried out to assess the best siting for the bus stop.

***Recommended:***

***(1) That option one be progressed further by carrying out formal consultations to all relevant parties and that, should no objections be received, this proposal be included in the five year LTP programme.***

***(2) That given the large programme for bus stop improvements in Swale in the 2007/08 Swale Urban Package Schemes, the Option One proposal be implemented in part in 2007/08 and completed in the following year's programme.***

***(3) That the scheme from the Western Link end of Bysingwood Road be started and progressed towards the town centre.***

**177 FAVERSHAM TOWN CENTRE TRAFFIC FLOWS**

The Board considered the report which described progress of the review of traffic flows in Faversham town centre, and suggested options to take forward in principle. The report presented four options for the Board to consider.

Mr Derek Squires, Secretary of Faversham Town Centre Traders, spoke in favour of Option Two to reverse the flow of the one way direction in Preston Street, and to maintain the current one way direction in East Street. He advised that in the event of the barrier being closed, access would need to be provided for businesses in Court Street and East Street.

Mr Forsyth, a resident of Court Street, spoke in support of Option Two to limit traffic through Court Street. He referred to problems with the speed and noise of traffic and considered that traffic calming measures were required.

The Head of Technical Services advised that progression of the scheme would include consultations with relevant parties. He confirmed that the barrier in Court Street would only close on Saturdays and during special events. With regard to alleged speeding in the high street, he agreed to take this matter up with the Police.

One of the Ward Member's spoke in favour of Option Two, which he believed would solve the problems that many residents experienced. He raised concern in respect of the small Island at the East Street/ Preston Street junction which was difficult for traffic to negotiate, especially delivery vehicles. Another Ward Member suggested that the problems were caused by speeding traffic; the Chairman advised he would raise this issue again with the Police.

**Recommended:**

***(1) That Option Two be progressed in principle at this stage and funding be sought to progress this scheme to enable the detailed feasibility to be undertaken and confirm that this would present the best option.***

• HTS, SBC

178

**A251, FAVERSHAM TO CHALLOCK - SPEED MANAGEMENT SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS.**

The Chairman drew Members' attention to the supplementary agenda and report; the questions raised by Sheldwich, Badlesmere and Leaveland Parish Council, and a letter from the residents of 2 Bagshill Cottages, which had been circulated.

Mrs Janet Gee, the Clerk to Sheldwich, Badlesmere and Leaveland Parish Council, asked two questions, details of which had been circulated, as to when work would start on the A251 in terms of speed limits, signs and road markings; and asked why a response had not been received from Kent Highway Services.

The Senior Transportation Engineer apologised for the lack of response and referred to the meeting on 21st February 2007 with the Parish Council where several issues had been raised. He outlined the content of his report, which detailed the issues raised, and advised that five out of seven of them had been incorporated in the scheme. He emphasised that the extension of the 40mph limit was not possible as this would be contrary to national guidelines, local policies and their agreement with the Police that speed limits should be self enforcing. He considered it might be possible to improve visibility at the Bagshill junction by the advancement of the give way by a minimum of half a metre.

He stated that the road would be monitored over the year. If the report was approved, the first phase would start in September 2007, which would include the change in speed limits and the road markings at Bagshill Road, Leaveland. The second phase, which would include interactive signs, would commence in 2008. He confirmed that funding had been secured for this work.

Discussion then ensued concerning the proposals for the 40mph limits in the report, and Members' wishes for the speed limits to be reduced. It was acknowledged that the limits did need to be reduced and the proposals in the report would move this issue forward. It was confirmed that there would be a review after one year.

The Senior Transportation Engineer was thanked for his report and apology. The Chairman asked that the works be carried out as soon as possible.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That the speed limits, as published, be implemented (ie. 40mph limits be introduced within the villages).**

**(2) That the situation be monitored over a period of one year and if the new speed limits result in further reduction of the measured speed of vehicles, appropriate action be taken to reduce the speed limits further.**

**179 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

The Meeting was adjourned for five minutes.

**180 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN FOR KENT - SCHEME PRIORITISATION METHODOLOGY (PIPKIN)**

The Senior Transport Planner (KHS) gave a presentation on the Local Transport Plan for Kent – Scheme Prioritisation Methodology (PIPKIN). The purpose of the scheme was to identify schemes that would make the biggest contribution to delivering Kent's LTP objectives, policies and targets; and to provide guidance on which schemes should be identified and prioritised as delivering the best value for money. Schemes would be assessed by KHS then awarded weighting to reflect priority.

A discussion ensued concerning the need for a clear and transparent way of prioritising works; and for the 'scores' to be available for public inspection. It was acknowledged that the system was being piloted for one year. To date 285 schemes had been submitted. The Divisional Manager (KHS) confirmed that the aim of PIPKIN was to provide clarity and to make it clear how conclusions had been reached.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That the principles of the PIPKIN and the County Council's approach to implementing this new scheme prioritisation methodology be noted.**

**181 RECEIPT OF PETITION - REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC SPEED SURVEY - SCARBOROUGH DRIVE, MINSTER**

A Ward Member submitted a petition, signed by more than 70 residents of Scarborough Drive, Minster requesting that a one week speed monitoring exercise be carried out at Scarborough Drive at its Eastern Hill area.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That the receipt of the petition be noted.**

**(2) That a report be submitted to the next Swale Joint Transportation Board Meeting on this issue.**

• KHS

**182 PRIORY ROAD/DAVINGTON HILL UPDATE**

The Head of Technical Services introduced the report which updated Members on the parking problems at Priory Road/Davington Hill, Faversham, which had been reported to the Board at the December meeting. Members expressed disappointment that the criteria did not support possible safety improvement works

at this junction, particularly given the increasing emphasis on encouraging children to walk to school.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That no further action be taken with regard to any narrowing works at the junction at this time, subject to a watching brief being kept on this junction.**

**(2) That the petitioners be advised accordingly.**

• HTS

**183 VARIOUS WAITING RESTRICTIONS - CONSULTATION RESULTS**

The Head of Technical Services introduced his report, which reported on responses to the consultation exercises for waiting restrictions at Little Glovers, Sittingbourne; Hinde Close, Junction with North Street, Sittingbourne; and Ambleside, Sittingbourne. He advised Members that Annex A was missing from the report and in view of this, asked that the Committee delegate the decision to the Chairman, Ward Members and relevant KCC Member rather than wait to the next meeting of the Board.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That authority be delegated to the Chairman, Ward Member and KCC Member to determine whether the waiting restrictions are implemented.**

• HTS

**184 SITTINGBOURNE RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEME UPDATE**

The Head of Technical Services introduced his report, which updated Members on progress with the Sittingbourne Residents Parking Scheme. Feedback had been mostly positive and due to the positive feedback from residents on the “outskirts” a further consultation was planned for June 2007.

In response to a question, the Head of Technical Services agreed to look into the possibility of residents in the Chalkwell Road and other roads in the area north of the railway line being included in a future consultation.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That the report be noted.**

• HTS

**185 FAVERSHAM PARKING REVIEW UPDATE**

The Head of Technical Services introduced the report, which gave details of views and comments made during the Faversham Parking Review Consultation and suggested that further investigatory work was carried out at Court Street. The report listed each area and made recommendations accordingly. The Committee considered each area in turn.

Discussion ensued concerning the proposals. Requests were made for parking bays to be considered in Area A, Cyprus Road Area; the streetscape strategy to be considered in Area H, Preston Grove Area; parking in the Preston Grove area to be widened to include Preston Avenue and Ospringe Road; double yellow lines considered along one side of Abbey Place that could be used by residents for parking overnight.

The Head of Technical Services agreed to investigate all suggestions and liaise with KHS.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That the following recommendations be approved.**

**(A) Cyprus Road**

**(1) That Officers be given delegated authority to reduce the length of the existing double yellow line restrictions in Cyprus Road whilst maintaining suitable corner protection for the safe movement of vehicles around the estate.**

**(2) That no other amendments be carried out to existing restrictions in this area at the present time.**

**(B) St John's Road Area**

**(1) That officers be given delegated authority to reduce the length of the existing double yellow line restrictions whilst maintaining suitable corner protection for the safe movement of vehicles.**

**(2) That further consultation takes place with residents regarding reducing the existing waiting limit for non-permit holders to two hours.**

**(3) That no further action regarding the provision of "herring bone" parking adjacent to the recreation ground in Park Road.**

**(C) Roman Road Area**

**(1) That Officers be given delegated authority to reduce the length of the existing double yellow line restrictions whilst maintaining suitable corner protection for the safe movement of vehicles.**

**(2) That a residents scheme for evening and weekend use of the long stay car parks be further investigated.**

**(D) Nightingale Road Area**

**(1) That Officers be given delegated authority to reduce the length of the existing double yellow line restrictions whilst maintaining suitable corner protection for the safe movement of vehicles.**

**(E) Athelstan Road Area**

**(1) That the current waiting restrictions for non-permit holders be reduced to two hours, but no changes be made to the current Residents Parking Scheme boundary in this area, with a view to a further review at a later date.**

**(F) Abbey Street Area**

**(1) That the existing double yellow lines in this area be reviewed and reduced where possible to maximise capacity, but be introduced in short sections in areas highlighted as suffering obstruction by parked vehicles.**

**(2) That a residents scheme for evening and weekend use of the long stay car parks be further investigated as recommendation C2 above.**

**(G) Tanners Street Area**

**(1) That the long stay car parks at Thomas Road and Partridge Lane be considered for inclusion in a residents scheme as part of the further investigation recommended in C2 above.**

**(H) Preston Grove Area**

*(1) That the suggestions for additional parking capacity be explored with Kent Highway Services.*

*(2) That the operation of the residents scheme be further reviewed in two year's time together with the Athelstone Road area.*

*(l) Makenade Avenue Area*

*(1) That further consultation is undertaken with residents with a view of installing double yellow lines for corner protection where deemed necessary.*

**• HTS, SBC**

**186 PARKING RESTRICTIONS - VARIOUS LOCATIONS**

The Head of Technical Services introduced his report which updated the Board on the progress of various Traffic Regulation Orders and the result of recent consultation exercises carried out at the following locations in relation to new waiting restrictions: - Woodberry Drive, Sittingbourne; Gaze Hill Avenue, Sittingbourne; The Butts, Sittingbourne; opposite Lynsted School, Lynsted Lane, Lynsted; Ambleside, Sittingbourne; Little Glovers, Sittingbourne; Hinde Close/North Street, Sittingbourne; London Road, Sittingbourne.

***Recommended:***

*(1) That the report be noted.*

*(2) That the proposed waiting restrictions be installed at The Butts, Sittingbourne.*

*(3) That consultees be notified accordingly.*

**• HTS**

**187 RESIDENTS PETITION - LONDON ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE**

The Head of Technical Services introduced his report which explained that a second petition had been received from residents of London Road, Sittingbourne, highlighting parking problems. Due to safety reasons however, he recommended that no further action be taken.

***Recommended:***

*(1) That the second petition be noted.*

*(2) That the approved double yellow lines on the south side be installed because of visibility problems due to parked vehicles.*

*(3) That parking on the north side be monitored once the double yellow lines referred to above are installed.*

*(4) That the consultees be notified accordingly, explaining reasons for this decision.*

**• HTS**

**188 PARKING RESTRICTIONS – QUEENBOROUGH**

The Head of Technical Services introduced the report, which updated the Board on the results of the recent consultation exercise regarding waiting restrictions in Queenborough.

**Recommended:**

- (1) That the report and comments received be noted.**
- (2) That the proposed waiting restrictions, as detailed in the report, be installed in Queenborough.**
- (3) That the consultees be notified accordingly.**

• HTS

**189     TEMPORARY STREET FURNITURE**

The Board considered the report, of the Director of KHS which suggested a policy regarding temporary street furniture. This was necessary to meet the requirements of the Traffic Management Act 2004. If the policy was agreed, this would be adhered to by both KCC and local district authorities who wished to issue licences for temporary street furniture within their administrative boundaries.

**Recommended:**

- (1) That the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste be asked to approve the publication of the Policy for the Location and Licensing of Temporary Street Furniture on the Public Highway.**

• KHS

**190     MANAGEMENT OF HIGHWAY TREES**

The Board considered the report of the Director of KHS, which outlined an approach to managing highway trees as an asset on a county wide basis by Jacobs' arboricultural team. He advised that it was critical for the consistent tree management regime proposed in the report to be progressed and that the management software would improve service delivery, customer satisfaction and a demonstrable improvement in the quality of tree stock.

**Recommended:**

- (1) That the report be noted.**

**191     CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME 2007/2008**

The Transportation Manager, KHS introduced the Works Programme 2007/2008 and gave a detailed update on the commencement dates for the works included in the programme.

A Member advised that in relation to a lighting scheme at Macknade, Faversham, she had received a response from the Transportation Engineer KHS that funding had been secured and that it would be treated as a priority. The Senior Transportation Engineer (KHS) agreed to look into the matter to respond direct regarding when the works would progress.

In response to questions, the Director of KHS advised that each road was assessed each year and works were identified according to priority. In respect of new street lighting outside the railway in Faversham, he agreed to ask the contractors if, when removing the old street lighting columns, 'shields', could be added to the new columns to minimise the effect of the lights in residents' homes.



***Recommended:***

***(1) That the report be noted and the progress of works programme for 2007/2008 be endorsed.***

**• STE, KHS**

**192 B2008 AT MILL HILL, MINSTER, SHEPPEY**

The Senior Transportation Engineer introduced the report which advised members of the planned highway improvement measures that were planned at (B2008) Mill Hill, Minster. A Member raised concern that a site meeting had been held without informing local Ward and County Members.

***Recommended:***

***(1) That the report be noted.***

**193 AUDIT ON CCTV OBSTRUCTION**

The Senior Transportation Engineer explained that work was progressing and a report would be made to Members when complete.

**• KHS**

**194 PROGRESS UPDATE**

Members examined the chart, which provided an update on the progress made in relation to various schemes within the Borough.

In response to a question concerning whether works in the Sittingbourne High Street had been curtailed, in particular regarding the painting of bollards, the Senior Transportation Engineer agreed to write to Members clarifying this issue. He explained that further modifications were needed. He advised that Swale Access Group had been consulted and had been asked to advise on appropriate routes and works.

***Recommended:***

***(1) That the Senior Transportation Engineer write to Members to clarify the situation in respect of the painting of the bollards in Sittingbourne High Street.***

***(2) That the report be noted.***

**195 PARKING AND TRAFFIC PROBLEMS - FIELDING STREET, FAVERSHAM**

The Chairman drew Members' attention to the letter and minutes received from Faversham Town Council relating to parking and traffic problems in Fielding Street, Faversham. The Chairman then circulated photographs which showed cars illegally parked in Fielding Street.

The Head of Technical Services advised that the area was patrolled on a regular basis by parking attendants and all cars illegally parked did receive fixed penalty notices. In response to a question, he advised that the sign in Abbey Street had been erected to warn pedestrians that cyclists were going from one road to another.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That the Head of Technical Services ensures that the area continues to be patrolled on a regular basis and action is taken against offenders as appropriate.**

**196 LANGLEY ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE**

The Senior Transportation Engineer introduced his report which informed Members that a petition had been received from the residents of Langley Road, Sittingbourne requesting vehicle crossing facilities be provided to enable them to park off-street. From an inspection, he could not see any difficulties in installing crossing facilities, however, the cost would have to be met by the property owners/occupiers. This would be approximately £500 per crossing.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That the petition be noted.**

**(2) That the petitioners be advised that they can apply for a crossing but the cost would be met by them.**

• STE, KHS

**197 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC****Resolved:**

**(1) That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.**

**PART A MINUTE FOR CONFIRMATION****198 PROPOSED DISABLED BAY INSTALLATIONS**

The Head of Technical Services introduced the report, which informed Members of recent consultations regarding the implementation of disabled persons parking bays.

In response to a question, he advised that a letter would be sent every two to three years to confirm that the bays were still required.

**Recommended:**

**(1) That disabled parking bays be installed at the following:**

**33 Harold Street, Queenborough**

**4 Castle Street, Queenborough**

**41 Harold Street, Queenborough**

**70 Dumergue Avenue, Queenborough**

**38 Harold Street, Queenborough**

• HTS, SBC

Chairman