
SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT on Monday, 9 September 2019 from 5.30pm - 7.02 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Mike Baldock, Simon Clark, Alastair Gould, Angela Harrison (Chairman), Benjamin Martin and Bill Tatton.

Kent County Councillors: Bowles (Vice-Chairman), Jason Clinch, Ken Pugh and John Wright.

Kent Association of Local Councils: Parish Councillors Cameron Beart, Richard Palmer and Jeff Tutt.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mike Knowles, Jo Millard and Hazel Walters (KCC District Manager Canterbury).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors Steve Davey, Tim Gibson, Alan Horton, Ken Ingleton, Ken Rowles, Eddie Thomas and Roger Truelove.

APOLOGIES: Kent County Councillors Andy Booth and Antony Hook.

202 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chairman ensured that those present were aware of the emergency evacuation procedure.

203 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2019 (Minute Nos. 72 – 84) were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

204 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

During discussion on Item 6 Petition – Extension to Residents' Parking Scheme, Park Road, Sittingbourne, Councillor Simon Clark declared a non-pecuniary interest as he lived in Park Road, Sittingbourne.

205 PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman welcomed the members of the public to the meeting.

Elizabeth Grogan-Cane presented a petition to reduce the speed limit on Plough Road, Eastchurch from the national speed limit to 30mph, and advised that there were 600 signatures on the petition. She called for slower, safer driving on the Isle of Sheppey, spoke of the risk to residents, tourists and wildlife from fast drivers and urged Members to consider installing speed humps at each end of Plough Road.

Melissa Keefe presented a petition with 190 signatures, on behalf of Shortlands Road Residents Group, to redesign the junction of Shortlands Road and Harold Road, Sittingbourne. She described how motorists frequently drove the wrong way down the one-way section of Shortlands Road, using it as a short cut, and asked that the curb at Harold Road be extended out to deter the dangerous activity which had caused damage to cars and injuries to people.

The Chairman read out a petition from Jacinta Hernandez, on behalf of the residents of St. Helens Road, Sheerness asking for traffic calming measures to improve road safety in St. Helens Road, Sheerness. The petition referred to incidents of speeding and dangerous driving that had caused damage to vehicles as well as personal injury. The Chairman advised that 54 out of 69 properties in the road had signed the petition.

206 PETITION - EXTENSION TO RESIDENTS' PARKING SCHEME PARK ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE

Members considered the report of the Seafront and Engineering Manager provided an update on the petition from residents of Park Road, Sittingbourne which was submitted to the Swale Joint Transportation Board (JTB) meeting held on 24 June 2019.

There was a short break whilst Members considered the tabled update.

Members referred to the consultation carried out to seek residents' views to extend the residents' parking scheme in Park Road, from the junction with Valenciennes Road south to the junction with Gore Court Road/Ufton Lane. In the debate that followed the following points were raised:

- There was a strong steer in support of extending the residents parking scheme;
- there were strong views on both sides, dependent on which part of the road a resident lived;
- implementation of the scheme might displace parking;
- the strongest views came from those affected more;
- many residents were against extending the scheme but more were in favour; and
- different parts of Park Road experienced parking issues at different parts of the day.

Several Members spoke against the officer recommendation and on being put to the vote, the recommendation was refused.

Councillor Mike Baldock proposed that the Residents' Parking Scheme in Park Road, Sittingbourne be extended as far as the Ufton Lane junction, and a further consultation be carried out to include this proposal. On being put to the vote, Members agreed.

Recommended to Cabinet:

(1) That Members note the report and a further consultation with residents to include extending the Residents' Parking Scheme in Park Road, Sittingbourne as far as the junction with Ufton Lane, Sittingbourne be carried out.

207 FORMAL OBJECTIONS TO TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER - SWALE AMENDMENT 7

Members considered the report of the Seafront and Engineering Manager which provided details of objections received to the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order, Swale Amendment 7, which covered various amendments to on-street waiting restrictions in the Borough.

(a) Church Road, Eastchurch

There was no discussion.

(b) Cormorant Road, Iwade

A Member commented that implementing the scheme might displace parking nearby. Councillor Mike Baldock proposed and Parish Councillor Richard Palmer seconded that the scheme be abandoned. On being put to the vote, Members agreed to abandon the scheme.

(c) The Mall, Faversham

Eleanor Jupp, local resident, spoke against the waiting restrictions and KCC scheme at The Mall Faversham, highlighting the difficulty for all ages in crossing the road safely. She suggested that further time and consideration should be given to develop a more effective solution to the current proposal. In the debate that followed Members made points including:

- A more suitable location should be sought;
- more input and consultation from local residents was required;
- the road would become even busier when the proposed housing nearby was built;
- a more user-friendly, revised scheme should be progressed;
- further consultation and survey work was necessary; and
- cars approaching the area should be slowed down in advance to support any proposed scheme.

Councillor Mike Baldock proposed, and Councillor Benjamin A Martin seconded that the waiting restrictions and KCC Scheme be abandoned and a further consultation on a workable scheme should be carried out.

(d) Gore Court Road/Whitehall Road, Sittingbourne

Members highlighted the dangerous junction and poor sightlines in the location and encouraged parking enforcement in the area.

County Councillor John Wright proposed, and Councillor Mike Baldock seconded an amendment to the proposal to install double yellow lines on the junction of Gore Court Road and Whitehall Road, Sittingbourne, in Gore Court Road for a distance of 10 metres east and 15 metres west of its junction with Whitehall Road and by 10m into Whitehall Road from its junction with Gore Court Road, Sittingbourne. On being put to the vote, Members agreed the amendment to the proposal.

(e) Conyer Road, Teynham

The Seafront and Engineering Manager gave an update and advised that following formal objections, he was waiting for the results of KCC's Traffic Scheme's sweep path analysis of the junction. He confirmed that he had not received any comments from the Parish Council.

County Councillor Andrew Bowles proposed that the proposal be considered after the results of the sweep path analysis had been received. On being put to the vote, Members agreed.

Recommended to SBC Cabinet:

(a) That the proposed double yellow lines in Church Road, Eastchurch be progressed as detailed in the Traffic Regulation Order.

(b) That the proposed double yellow lines in Cormorant Road, Iwade be abandoned.

(c) That the proposed waiting restrictions and KCC Scheme in The Mall, Faversham be abandoned, and a further consultation on a workable scheme be carried out.

(d) That the proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Gore Court Road and Whitehall Road, Sittingbourne be progressed by 10m east and 15m west in Gore Court Road from its junction with Whitehall Road and by 10m into Whitehall Road from its junction with Gore Court Road, Sittingbourne

(e) That the proposed extension to the double yellow lines in Conyer Road, Teynham be considered after the results of the sweep path analysis have been received.

208 HIGHWAYS WORK PROGRAMME

The Chairman stated that if Members had questions, they should contact the relevant KCC Officer whose contact details were on the report.

There was a general discussion on how to improve communication between Members and KCC Officers, and a Member said that responses from questions raised at the Swale JTB meeting, were not always received. He highlighted the delay in written updates on the Progress Update report. Several Members praised the District Manager (Swale) for his assistance in passing information on.

The District Manager (Canterbury) advised that she could take any questions back to officers. A Kent County Councillor explained that general issues could be reported on KCC's website and said that County Councillors would assist with progressing issues. The Vice-Chairman agreed to raise the issue of poor communication at the Growth and Economic Committee meeting.

The Chairman advised that she would arrange to meet with the Vice-Chairman of the Swale JTB and KCC's Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste to discuss progress on items and communication with Members.

Resolved:

(1) That the report be noted.

209 PROGRESS UPDATE REPORT

Resolved:

(1) That the report be noted.

210 LOWER ROAD, MINSTER

Members confirmed that the newsletter had been circulated.

211 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board would be at 5.30pm on Monday 2 December 2019. The Chairman advised that a request for future Agenda items would be circulated to Members, and at the request of the Vice-Chairman, circulated to Parish Councils.

Chairman

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All Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel