

**HIGHWAYS SUB COMMITTEE  
11 JUNE 1998**

Present: Councillors Mrs Ballin, Mrs Clifford, Mrs Doyle, Finnie,  
Harrison, Veakins and Wade

Parish & Town Council Representatives:

Councillors Mrs M Bayle (Bracknell Town),  
Mrs B Brown (Warfield Parish), J M Nicholson (Sandhurst Town),  
Mrs M Pierce-Jones (Crowthorne Parish), J Willis (Binfield Parish)  
and E M Young (Winkfield Parish).

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Adams and  
Ryan.

Councillors Good and Grayson attended as substitute Members for  
Councillors Adams and Ryan respectively.

Councillors Barnard, Flood, Mills, North and Thompson also attended.

**1. Election of Chairman**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Mrs Ballin be elected Chairman of the Sub Committee for  
the 1998/99 municipal year.

**COUNCILLOR MRS BALLIN IN THE CHAIR**

**2. Appointment of Vice Chairman**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Mrs Doyle be appointed Vice Chairman of the Sub  
Committee for the 1998/99 municipal year.

**3. Chairman's Announcements**

Councillor Flood

The Chairman thanked Councillor Flood for his work as Chairman of the Sub  
Committee during the 1997/98 Municipal Year.

Borough Engineer – Mr J Freer

The Chairman welcomed Mr Freer, who had joined the Council as Borough Engineer  
from Waveney District Council, to his first meeting of the Sub Committee.

Parish and Town Council Representatives

The Chairman welcomed the Town and Parish Council representatives to their first  
meeting of the Sub Committee.

**4. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Sub Committee held on 2 March 1998 were approved, subject to minor amendments, as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**5. Petition - Priory Lane and the Brickworks, Bracknell (Item 1)**

In accordance with the Council's scheme of public participation, the Sub Committee considered a petition regarding the access to the housing developments at the former Brickworks site and at Shorland Oaks, Bracknell. The petition organisers addressed the Sub Committee and requested that consideration be given to the construction of a further access from the Goughs Lane roundabout or the Northern Distributor Road.

Whilst noting the concerns of the petitioners, the Sub Committee was advised that planning permission for these developments had already been granted. The access arrangements had been considered by the highway authority at that time. It was not possible to reconsider the permission.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the petition be noted; and
- (ii) in view of the existing resolution to grant planning permission on the Brickworks site with access from Priory Lane, no further action be taken.

**6. Traffic Calming Techniques (Item 2)**

The Borough Engineer submitted a report, which summarised the various traffic calming techniques available. The Sub Committee noted that the installation of any traffic calming measures was often an emotive issue and it was important for Members to be aware of the options available. The Sub Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to have both a seminar on examples of traffic calming and a tour of certain sites.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) a seminar to help Members to consider various options available for traffic calming, together with the benefits and/or otherwise of each form of traffic calming, be arranged prior to a meeting of the Highways Sub Committee; and
- (ii) a tour of various traffic calming schemes in the area be arranged for Members and attendance on the tour be deemed as an approved duty for Members' allowance purposes.

**7. Overview of Schemes (Item 3)**

The Sub Committee considered a report detailing progress and proposals relating to the Reactive Traffic Management and Local Safety Scheme budgets for 1998/99. The Sub Committee was advised that schemes previously approved or approved subject to funding by the Sub Committee would largely be undertaken during 1998, although some of these schemes would be completed in 1999. The Sub Committee noted that £150,000 had been budgeted for traffic management in 1998/99 with an additional £100,000 made available by the Strategy & Policy Committee in February.

The Sub Committee was also advised that there was a capital allowance of £50,000 for Local Safety Schemes and noted that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub Committee as to the allocation of this budget to specific schemes.

The Sub Committee considered a list of schemes attached as Appendix 7 to the report and agreed that these should be incorporated into the programme. This would include a traffic calming scheme at Bull Lane and Folders Lane; new traffic calming measures in Fernbank Road; and improvements to the Coral Reef roundabout. The Sub Committee also agreed to a report on feasibility of installing a pedestrian crossing in Market Street, Bracknell, to be submitted to a future meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the programme of works set out in the report at item 3 of the agenda be approved and the Borough Engineer be authorised to commission the works necessary to implement the schemes.

**8. Safe Routes to School 1998/99 (Item 4)**

The Borough Engineer reported on the progress to date with the "Safe Routes to School" pilot study in Bracknell. The Sub Committee was advised that the main objective of this initiative was to encourage children, parents and teachers to walk and cycle to school in a safe environment. On the basis of the success of the scheme, the Sub Committee agreed to commission a further study into developing safer routes to school in the Borough.

The Sub Committee also considered a proposal for the installation of a zebra crossing on Forest Road and warning signs on Terrace Road South, Binfield, to form a safe route to and from Binfield Primary School. In relation to the relocation of the pedestrian crossing, a revised plan (No. TM601/98/8A) was circulated at the meeting. The Sub Committee was advised that Binfield Parish Council would be contributing up to £5,400 towards the cost of the crossing.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) a study be commissioned into developing "Safer Routes to School" for the Borough's schools; and
- (ii) funding be committed to the installation of a zebra crossing on Forest Road and a warning sign on Terrace Road South, Binfield.

**9. Road Safety Programme 1998/99 (Item 5)**

The Sub Committee was advised in a report that the Council had a duty to prepare and carry out a programme of measures designed to promote road safety, which would include the provision of advice and training. The training programme for 1998/99 would be targeted at schools and road user groups. It would include road safety sessions in thirteen schools. In secondary schools year 11 (15-16 age group) pupils would be targeted. The programme would also include the arrangement of 50 courses in the 10 to 11 year age group and a publicity campaign. It was agreed that the theme of the campaign would be targeting speed as this was a major factor in road accidents.

The Sub Committee also agreed that it would be appropriate to promote road safety education in independent schools in the Borough, with the costs of services being recharged to the school.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the road safety programme for 1998/99 would be confirmed;
- (ii) the 1998/99 publicity campaign be targeted to reduce excessive and inappropriate speed; and
- (iii) the provision of standard road safety education and training services be offered to independent schools with a cost of any services provided being recharged to the schools.

**10. Bridge Assessment and Strengthening Programme (Item 6)**

The Sub Committee considered proposals for the 1998/99 programme of work on highway structures. This would comprise assessments of bridge strengths and arrangements for monitoring 'sensitive' bridges. The Sub Committee noted that the Bull Lane subway scheme was the highest priority because of the need for strengthening work. The overall programme would cost £119,000 and would be funded by the bridge strengthening budget and include a virement of £35,000 from the carriageway strengthening budget.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the Bridge Assessment and Strengthening Programme for 1998/99 be approved;
- (ii) the tender list as set out in paragraph 10 of the consultant's report at Annexe 1 to the report be approved;
- (iii) the Borough Engineer, in consultation with the Chairman, be authorised to accept the lowest tender for the strengthening and structural work on Bull Lane subway; and
- (iv) bridges that have been assessed as being below the 40 tonne standard, but which were not susceptible to rapid deterioration, be monitored at a suitably increased frequency.

**11. Sustainable Transport Activities (Item 7)**

A report on sustainable transport activities, including the "Walk to School" event, was submitted to the Sub Committee. The Sub Committee noted that the "Walk to School" event had occurred in the week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> May and most of the primary schools had participated in the event. A capital sum of £10,000 had been allocated for sustainable transport activities in 1998/99 and this would be used to promote the National Car Free Day on 16<sup>th</sup> June and a review of the pool cycle scheme.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the report on "Walk to School" and other sustainable transport activities be noted; and
- (ii) expenditure from the 1998/99 budget to complete the year's programme and to prepare for the next year programme, be approved.

**12. A321 Yorktown Road/Rackstraw Road Junction (Item 8)**

The Sub Committee was advised of the results of the monitoring of the 'MOVA' traffic signal system, which had been installed in March 1998 at the Rackstraw Road/Yorktown Road junction. Following comments from the Transport Research Laboratory, the Sub Committee agreed to minor refinements to the system.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the traffic signal controller software be modified at the Yorktown Road/Rackstraw Road junction at an estimated cost of £500; and
- (ii) monitoring of the system continue in association with Transport Research Laboratory.

**13. Speed Calming Measures, Binfield Road, Bracknell (Item 9)**

The Borough Engineer reported on proposals for the relocation of the two traffic speed cameras in Binfield Road. The Sub Committee was advised that the Thames Valley Police had undertaken a review of the speed camera positions and as a result two new locations had been proposed. These new positions would allow for easier maintenance and would reduce traffic speeds over a longer length of the road. The estimated cost of the relocation of the cameras would be £5,400. The Sub Committee concluded that the cameras should be relocated.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the two speed cameras in Binfield Road, Bracknell, be relocated as shown on Drawing No TM 600/98/53, subject to consultation with directly affected residents and local Members, with any objections reported to the Sub Committee;
- (ii) no speed camera signage be provided in Binfield Road; and
- (iii) two “Kill your Speed” signs be erected in Binfield Road at an estimated cost of £300.

**14. Albert Road, Church Street and Church Road West, Crowthorne (Item 10)**

The Borough Engineer reported that previously the Sub Committee had decided to advertise traffic orders to rename part of Albert Road as Albert Walk and to rename part of Church Street and Church Road West as St John’s Street. The Sub Committee considered the response to the traffic order advertisements and noted that in the case of the change from Albert Road to Albert Walk there was a significant degree of support from local residents. In the case of Church Street and Church Road West, there was a smaller margin in favour. The Sub Committee agreed to proceed with the orders as advertised and authorised the Director of Planning and Transportation, in consultation with the Chairman, to make nominal ex gratia payments to residents affected by the changes.

*Councillor Wade declared an indirect pecuniary interest in relation to the Order to rename Church Street and Church Road West as St John’s Street and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this Order.*

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the responses to the proposed renaming of Albert Road (part) be noted, the advertised traffic order be implemented as advertised and the road name be changed to Albert Walk (part);
- (ii) the responses to the proposed renaming of Church Street (part) and Church Road West (part), the advertised traffic order be implemented as advertised and the road names be changed to St John’s Street;
- (iii) at the discretion of the Director of Planning and Transportation, in consultation with the Chairman, nominal ex gratia payments be made to affected residents; and
- (iv) the objectors be notified of the Sub Committee’s decisions.

**15. Branksome Hill Road/College Town Road/Yorktown Road, Sandhurst – Proposed Waiting Restrictions (Item 11)**

The Sub Committee considered responses to a draft Order which had been advertised in February and concluded that the draft Order should be withdrawn and new Order advertised with an extended length of waiting restriction and including the nearby junction of College Town Road with Yorktown Road.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the current draft Order be withdrawn and a new draft Order be prepared and advertised for the waiting restrictions, as shown on Drawing No 604/98/9; and
- (ii) subject to there being no objections, the Borough Solicitor be authorised to implement the Order.

**16. Traffic Regulation Orders: Bagshot Road Gap Closures; Bracknell Northern Distributor Road Speed Limit; and Windsor Road/Lovel Lane (Item 12)**

The Sub Committee considered objections to three Traffic Regulation Orders. In relation to the proposed gap closures on Bagshot Road, the Sub Committee noted that objections to the four closures had been received. In view of the safety considerations and particularly the comments of the East Berkshire Coroner following a fatal accident, the Sub Committee decided to proceed with the Order as advertised.

In relation to the speed limit on the Northern Distributor Road, the Sub Committee agreed to confirm the Order as advertised. The Sub Committee noted the concerns of residents who had objected to the 40 mph speed limit, and to address these concerns agreed to undertake a speed assessment and accident record study after a period of twelve months.

In relation to the Windsor Road/Lovel Lane, the Sub Committee agreed to confirm an Order which would ban right turns from Windsor road into Lovel Lane and ban motor vehicles except for access from the B383 slip road.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) in relation to the A322 Bagshot Road gap closures, no Public Inquiry be held, the Order for the gap closures be confirmed as advertised, the objectors be informed accordingly; and the lane closure option 1, as detailed in Annex 1 to the report, be adopted;
- (ii) in relation to the Bracknell Northern Distributor Road, no Public Inquiry be held, the 40 mph speed limit Order be confirmed as advertised; the Traffic Regulation Orders be prepared for sealing to coincide with the opening of the Northern Distributor Road; the objectors be informed accordingly; and a speed limit and accident assessment be made after twelve months and any safety measures proposed in the Northern Parishes Study be given serious consideration by the Sub Committee; and
- (iii) in relation to Windsor Road/Lovel Lane, no Public Inquiry be held; the prohibition of right turns and prohibition of all vehicular traffic with exemptions Order be confirmed as advertised; and the objectors be advised accordingly.

**17. Requests for Highway Service (Item 13)**

The Sub Committee received a report, which set out the new arrangements for requesting highway service. The Sub Committee noted that requests for highway service would first be considered by the relevant Section Head and entered into a database to aid monitoring with progress. If the request was for a repair, renewal, replacement of a missing item or for a minor improvement and funds were available, the request would normally be actioned. The Sub Committee also noted that the street lighting contract with Southern Electricity would be managed directly by the Council and engineers within the department would be dealing with day to day potholes and drainage issues as well as straightforward traffic management and improvement works.

**RESOLVED** that the new procedures set out in the report at Item 13 of the agenda be noted.

**18. Item submitted for Information**

The Sub Committee noted the following item, which had been submitted for information:

Urgent Action taken Under Delegated Powers (Item 14):

- (a) Joint Venture Agreement with Railtrack
- (b) Safety Works on A3095 Maidenhead Road
- (c) Reconstruction and Junction Improvement – Malt Hill, Warfield/A330.

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm  
and concluded at 9.40 pm

**CHAIRMAN**