

Minutes of the meeting of the **DOVER JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD** held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Thursday 20 September 2012 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor T A Bond

Councillors: P M Brivio
P I Carter
N J Collor
B R Cope
J H Goodwin
M J Ovenden
L B Ridings
J A Rook
M A Russell
C J Smith
P Walker

Also Present: Mr K Gowland (KALC)
Mrs S Hooper (KALC)

Officers: Mr R Heaps (KCC Highways and Transportation)
Mr S Rivers (KCC Highways and Transportation)
Community Safety, CCTV and Parking Manager
Corporate Estate and Coastal Engineer
Democratic Support Officer

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor G Cowan; District Councillors B W Bano, F J W Scales and R S Walkden, and Mrs Marlene Burnham, Mr Chris Tough (Deal Town Council) and Mr Bryan Scott (Sandwich Town Council).

195 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

It was noted that, in accordance with Rule 4 of the Council's Procedure Rules, Councillors P M Brivio, P I Carter and M J Ovenden had been appointed as substitute Members for Councillors B W Bano, F J W Scales and R S Walkden respectively.

196 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J H Goodwin declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 9 (Southeastern Rail Franchise) by reason that he was employed by Southeastern Trains and withdrew from the room during consideration of this item.

197 MINUTES

In respect of Minute No 57, Mr Rivers advised that Kent County Council (KCC) supported expansion which minimised disruption, but had no influence over the decision made by Thanet District Council to refuse night flights at Manston airport.

In respect of Minute No 63, Mr Rivers advised that problems had been experienced elsewhere with real-time bus-stop displays and there were no plans to install them in the District. In relation to Councillor Cronk's query, Members were advised that plates had been used at Jubilee Way as a temporary measure to ensure that there

was no disruption during the Olympics. Information was awaited from the Highways Agency on when new joints would be installed. The railings at Park Avenue, Deal had been removed as a result of a safety audit in order to improve visibility for pedestrians. The Betteshanger access road had been adopted a week earlier following protracted negotiations. The footway surface at Maison Dieu Road, Dover had not been finished off by the contractor as they were waiting until utilities work had been completed.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Transportation Board held on 7 June 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

198 ENVIRONMENT, HIGHWAYS & WASTE CABINET COMMITTEE

The Board received the minutes of the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee (EHWCC) meeting held on 11 May and the reports that went to the EHWCC meeting held on 4 July 2012.

Councillor N J Collor advised that, in relation to the report on managing events on the highway, the KCC Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste had received a response from the Chief Constable which reaffirmed that Kent Police would no longer provide traffic control support for events. In respect of the Member Highway Fund report, it was confirmed that KCC Members would be able to use their funds for Public Rights of Way (PROW) schemes. In response to Councillor C J Smith, Mr Rivers undertook to find out whether funds could be used for PROW schemes in the current financial year.

RESOLVED: That the minutes and reports be noted.

199 PRESENTATION OF PETITION – WEST STREET, DEAL

Councillor T A Bond presented a petition to Mr Rivers on behalf of West Street residents who had raised concerns over width restrictions, speeding and heavy traffic.

RESOLVED: That the presentation of the petition to KCC be noted.

(In accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman agreed that this item, which was not detailed on the agenda, should be considered as a matter of urgency.)

200 20MPH SPEED LIMIT FOR NON A AND B ROADS (WHERE EXCESSIVE SPEED COULD BE HAZARDOUS)

Mr Rivers referred Members to the report that had gone to the EHWCC on 4 July 2012 which outlined work (including trials) at county and national level to develop new policy on the implementation of 20mph schemes. Members were being asked to reaffirm the existing policy until such time as the new one was introduced.

It was explained that, when considering sites for 20mph restrictions, the number of crashes within the previous 3 years involving personal injury (particularly to pedestrians and motorcyclists) were taken into account. In response to concerns raised, Members were advised that one of three measures would be used at trial sites: a 20mph speed limit, physical measures or interactive speed signs. A control site where no measures had been installed would also be included for comparison. Trials usually lasted 18 months but some of 6 months were taking place. The trial

sites had been chosen because of their vicinity to schools which was where evidence had shown speeding often took place. Moreover, it gave commonality to the trials as all the sites were in similar environments.

Some Members stated that it was wrong to look at sites only when there had been crashes involving casualties. In response, Mr Rivers explained that, with limited resources, KCC had no choice but to concentrate its efforts and funding on sites with the worst records. However, where there was a quick remedy (i.e. cutting back vegetation), this would be carried out. It was confirmed that KCC Members could use their Member Highway Fund to support schemes if they did not meet the Crash Reduction Policy criteria. However, it was unlikely that there would be sufficient time to carry out the necessary implementation procedures before the KCC elections in May 2013.

Councillor Collor reported that KCC had set aside £1.6 million for crash remedial measures for 2013/14. The number of crashes in Kent had fallen by 53%, beating the government target of 40%.

RESOLVED: (a) That the existing policy be noted.

(b) That it be noted that the new 20mph schemes would be promoted only as part of a Casualty Reduction Scheme until the current trials have been evaluated and a new formal policy has been adopted by the County Council.

201 RIVER DOUR GREENWAY - UPDATE

The Board received the report of the Director of Highways, KCC which gave an update on the River Dour Greenway. Councillor J H Goodwin raised concerns over the lack of signage around Buckland Avenue, Alfred Road and Lorne Road. Mr Heaps advised that protracted negotiations with Asda had hindered progress, but things were now moving forward and the lack of signage would be looked at.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

202 RIVER DOUR GREENWAY PHASE 2 – RESULTS OF TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

Mr Heaps presented the report which gave details of the three Traffic Regulation Orders that would be required at three locations along the proposed route. These had been subject to consultation and two objections had been received relating to Church Street and Market Square. Mr Heaps undertook to respond formally to Dover Town Council.

RESOLVED: That it be recommended that the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders proceed as advertised.

203 SOUTHEASTERN RAIL FRANCHISE

Mr Rivers referred Members to the report, advising that KCC would be engaging with the Department for Transport (DfT) and neighbouring authorities as part of consultation on the new rail franchise which was due to commence in April 2014. Councillor Collor also referred Members to Dover District Council's (DDC) letter and press release which were circulated at the meeting and raised a number of points

with the DfT. Members were advised to contact Stephen Gasche at KCC if they had any comments or concerns.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

204 MANAGEMENT OF DOUBLE PARKING AND PARKING AT DROPPED KERBS

The Community Safety, CCTV and Parking Manager presented the report which outlined DDC proposals to take enforcement action against those double parking or parking adjacent to dropped kerbs.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

205 SERVICE OF PENALTY CHARGE NOTICES BY POST

The Community Safety, CCTV and Parking Manager presented the report which outlined proposals to adopt powers which would enable DDC to serve penalty charge notices by post.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

206 DOVER WINTER SERVICE PLAN

Mr Rivers presented the report which outlined arrangements between KCC and DDC in the event of snow emergencies. Efforts had been made to update salt bin records which were now available on the KCC website. Records of doctor's surgeries, care homes, etc had also been updated. Members advised of several items missing from the list: Barnesende care home off Millwall Place, Sandwich; a salt bin in Eythorne at the junction of Sandwich Road and Sun Valley Way and several salt bins in Elvington. In response to Members, Mr Rivers advised that a contractor would be inspecting all salt bins and replacing any that were no longer serviceable. It was confirmed that all town and parish councils had been offered bags of salt. In addition, that the winter service would now operate from Sandwich rather than Shepway for practical reasons.

In relation to action taken by members of the public, the Board was advised that, providing people did not act negligently, they would not be personally liable in the event of an accident. Mr Rivers agreed to place an article in the press to ensure the public were made aware of this.

RESOLVED: (a) That a newspaper article be published by KCC clarifying the position on personal liability for members of the public.

(b) That the report be noted.

207 HIGHWAY WORKS PROGRAMME 2012/13

Mr Rivers presented the report which updated Members on works that had been approved for construction in 2012/13.

In respect of Appendix B1, Members were referred to the paper circulated which detailed a number of additional sites identified for resurfacing works as a result of £6 million in additional funding becoming available. Carriageway works at Whitfield Hill were due to commence on 9 October for 2 weeks. In respect of Appendix B4,

Members were advised of five programmed drainage schemes at Melville Lea, Woodnesborough; London Road, Dover; Kenilworth Close, Dover; Glack Road, Deal and Sandwich Road, Hacklinge. On Appendix C1, in response to Councillor L B Ridings, Mr Rivers undertook to investigate the problem of poor visibility due to overgrown foliage at the A256/A257 roundabout at Ash. Mr Rivers undertook to establish the length of the East Kent access road as surprise was expressed by Councillor Collor at the cost of the scheme.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

208 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That, under Section 100 (A) 4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the remainder of the business on the grounds that the item to be considered involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

209 APPLICATIONS FOR DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING BAYS

The Corporate Estate and Coastal Engineer presented a report to Members which detailed nine disabled parking bay applications and proposals to remove four bays. Members were also requested to agree to the removal of an additional two bays which were not detailed in the report.

The Board was advised that, following informal consultation, ten objections had been received in respect of Application A. There was a double garage to the rear of the property, but the applicant's medical condition precluded the use of it. In respect of Application G, two objections had been received and there was an off-street garage approximately 70 metres away from the property. However, the applicant's medical condition precluded her from walking this distance. Aside from these factors, the applications met all the criteria, and it was recommended that they be progressed to formal consultation.

Application D met all the criteria but one letter of objection and one letter of support had been received following informal consultation with neighbours. Three letters of objection to Application H had been received and one objection to Application I. Applications B, C, E and F met all the criteria and no objections had been received following informal consultation. It was recommended that these applications be progressed to formal consultation.

Item J dealt with the removal of four disabled parking bays which were no longer required by the original applicants. It was therefore recommended that these bays, plus two others not detailed in the report, be removed.

RESOLVED: (a) That it be recommended that Applications A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H and I be formally advertised and, in the event that no objections are received, be recommended for sealing by Kent County Council (with any objections being referred back to a future meeting of the Dover Joint Transportation Board for further consideration).

- (b) That it be recommended that the four disabled parking bays detailed in Item J of the report, and the two additional bays reported verbally at the meeting, be formally advertised with the intention of removing them and, in the event that no objections are received, be recommended for sealing by Kent County Council (with any objections being referred back to a future meeting of the Dover Joint Transportation Board for further consideration).

The meeting ended at 7.47 pm.