

SURREY HILLS HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

Monday 21st January 2019
Westcott, St John's Hall

Attending Meeting: Liz Cutter, Chairman
 Dr Andrew Povey, Surrey County Councillor
 Hazel Watson, Surrey County Councillor
 Duncan Knox, Surrey County Council
 Tim Hall, Surrey County Councillor
 Rob Fairbanks, Surrey Hills AONB Director
 Anita Guy, Surrey County Council
 Rod Shaw, Mole Valley DC
 Colin Davis, Colin Davis Associates
 Tim Harrold, CPRE Surrey
 Ros Dorey, Abinger Parish Council
 John Brockwell, Albury Parish Council
 Roy Hogben, Albury
 Stuart McClachlan, Capel Parish Council
 Stewart Payne, Hambledon Parish Council
 Mary Grove, Hambledon Parish Council
 Simon Hall, Holmbury
 Patricia Allen, St Martha's Parish Council
 Bob Andrews, Shere Parish Council
 Tim Way, Wescott Village Association
 Andrew Lewis, Wescott Village Association

		Action
1.	INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES	
	Apologies were received from Bahram Assadi, Alan Byrne, Pennie King, Jeff Wilson, Stephanie Sokolowski	
2.	SURREY HILLS HIGHWAY STRATEGY	
	<p>Rob Fairbanks outlined the Strategy. The aim was:</p> <p>To encourage through traffic and HGVs to use the Principal Highways and to discourage the use of country lanes.</p> <p>For Principal Roads the objectives were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid through signing along country lanes (to villages only) - Reduce impact of increased traffic on principal roads by reducing speed, as appropriate, and introduce safety schemes through villages - Promote 'smart travel' principle that it should not significantly affect overall travel time. <p>For Country Lanes the objectives were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote and reinforce rural character of country lanes and villages 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highlight narrow lanes unsuitable for through traffic and HGVs - Sign de-clutter, as appropriate, and use of rural signage and furniture - Resist white lining except for narrowing and safety purposes - Promote village enhancement schemes - 'Messy' verges of high environmental quality, where this does not conflict with sight lines at junctions - Encourage shared use with walkers, cyclists and horse riders, in line with Quiet Lane principles. <p>Andrew Povey asked about how the strategy would be incorporated into Surrey Highways policy and the Local Committees. Rob Fairbanks acknowledged that this still needed to be addressed. Action: Rob to meet Tim Hall to discuss.</p>	RF/TH
3.	DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS	
3.1	<p>A25 Schemes: Duncan Knox gave an overview of the speed limits on the A25 between Guildford and Dorking, and a summary of the collisions and fatalities. More information can be found on www.crashmap.co.uk. He reported that Mole Valley Local Committee had recently agreed to reduce the speed between the Wotton Hatch and Abinger Hammer from 50 to 40. The Shere Bypass was the only stretch of A25 that was national speed limit and Duncan showed some outline sketches of how the road could be narrowed with white lining and hatching. The Group supported the principle and acknowledged the high use of cyclists and it was suggested there could be a wider cycle lane. Bob Andrews pointed out that the footpath was underused and it could be used for safe family cycling. Detailed proposals will be taken to Local Committee in due course. (A copy of the presentation is attached)</p>	PK
3.2	<p>Wescott: Colin Davis gave a Powerpoint presentation on Westcott, including historic photos. He showed examples of where white lines could be taken away, similar to Albury and Shamley Green, to enhance the rural character. He explained that introducing a 20 mph zone in the village centres along the A25 would only have a marginal impact on increasing any travel time between Guildford and Dorking.</p> <p>Tim Way commented that traffic speed and noise through Westcott Village had been a concern for the last 25 years. Hazel Watson welcomed the initiative, particularly highlighting the need to do something around the school. Patricia Allen also raised concerns about the speed of traffic near Chilworth Infants School and the request from the Parish Council for a 20 mph zone and looking at vehicle activated signs.</p> <p>Duncan Knox stated that there were new resources available for battery operated VAS from the Surrey Road Safety Partnership.</p> <p>Colin Davis gave an example of 20 mph advisory signs and also signs for entering country lanes. The Group supported the principle of communicating “narrow country lane” as part of a Surrey Hills signage strategy.</p>	
3.3	<p>Coldharbour: Colin introduced a proposal for Coldharbour that had been discussed with the Public House, Village Association and Parish Council. The scheme was to use a white line as a safety feature to narrow the road and create space for vulnerable users outside the pub. It needed to be part of a wider village enhancement scheme which was sympathetic to the historic character of the site. A further site meeting was planned with Anita.</p>	
3.4	<p>Holmbury: Simon Hall presented a community scheme for Holmbury St Mary. The proposal was to create a safer area by reducing traffic speeds. He needed to get Surrey Highways’ support for traffic management but with the funding and the works to be predominantly undertaken by the</p>	

	<p>community. There was discussion about the variable speed limits, with large areas of country lane being derestricted. Duncan Knox stated that he was sympathetic to a 40 mph zone as was the case in rural Tandridge. Hazel Watson strongly supported the case for a 40 mph across all the country lanes in the Surrey Hills. Liz Cutter stated it was important not to have 40 mph repeater signs where safe traffic speeds should be lower than that on often very narrow lanes. Duncan said that there is more flexibility around signage and that repeater signs were not always required. There were significant costs in making the Orders and funding all the other signs that would be required. This was not a priority for the restricted Highways budget. There was discussion about whether we could work with Surrey University to undertake area wide surveys remotely that could help provide the evidence for the Orders.</p> <p>Action: Rob and Colin</p>	RF/CD
3.5	<p>Stewart Payne and Mary Grove highlighted the problems of speeding traffic on narrow country lanes through Hambledon. The Parish Council wanted to have a 20 mph speed limit but this was not in line with the Surrey policy. The Group agreed to put this issue on the Agenda for the next meeting.</p>	PK
4.	DECLUTTERING CAMPAIGN	
4.1	<p>Colin Davis gave an update on the changes to the signs regulations and best practice in traffic calming schemes. These were outlined in his new book "Streetscapes". He would provide a summary to circulate to the group.</p> <p>Action: Colin</p> <p>Liz Cutter reported that she had surveyed and removed an enormous number of signs in the Holmbury Village area and renewed some signs on oak posts. All the statutory and warning signs had been left. The only complaint received was leaving a derestricted sign through a quiet residential close. Rob Fairbanks thanked Liz for all her wonderful voluntary efforts and that the scheme was a significant improvement to the rural look of the village. Rob also thanked Bahram Assadi for enabling it to happen. Bob Andrews, as a Holmbury Ward Councillor, said that on balance it was a good exercise but it needed time to consult and liaise with the Parish Council. Liz stated that she would like to look at 5 new areas or Parishes to held sign declutter in 2019. Please would you all let Liz know if you would like to help support this initiative in your area.</p> <p>Action: All</p>	CD ALL
5.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
5.1	<p>Derestriction Signs: Duncan Knox stated that if you could wrap a 40 mph zone up in one area order this would mean you could get rid of all the derestricted signs. Rob Fairbanks to meet with Duncan and Tim Hall to discuss this.</p> <p>Action: Rob, Duncan and Tim</p>	RF/DK/TH
5.2	<p>John Brockwell stated that the Sherbourne Scheme at the A25 junction in Albury needed to be addressed as part of a more strategic approach to the A25, eg reviewing speed limits.</p>	
5.3	<p>Patricia Allen stated that the Chilworth level crossing proposal had been held up due to technical difficulties. She would follow this up with Colin and Network Rail.</p> <p>Action: Patricia and Colin</p>	PA/CD
6.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	PENNIE TO SEND OUT A LIST OF PROPOSED DATES AND VENUES	PK

Circulation:

Liz Cutter	Vice President, Surrey ALC and Surrey Hills AONB Board
Hazel Watson	Surrey County Councillor
Rob Fairbanks	Surrey Hills AONB Director
Denise Furlonger	Surrey Hills AONB Office & Finance Manager
Colin Davis	Colin Davis Associates
Dr Andrew Povey	Surrey County Councillor
John Hilder	SCC Highways Manager
Bahram Assadi	SCC Highways
Anita Guy	SCC Highways
Adrian Selby	SCC Highways
Caroline Tuttle	SCC Highways
Jonathan Wilkinson	SCC Highways
Jeff Wilson	SCC Highways
Alan Byrne	English Heritage (for information)
Rod Shaw	Mole Valley DC
Tim Harrold	CPRE Surrey
Ros Dorée	Abinger Hammer Parish Council
Roy Hogben	Albury Parish Council
John Brockwell	Albury Parish Council
Steve Scott	Albury Parish Council
Chris Ball	Capel Village Council
Mike Turner	Ewhurst Parish Council
Alan Young	Ewhurst and Cranleigh Parish Council
Mary Grove	Hambledon Parish Council
Stewart Payne	Hambledon Parish Council
Stephanie Sokolowski	St Martha Parish Council
Patricia Allen	St Martha Parish Council
Bill Birkett	Shalford Parish Council
Candace Brooke	Shere Parish Council
Roy Davey	Shere Parish Council
Joy Millett	Shere Parish Council
Rod Weale	Wonersh Parish Council
Pennie King	Administrator, Surrey Hills AONB Office