



Hampshire
County Council

Hampshire Action Team for Eastleigh

**Action Notes for HAT Highways Meeting
Monday 30 March 2010
2.00 pm
IT Training Suite, Hampshire House, Eastleigh**

Attendance (P = Present NP = Not Present A = Apologies Received)

HAT Members

Councillor Davidovitz, chairman (P)
Councillor Broadhurst (P)
Councillor House (A)
Councillor Kyrle (P)
Councillor Roling (P)
Councillor Tennent (P)
Councillor Thomas (A)

Hampshire County Council Officers

Kate Fryatt , HAT officer (P)
Neil Jones, Assistant Director, Property Business & Regulatory Services (A)
James Atkins, Futures Group Officer (P)
Chris Lait, Area Director, Environment Dept. (P)
Mary-Ann Toop, Environment Dept. (P)
Richard Bastow, Environment Dept. (P)

Partners

Councillor David Airey, Eastleigh Borough Council (P)
Stuart Robinson-Woledge, Eastleigh Borough Council (P)
Councillor Grahame Smith, Eastleigh Borough Council (P)
Jon Riddell, Eastleigh Borough Council (P)
Ed Vokes, Eastleigh Borough Council (P)
Peter Storey, Bishopstoke Parish Council (P)
John McLernon, Amey, (P)
Kunle Kolaru, Amey (P)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor House, John Waugh (Chamber of Commerce), West End Parish Council, Bursledon Parish Council and Eastleigh Association of Town and Parish Councils.

2. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting and previous Actions

The paper was noted and agreed.

3. Presentation from Amey

Amey gave a presentation and updated Members on their recent work to respond to the severe weather conditions that had been experienced. During an average winter gritters are used 35-36 times. During January alone gritters were used for 21 times and for a total of 54 days over the whole winter. On average 9,000 tonnes of salt is normally used during winter, however this winter 20,000 tonnes were used. Salt supplies nationally were allocated in accordance with central governments directions. A key success during this time was the informal partnership arrangements whereby partners worked together with a single focus to improve access.

Amey have had 50 dedicated pothole busting teams of staff to focus on repairing potholes. Amey are now looking at network restoration and are developing a programme which is cost effective and efficient. The programme is likely to last 6-12 months.

Amey are keen to develop a closer relationship with Members and are currently in dialogue with the County Council to agree a new way forward and closer working arrangements.

The Chairman congratulated Amey, Eastleigh Borough Council, Parishes and everyone else involved for all their efforts in dealing with the severe winter conditions.

4. Progress with 2009/10 Capital Programme

Chris Lait, Highways and Transport Area Director led the paper.

Members noted the paper and congratulated officers on the success of the new footway in Satchell Lane, Hamble.

The Private Finance Initiative (PFI) to upgrade old street lights will commence in 2011 in Eastleigh

After discussion, the following action was agreed:

ACTIONS:

- 1) Highways officers to investigate vegetation clearance around Junction 5 of the M27 due to members concerns of disturbance of bird nesting.**
- 2) Heath House Lane, Hedge End. Officers to re-contact person(s) who raised the original 30mph limit request to clarify any outstanding concerns regarding the current speed limit now that Eastleigh Borough Council have installed a visible gateway.**

5. Priorities for Capital Programme 2010/11

The budget for Minor Works has been increased from £25k to around £45k which should enable all the projects identified by Members previously, (listed in Table 1) to be completed. It was noted that the feasibility study relating to land issues in Bishopstoke Road is underway.

The other tables were acknowledged by Members.

6. Review of winter maintenance and implications of the winter weather for the highway network

A County review on winter maintenance is being led by Chris Lait, building on the successes and lessons learned during the severe weather conditions experienced this year.

Emergency planning worked well overall however some gaps were identified. The current policy focuses on clearing priority routes on the Highways. A new winter maintenance policy is being developed which will focus on both highways and community needs. Partnership engagement is planned to help develop this policy.

In order to assist self help Hampshire will be providing additional salt bins for community use. Parish, District and Community Associations have been requested to assist in identifying appropriate locations for consideration by the highway units.

There are plans, subject to appropriate permissions, for Hampshire to build a new salt barn in order to increase salt resilience from 12 to 18 days.

The HAT was reminded that the County Council's Policy and Resources Select Committee is carrying out a review of winter maintenance. The interim findings will be available in July. The importance of receiving input from districts and boroughs was highlighted.

During the course of discussion, Members highlighted the following points to feed into the review:

- Communication – Members appreciated the daily updates from the Director of Environment but further consideration needs to be given into disseminating this information further to Parish and Town Councils, Partner organisations and the Local Area Committees at Eastleigh.
- Pavement clearance needs further attention both during severe weather and afterwards to remove loose stones and grit.
- Sheltered housing and footways used by older people to get to local shops need high priority
- Gully clearing after snow melt needs consideration
- Secondary schools need to be a high priority especially for pupils to sit GCSE exams
- Self help to be promoted subject legal /government guidance
- Road safety issues for cyclists in relation to prioritising pothole is a critical issue

- Improved resolution of internal cross boundary issues/ pothole repair is a concern.

ACTION 3: Chris Lait to feed all above points into review process.

7. Proposed Capital Programme 2010/11

Members noted the paper and acknowledged that the highways maintenance programme is subject to change as funding may be required for highway restoration works following the severe winter weather damage. In particular, it was noted:

- Construction of both Lower Northam Road cycle route (Hedge End) and Botley Cycles schemes are subject to confirmation of additional funding from Sustrans. It is anticipated that a funding decision will be known in the next few months.
- Members commented favourably on the number of schemes for cyclists in the 2010/11 programme.

ACTION 4: Councillor Kyrle to be kept updated re progress on Lower Northam Road and Botley Cycles schemes.

8. Local and Strategic Issues

Eastleigh Town Access Plan. This plan is in draft format and local County and District Members have been involved. It is anticipated that stakeholder consultation will be followed by a further exhibition to engage the public. It is hoped that the plan will be finalised in Summer 2010.

External Funding Prioritisation Process. Members agreed that the process is working well and noted that there had been an increase in the number of schemes being brought forward this year. Eastleigh Borough Council and Hampshire County Council are working together in a much smarter way to implement more jointly agreed schemes.

Local Transport Plan 3 update. County Councillors have been invited to a series of workshops. The plan is strategy for the next 20 years. Members were given an update note.

9. Any Other Business

Members raised the following points:

- Pedestrian safety when accessing the recreational facilities and the Hub sports complex, Bishopstoke.

ACTION 5: Officers are aware of the issue and will ensure the crossing needs are incorporated within the feasibility study.

- Alan Drayton Way – request for 30mph speed limit

ACTION 6: Officers to ensure this is picked up within the Hampshire wide A & B speed limit review.

- Alan Drayton Way – concerns re barrier damage around pedestrian crossing. Additional concerns regarding fencing around adjacent play area.

ACTION 7: Barrier repairs are in hand and Richard Bastow will look into the other matter and liaise with the Local Member.

- Riverside- barriers are damaged and partly in the river following a road traffic accident. Details of the vehicle(s) are unknown.

ACTION 8: officers are aware and will make follow up although it was acknowledged that new barriers are bespoke and therefore the repair will take longer.

- Bus stop opposite Riverside, Bishopstoke. Problems remain with intermittent flooding. Officers are aware. A CCTV survey has been completed showing no identifiable problem.

4.10pm Meeting closed.