



Hampshire County Council

Hampshire Action Team for Gosport

Action Notes for HAT Highways Meeting
Tuesday 23 March 2010
10.00 am
Discovery Centre, Gosport

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

HAT Members

Cllr Carter (Chairman) (P)
Cllr Edgar (Vice Chairman) (P)
Cllr Chegwyn (P)
Cllr Tempia-Snaith (P)
Cllr Geddes (P)

Officers

Kate Fryatt, HAT officer (P)
Neil Cole, Senior Manager for Gosport HAT (P)
Joanna Richardson, Futures Group Officer (A)
Chris Lait, Area Director, Highways Dept (P)
Mary-Ann Toop, Highways Dept (P)
Andrew Peryer, Highways Dept (P)

Partners

Cllr Langdon, GBC (P)
David Duckett, GBC (P)
David Fawcett, Amey (P)
Kulne Kolaru, Amey (P)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Joanna Richardson (Futures group Officer, HCC).

2. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting and Previous Actions

The paper was noted and agreed.

At this point in the proceedings the Chairman called forward Items 4 and 5 on the agenda

3. Progress with 2009/10 Capital Programme

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

Members congratulated officers in making good progress with Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) during the first year that the work had been carried out in the Environment Department.

A discussion on the A and B road review followed. This is a national requirement by the Department of Transport to be completed by the end of 2011 with set guidelines. The purpose is to check that speed limits set are appropriate for the roads. Gosport is not in this year's review. The review is being undertaken by Mott Gifford and there will be an opportunity for Members to be consulted at a later stage.

ACTION: A & B road review to be an Agenda Item at future Highways meeting as appropriate.

4. Priorities for Minor Capital Programme 2010/11

Councillor Edgar declared a personal interest in Ferry Taxi rank and left the room whilst this item was discussed. Councillor Snaith-Tempia declared a personal interest in schemes proposed for Kingston Road and Charlesbury Avenue.

Andrew Peryer, Highways Manager - Gosport gave a presentation on the potential minor works schemes. The budget for 2010/11 will be around £45k.

The HAT made the following recommendations for prioritising schemes, to be considered by the Executive Member for Environment:

1. Broom Way-Court, Barn Lane
2. Leonard Road/Victoria/Albert Street
3. Ferry Taxi Rank – to look at and review TROs only
4. Richmond Road, Lee-on-the-Solent

In addition:

5. Research Greenway Road to identify extent and details of likely utility complications
6. Beauchamp Avenue - identify work Gosport Borough Council is currently undertaking in the vicinity and then reassess congestion problem

The HAT also recommended that:

- (a) all four Stokes Bay schemes be deferred pending the completion of the proposed cycleway scheme, Stokes Bay;
- (b) due to the PFI the lighting schemes at Mayfield Mews and rear of Kingston Road be deferred; and
- (c) all three Fort Road schemes and Gilbert Close be deleted from this list.

Noted that Anglesey Road will remain on the list.

Traffic Management Programme

Councillor Chegwyn requested that the speed limit along Heritage Way, Priddy's Hard be investigated due to concerns that traffic appears to travel at excess speed towards the Explosion Museum.

Traffic Regulation Orders

Councillor Chegwyn asked Highways officers to update him on Item 9 prior to a residents meeting in May.

ACTION: The enforcement of TROs – e.g. parking on double yellow lines, be put on the agenda for the autumn meeting and that a police officer and officer from Gosport Borough Council be invited to discuss the local situation and current issues with HAT members.

5. 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 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.

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. Several partnership events are 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.

Members suggested that in Gosport (unparished) possible locations for salt bins are outside small groups of shops for traders use.

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.

During the course of discussion, Members highlighted the need to change public perception particularly relating to repairing potholes and commented on the success of the daily HCC updates during the severe weather.

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:

- Stokes Bay Cycleway – funding has not been finalised. Detailed design is to be completed before the legal agreement with SusTrans can be signed.
- Trafalgar Square – work needs to be linked to the ROUA project.

8. Local and Strategic Issues

Members noted the following:

Quay Street – land ownership issues relating to an electricity substation are yet to be resolved. Negotiations are ongoing to finalise legal agreements which will enable planning permission to be granted. There is no agreed start date for the scheme.

Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) scheme – the judicial review is ongoing and the County Council is awaiting the response from the appeal heard on 10 and 11 March 2010. Additionally, the County Council is waiting for the outcome of two Village Green applications which are critical to the BRT.

Local Transport Plan 3 – separate events have been arranged

Gosport Peninsular Access Member Working Group (additional agenda item).

Members agreed that this group should be re-invigorated. It was agreed that all County Councillors should have the opportunity to be part of this

group and the terms of reference be reviewed accordingly.

ACTION: Kate Fryatt & Mary-Ann Toop to arrange first meeting (once Fareham HAT have agreed to this action).

The street Lighting Private Finance Initiative commences in Gosport on 1st April, starting in Lee on the Solent. Leaflets have been produced and will be distributed to residents in advance of the works. Monthly programme updates will be incorporated in the HAT bulletins.

9. Any other business

The Edge Project run within Gosport Museum Services would like to give a presentation to the HAT at some time in the future and Members were agreeable to this request.