

UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL MINUTES – 11 JUNE 2018 18:00

COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD

SAFFRON WALDEN

Chairman:	Councillor S Walsh
Panel Members:	Councillors R Gooding and J Moran (Essex County Council). Councillors J Freeman and G Sell (Uttlesford District Council).
Also Present:	Councillor J Davey (Uttlesford Association of Local Councils) and Lisa Hinman (North Essex Parking Partnership)
Officers:	Sonia Church (Highway Liaison Manager), B Ferguson (Democratic Services Officer) and R Long (Highways Liaison Officer).

Item		Owner
1.	Welcome and Introductions:	
	Councillor Walsh welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	Apologies and Declarations of Interest	
	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Susan Barker.	
3.	Minutes of meeting held on 26 March 2018:	
	The minutes of the UDC Highways Panel meeting held on the 26 March 2018 were approved as a correct record.	
4.	Matters Arising from the Minutes of 18 September:	
	In response to a Member question, the Chairman said the panel would monitor the progress of Councillor Mills' S106 enquiry relating to the Footway in Great Easton.	
5.	North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) presentation	
	Lisa Hinman gave a presentation on NEPP, providing a history and an overview of operations of the organisation.	
	Members were invited to ask questions, the following was discussed:	

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	 NEPP had increased the resources allocated to Uttlesford which now had 4 or 5 officers assigned to the District. NEPP were in direct contact with schools where there were known problems. A number of trials had been rolled out, including "Walking bus" schemes to improve congestion at busy times. NEPP could not use recordings to hand out punitive fines unless they were made by a NEPP officer. NEPP would increase patrols in response to evidence provided by a member of the public. Staff had been asked to document all abuse. Whilst levels of physical abuse were low, cases of verbal abuse were high. 	
6.	Public Question Time	
	There were no public questions.	
7.	Approved Works Programme	
	The Highways Liaison Officer updated members on the approved Works Programme and highlighted the following schemes:	
	1/2. Duck Street, Little Easton and The Street, High Easter – Speed limit request	
	The schemes had not been completed in the previous financial year, although there would be no impact on the 2018-19 budget.	
	6. Manuden Road, Manuden and Berden - Chevron signs	
	The scheme would be implemented through the direct delivery team and would begin earlier than those schemes on the normal work programme. The scheme was still in the design stage but the Highway Liaison Officer said she would inform the Panel when she knew more.	
	16. B1051 Stansted Road, Stansted - Advanced weight limit signage	
	Members were told this scheme was not viable for direct delivery and would likely be completed in quarter 4.	
8.	Potential Schemes List	
	The Highways Liaison Officer presented her report on potential schemes for 2018/19. As the budget had been fully committed at the previous meeting, Members were told that only back up schemes needed to be chosen.	
	Members asked a number of questions relating to Grove Hill, Stansted with specific regard to weight limit signage. The Highways Liaison Officer said she would look into the issue.	



	It was agreed for the Highways Liaison Officer to write to parish councils and ask them to put forward smaller schemes of their own choosing which would be put on a 'back-up' list of potential schemes.	
9.	Highway Rangers	
	The Highways Liaison Officer said the Highways Rangers had recently carried out work on 'finger post' signage across the District.	
	Councillor Sell said the work had made a great difference and the signage he had seen was excellent.	
	The Highways Liaison Officer said Rangers would visit individual parishes for the day to identify potential schemes and to generate further work. She said their priority would always be safety issues such as maintaining vegetation that obscured motorists' views. She added that a Twitter feed had been setup to report on the progress of the Highway Rangers.	
	The Chairman thanked the Rangers for their hard work.	
10.	Section 106 Schemes (For information)	
	The report was noted.	
11.	Any other business	
	Councillor Sell said there had been issues in Stansted where two major roadworks had commenced at the same time, causing congestion on the roads.	
	Councillor Gooding said he would have a conversation with the developer regarding this issue and would report back to the Panel following this discussion.	
	Councillor Moran said he had experienced similar problems in Great Chesterford and Saffron Walden; he said common sense and communication were required to minimise disruption and to ensure two roads were not closed at the same time in a particular area.	
	In response to a question from Councillor Freeman, the Highways Liaison Manager said Mill Lane was 'locally known' as protected and alternative routes were encouraged. However, Highways had no power to enforce vehicle restrictions on this road.	
12.	Date of next meeting:	
	The next meeting would be held on 24 September at 6.00pm	

The meeting closed at 7.00pm