

# Minutes

## Braintree District Local Highways Panel

22nd September 2016

(Comprising representatives of:-

Essex County Council  
Braintree District Council  
Braintree Association of Local Councils)

### Present:-

Councillor R Walters (Chairman)	Essex County Council
Councillor J Abbott	Braintree District Council
Councillor J Bendall	Braintree Association of Local Councils
Councillor S Canning (substitute for Cllr J Pike)	Essex County Council
Councillor Mrs M Cunningham	Braintree District Council
Councillor D Finch (until 7.15pm)(substitute for Cllr D Louis)	Essex County Council
Councillor D Gronland	Braintree Association of Local Councils
Councillor P Horner	Braintree Association of Local Councils
Councillor R Mitchell	Braintree District Council
Councillor Lady Newton	Essex County Council

Councillor P Schwier (Braintree District Council) was also in attendance.

### Officers

Matt Valentine - Essex Highways  
Jasmine Wiles - Essex Highways (Apprentice)  
Samir Pandya - Braintree District Council  
Alison Webb – Braintree District Council  
Stephen Wenlock - Braintree District Council

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor E Johnson (Essex County Council), Councillor D Louis (Essex County Council), Mr P Partridge (Braintree District Council), Councillor J Pike (Essex County Council), Councillor D Smith (Braintree Association of Local Councils) and Councillor Mrs S Wilson (Braintree District Council)

### 1 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following interests were declared:-

Councillor J Abbott declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 8 – Schemes Already Recommended for Approval and Programmed for Delivery and specifically scheme 'LBRA152070 Oak Road, Rivenhall – Installation of

new signage and re-routing of HGVs to stop them getting stuck', as Chairman of Rivenhall Parish Council which had agreed to contribute towards the cost of this scheme.

Councillor S Canning declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 6 – Braintree Cycling Schemes as the matter related to the Ward and Division which he represented as an elected Member of both Braintree District Council and Essex County Council.

Councillor Lady Newton declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 6 – Braintree Cycling Schemes as Braintree District Council's Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Councillors Abbott, Canning and Lady Newton remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion when the matters were considered.

## 2 **MINUTES**

**DECISION:** That the Minutes of the meeting of Braintree District Local Highways Panel held on 11th July 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## 3 **MATTERS ARISING**

### **INFORMATION:**

Minute 6 – Schemes for Consideration by the Panel (Scheme to extend the footway from Rolphs Farmhouse to Bretton, Boars Tye Road, Silver End)

Councillor Abbott referred to the proposed scheme to provide a footway from Rolphs Farmhouse to Bretton, Boars Tye Road, Silver End. Councillor Abbott stated that as a landowner had offered the land required to complete section 1 of the scheme, it would not be necessary for this section to be funded via the Highways Panel.

## 4 **QUESTION TIME**

**INFORMATION:** There was one statement made. Details of the person who spoke at the meeting are contained in the Appendix to these Minutes. The comments made are summarised below.

Councillor Philip Hughes for Silver End Parish Council

Scheme LBRA162022 – 20mph speed limit at Valentine Way and School Road, Silver End and Scheme LBRA162023 – 20mph speed limit at Grooms Lane and all of Daniel Way estate, Silver End

Silver End Parish Council requested approval of these two schemes. In considering this matter, Members of the Panel noted that a third scheme which had been submitted regarding the proposed introduction of a 20mph

speed limit at Broadway/Francis Way, Silver End had not been included in the Agenda for consideration. It was stated that the approved scheme LBRA162016 - installation of tactile crossings and improved drainage at Francis Way j/w Broadway, Silver End was not related to this matter.

It was agreed that all three schemes should be considered at the next meeting of the Panel.

**Action By: Matt Valentine, Essex Highways. To include Schemes LBRA162022, LBRA162023 and the proposed introduction of a 20mph speed limit at Broadway/Francis Way, Silver End on the Panel's next Agenda for consideration.**

## 5 **BRAINTREE CYCLING SCHEMES**

(Stephen Wenlock, Braintree District Council, attended the meeting and spoke on this Item).

**INFORMATION:** Consideration was given to a report regarding the funding of two cycleway schemes.

Members were advised that in January 2013 Braintree Local Highways Panel had recommended that scheme IT754 - cycleway at Vernon Way to Blackwater Way, Braintree and scheme IT753 - cycleway at John Ray Park, Braintree were approved and funded from the Panel's budget. A sum of £30,000 had been allocated to scheme IT754 and a sum of £100,000 to scheme IT753. However, in September 2013 both schemes had been cancelled from the Panel's programme of work and had been passed to Braintree District Council to deliver.

It was reported that the scheme for Vernon Way to Blackwater Way had subsequently been completed and had been delivered in November 2015. Tenders were currently being sought for the John Ray Park scheme. It had been understood that the funding previously approved by the Panel was still available. However, this was not the case. In the circumstances, Members of the Panel were asked to consider whether the cost of each scheme should be met from the Panel's budget for the 2017/18 financial year. The budget allocation for 2017/18 was not yet known.

Members of the Panel proposed that the cost of the scheme for Vernon Way to Blackwater Way should be met from the Panel's budget for 2017/18, but that the scheme for John Ray Park should not be funded as it was not yet known what the Panel's budget allocation for 2017/18 would be.

### **DECISION:**

- (1) That it be recommended that £30,000 be allocated from Braintree Local Highways Panel's budget allocation for 2017/18 to the cost of scheme IT754 – cycleway at Vernon Way to Blackwater Way, Braintree.

- (2) That it be recommended that no funding is currently allocated from Braintree Local Highways Panel's budget allocation for 2017/18 to the cost of scheme IT753 – cycleway at John Ray Park, Braintree, but that the matter be reconsidered when the Panel's budget allocation for 2017/18 is known.

## 6 **SCHEMES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE PANEL**

**INFORMATION:** Consideration was given to a report containing a schedule of possible schemes.

In discussing this report, Members were reminded that expenditure of the Panel's capital budget for 2016/17 had been recommended to and approved by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport. If the Panel wished to support any of the schemes contained within the schedule, these would be recommended for approval to be funded in the 2017/18 financial year.

In the circumstances, Members were requested to determine whether the schemes with a 'red' designation ie. being against Essex County Council criteria, or against officers' recommendation should be removed from the potentials list.

### **DECISION:**

- (1) That the following schemes designated as 'red' and against Essex County Council criteria be removed from the schedule of potential schemes.

#### Traffic Management

Traffic calming measures within the 30mph speed limit, Church Road, Wickham St Paul  
Estimated Cost - £0

LBRA162035 – Traffic calming measures at Letch's Corner, Ulting Road j/w Maldon Road, Hatfield Peverel  
Estimated Cost - £0

LBRA162040 – Installation of 'unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles' signage on both entrances to Pods Lane, Rayne  
Estimated Cost - £0

Traffic calming measures through the village, The Street, Great Saling  
Estimated Cost - £0

- (2) That the following scheme be retained on the schedule of possible schemes pending further investigation:-

### Traffic Management

Extension of current 40mph speed limit by approx. 300m, B1024  
Coggeshall Road, South of America Road, Earls Colne  
Estimated Cost - £0

- (3) That the following scheme be referred to North Essex Parking Partnership for comments:-

### Traffic Management

LBRA162050 – Extension of double yellow line markings North of  
Mallows Field to the j/w Harvey Street, Mallows Field, Halstead.  
Estimated Cost - £3,000

- (4) That the description of the following scheme be amended to reflect that a landowner has offered the land required to complete section 1 of the scheme and that it is no longer necessary for this section to be funded via the Highways Panel (Minute 3 refers):-

### Walking

Extension of footway from Rolphs Farmhouse to Bretton, Boars Tye  
Road, Silver End  
Estimated Cost - £91,000

## 7 **PROGRAMME OF SCHEMES - ALREADY RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL/PROGRAMMED FOR DELIVERY**

**INFORMATION:** Consideration was given to a report setting out a programme of schemes which the Panel had recommended for approval. The programme included those schemes for which work had subsequently been agreed, cancelled, or recently completed. The report included a table which showed the number of schemes per category for which funding had been recommended, or which were being progressed within the 2016/17 financial year.

Members were advised that a programme had been set for the expenditure of the Panel's 2016/17 capital budget of £407,789, plus an additional number of schemes to account for some 'roll over' from the 2015/16 financial year and to develop a rolling programme of works. Information regarding anticipated completion dates for schemes would be reported in terms of 'quarters' until such time as the road space had been booked and a start date confirmed. Some schemes within the rolling programme had been identified for implementation in the 2017/18 financial year.

In discussing this Item, Councillor Abbott commented that scheme 'LBRA152070 Oak Road, Rivenhall – installation of new signage and re-routing of HGVs to stop them getting stuck' had been referred to the Cabinet

Member for Highways and Transport for approval, but had been outstanding for some time due to an objection being submitted during the formal consultation period. Councillor Abbott queried who the objector was and he was advised to obtain this information via Essex County Council's website.

**DECISION:** That the programme of schemes recommended for approval at previous meetings of the Panel be noted.

## 8 **SECTION 106 AGREEMENT – PROGRESS UPDATE**

**INFORMATION:** Consideration was given to a report on the progress of three schemes which were being funded via Agreements under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

The schemes were HB13017 – extension of layby at A1017, Sturmer; HB14003 – junction improvements at Rose Hill/Station Approach/South Street, Braintree; and HB16013 - new bus shelters, real time passenger information and civils works, Maltings Lane/Gershwin Boulevard, Witham

**DECISION:** The progress report was noted.

### Additional Item

## 9 **SCHEME LBRA142006 - B1018 BRAINTREE ROAD, CRESSING**

**INFORMATION:** Councillor Lady Newton referred to scheme LBRA142006 – carriageway widening, installation of a footpath and new kerbing, B1018 Braintree Road, Cressing. This scheme had been considered by Braintree District Local Highways Panel in March 2016 when it had been recommended that the scheme should be held in abeyance pending the determination and outcome of negotiations relating to a development proposal for the area. It had been proposed that the scheme should be brought forward for implementation if this became feasible. At the last meeting of the Panel held in July 2016, Members had continued to express concern about the condition of the footway running along the B1018 at 'Cressing bends', which was deeply rutted, with dislodged kerb stones and in a dangerous state.

Councillor Lady Newton stated that she had subsequently met with County Councillor Bass (Cabinet Member for Infrastructure) substituting for County Councillor Johnson (Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport) to discuss the maintenance of the footway. Councillor Bass had indicated that the County Council could contribute £100,000 from its 2017/18 programme of work if this would assist the Panel in taking the proposed scheme forward, leaving the Panel to contribute £125,000. Councillor Lady Newton requested that this matter be reconsidered by the Panel at its next meeting to be held in January 2017.

It was noted that the Panel's budget allocation for 2017/18 was not yet known. It was anticipated that the planning application for the related development proposal would be determined in November 2016.

**DECISION:** That, if a decision has been made by Essex County Council regarding Braintree District Local Highways Panel's budget for 2017/18, this matter be included on the Agenda for the Panel's meeting to be held on 19th January 2017 for consideration. Alternatively, if a budget announcement has not been made in time, it was agreed that the matter should be considered at the Panel's meeting to be arranged for March 2017, with an update on the scheme being provided for Members of the Panel at the meeting in January.

10 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE PANEL**

**INFORMATION:** Consideration was given to the date for the next meeting of Braintree District Local Highways Panel. The Chairman indicated that he would not be able to attend the meeting and it was therefore agreed that Councillor Mitchell, the Vice-Chairman of the Panel, should take the chair on this occasion.

**DECISION:** It was noted that the next meeting of Braintree District Local Highways Panel would take place on 19th January 2017.

The meeting commenced at 6.00pm and closed at 7.30pm.

Councillor R Walters  
(Chairman)

APPENDIX

BRAINTREE DISTRICT LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL

22ND SEPTEMBER 2016

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Details of Questions Asked / Statements Made During Public Question Time

- 1 Statement Relating to Agenda Item 7 – Schemes for Consideration by the Panel  
Scheme Ref 7, LBRA162022 – 20mph speed limit at Valentine Way and School Road, Silver End  
Scheme Ref 8, LBRA162023 – 20mph speed limit at Grooms Lane and all of Daniel Way estate, Silver End

Statement by Councillor Philip Hughes, for Silver End Parish Council, 163 Honeysuckle Way, Witham