

CHELMSFORD CITY LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL MINUTES

14 MARCH 2017

at 13:00 at the Civic Centre, Chelmsford

Chairman:	County Councillor Dick Madden
Panel Members:	<p>Chelmsford City Council – Councillors Richard Ambor, Michael Holloway, Jean Murray and Bob Shepherd (Vice-Chairman)</p> <p>Essex County Council – County Councillors John Aldridge, Jenny Chandler and Mike Mackrory</p>
Officers:	Sonia Church - Essex Highways, Laura Medhurst – Chelmsford City Council, Averil Price - Chelmsford City Council, Mark Robinson – Essex County Council, Jon Simmons - Essex Highways, and Rosa Tanfield - Chelmsford City Council
Also present:	County Councillors Ray Howard and Jude Deakin
Secretariat:	Brian Mayfield - Chelmsford City Council

Item		Owner
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed those present. He said that this would be the last meeting of the Panel to be attended by County Councillor Ray Howard, who would be retiring as a councillor in May. On behalf of the Panel, the Chairman thanked Councillor Howard for his service and support to the Panel and wished him the best for his retirement.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>There were no apologies for absence.</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting on 14 December 2016 were agreed as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Chandler's apologies for absence.</p>	

4.	<p>Matters Arising from Minutes of the Previous Meeting</p> <p><i>Copperfield Road, junction with Dickens Place, Chelmsford – traffic management improvements – LCHE 162143</i></p> <p>Jon Simmons confirmed that a scheme to cut back the tree at the junction and carry out a road safety assessment for the provision of a crossing had been added to the Potential Schemes List.</p> <p><i>Writtle Road junction with A1016 Westway, Chelmsford – Additional Pedestrian Guard Rail – LCHE152103</i></p> <p>The Development Management team was looking at a scheme to install a dropped kerb and Jon Simmons said that he would share the design with Councillor Deakin when it was available.</p> <p><i>Springfield Road/ Pump Lane, Springfield – toucan crossing</i></p> <p>Jon Simmons said that he would check on the likely implementation date for this scheme and inform Councillor Mackrory.</p> <p><i>Parking in Chelmer Valley Road</i></p> <p>Jon Simmons said that he would check on progress with the proposed traffic order and advise Councillor Murray.</p> <p><i>Cycling Strategy</i></p> <p>As a point of clarification on the minute of the last meeting on this subject, Councillor Aldridge informed the Panel that his view that street lighting was not appropriate for cycleways related to those in rural areas.</p> <p><i>Sandon Hill, Ford End - traffic management improvements through village</i></p> <p>The information requested by Councillor Aldridge had been provided.</p> <p><i>Completion of Schemes</i></p> <p>Jon Simmons said that he intended to report to the June meeting on all the schemes completed in 2016/17. Sonia Church added that all except £22,000 of the budget was due to be spent. It was planned to “over deliver” on the programme for 2017/18 to ensure that the entire budget was spent.</p>	<p>JS</p> <p>JS</p> <p>JS</p>
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	<p><i>O/S 50-62 Shimbrooks, Great Leighs – parking improvements - LCHE152114</i></p> <p>Jon Simmons said that this scheme would be included as a priority in the 2017/18 programme.</p> <p><i>Section 106 Updates</i></p> <p>Clarification would be provided about the reference to Scheme X in minute number 9.</p>	JS/RT
5.	<p>Chelmsford's Future Transport Network</p> <p>Mark Robinson, Senior Transport Strategy & Engagement Officer at Essex County Council, attended the meeting to outline the arrangements for the next stage of consultation on the future transport network for Chelmsford and the vision being pursued for it.</p> <p>The objectives of the strategy for the network were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enable sustainable and economic growth • improve the reliability of the transport network • improve connectivity • provide a sustainable transport offer • create an attractive and healthier environment • provide a safe transport network and environment <p>With the road network almost at capacity at peak times and little prospect of new roads being built, the focus of the strategy was on reducing reliance on private cars and providing viable alternatives. In the short term the Chelmsford City Growth Package was intended to kick start the programme by providing a package of schemes, with a focus on sustainable transport, to help to achieve the vision. Measures would include bus, cycling and walking, signage and targeted highways capacity improvements. Funding of £15 million would be available in the short term, to be spent by March 2020.</p> <p>Plans on how to spend the funding would be presented to the Panel at its next meeting. In the meantime Mark encouraged all councillors to make the County Council aware of their personal views on how to tackle the transport problems facing the city, as well as passing on those expressed by their constituents.</p> <p>Members of the Panel shared the view that building new roads was not a viable solution to the transport problem, particularly when road capacity was almost exhausted and more development was planned for the city. A strategic approach, centred on sustainable transport and development and coupled with a change in the public's attitudes to the use of private vehicles and public transport, was required.</p>	

	Mark Robinson was thanked for his presentation and attendance.	
6a.	<p>Approved Works Programme Update 2017/18 – Designs and Feasibility Studies</p> <p>The Panel considered a schedule of 26 schemes at the design and feasibility stage in the Approved Works Programme.</p> <p>Jon Simmons sought agreement to include in the next Approved Works Programme the schemes approved by the Panel at its last meeting.</p> <p>It was explained that no schemes on the current Potential Schemes List would be delivered next year unless they were added to the Approved Works Programme. Even then, however, the total cost of the schemes in the Programme presented to the meeting was greater than the available budget. In recognition of that the officers had suggested those key schemes that should have priority in 2017/18 and, if the Panel was in agreement, he would present to the June meeting the programme of all approved schemes to be carried out in 2017/18.</p> <p>AGREED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the inclusion of the schemes agreed at the last meeting in the Approved Works Programme for 2017/18 be approved; and (ii) the key schemes identified in the schedule submitted for item 6a be approved. <p>The following was reported on the schemes in the Schedule on which design and feasibility studies were required:</p> <p><i>Tyrells School – Tavistock Road, Bodmin Road, Taunton Road, Springfield</i></p> <p>Jon Simmons reported that officers believed that a wider scheme was required for the whole estate.</p> <p>AGREED that an additional £3,500 be provided to carry out the additional speed surveys required for a wider scheme.</p> <p><i>PROW Ftp 13, Good Easter</i></p> <p>AGREED that this scheme be deleted as there had been no pressure to proceed with it.</p>	<p>JS</p>

7.	<p>Potential Schemes List for 2017/18</p> <p>The Panel was informed that following the decision at its last meeting to establish a £700,000 rolling programme of highway improvement works, the Priority Schemes agreed at that meeting had been transferred from the Potential Schemes List to the Approved Works Programme. After deducting from the £700,000 Rolling Programme the value of the Programmed Works and the Priority Schemes already agreed for 2017/18, there remained £57,500 to be allocated for schemes in the next financial year.</p>	
	<p>The Panel was informed that the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation was considering a list of casualty reduction schemes with a value of £87,000 which would be partly funded from the balance of £57,500.</p> <p>AGREED that the revised Potential Schemes List for 2017/18 be noted.</p>	
8.	<p>Highways Rangers Update</p> <p>The Panel considered a summary of the Chelmsford City Highways Rangers work programme for October to December 2016.</p> <p>AGREED that the Highways Rangers Update report be noted.</p>	
9.	<p>Section 106 Update</p> <p>The Panel received an update on Section 106 highway schemes. The completion of the Beehive Lane Chelmer Park bus shelter was noted.</p> <p>AGREED that the Section 106 Update report be noted.</p>	
10.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>The Chairman thanked members of the Panel for their work over the past municipal year and extended his best wishes to those councillors who were seeking re-election in May.</p>	
11.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>This was agreed as 14 or 21 June 2017 at 1pm at the Civic Centre, Chelmsford.</p>	

The meeting closed at 14:22

Chairman