

**UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL
MINUTES – 7 APRIL 2022 15:30 HRS
VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL**

Chairman:	Councillor Ray Gooding (ECC Member)
Panel Members:	Councillors Susan Barker (ECC Member), Paul Gadd (ECC Member), Geof Driscoll, (UDC Member), Rod Jones (UDC Member), Garry LeCount (UDC Member).
Officers:	Essex Highways – Rissa Long, Highway Liaison Officer Justin Styles, Design Manager, Ringway Jacobs UDC - Chloe Fiddy - Climate Change Project Officer UDC – Peter Holt – Chief Executive
Secretariat:	UDC – Clare Edwards – Democratic Services Officer

Item		Owner
1.	Welcome and Introductions: The Chair welcomed the Panel.	
2.	Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest: Apologies were received from Councillors Foley and Sell and from Danielle Frost. No declarations of interest were received.	
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 17 th January 2022 were approved.	
4.	Matters Arising from Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The Panel noted that the Uttlesford District Council (UDC) funding contribution had been resolved and £200K was in the budget for this financial year.	
5.	Public Questions The Climate Change Project Officer gave an update to the Panel on two related items:- The Local Cycling and Walking infrastructure plan had received over 2,000 responses. These were being collated and would be handed	

	<p>over to the consultants to take forward.</p> <p>The bid to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) related to air quality in Saffron Walden had been successful and UDC had received just under £0.5m to carry out clean air projects to help to improve the Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA).</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Report on Funded Schemes</p> <p>The Highways Liaison Officer updated the panel with regards to last years schemes:-</p> <p>Scheme 1 Langley Lower Green, 30mph Speed Limit. The Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) was nearly completed, this scheme would be finished in 2022/23.</p> <p>Scheme 4 Dunmow Road, Little Canfield - New Gateways. Completed.</p> <p>Scheme 5 Bishops Green, High Easter - Hamlet signage. Completed.</p> <p>Scheme 6 Roding Drive/Dunmow Road, Takeley - Mini roundabout improvements. There were 4 designs which would be circulated shortly.</p> <p>Scheme 7 Byway 46-34 Between Lubberhedges Lane and Long Green Lane, Stebbing - Byway reinstatement. Completed.</p> <p>Scheme 9 Ugley Green - Advanced width restriction signage. Completed.</p> <p>Scheme 11 Stortford Road / Chelmsford Road Hatfield Heath - Mini Roundabout. The designs were complete but there were legal elements to fund in the coming financial year.</p> <p>Scheme 12 B184 Wimbish - 30mph speed limit. The design was completed and would be circulated to Members, the TRO would commence shortly.</p> <p>Scheme 14 Footpath 50, Thaxted - Installation of a boardwalk. Completed.</p> <p>Scheme 15 High Street, Saffron Walden - Tree investigation. Councillor Gadd asked what the next steps were for this item. The Highways Liaison Officer said that there were still remedial works to be carried out. She said that there was also a proposal for a long term solution possibly funding from a capital scheme and a contribution from the Highways Panel. She said that this would be to stop the roots of the trees pushing through the slabs again and to</p>	

	<p>add to the longevity of the surface.</p> <p>Scheme 19 Saffron Walden Town Centre - Permanent 20mph limit. The Cabinet Member action report had been written and was awaiting appropriate signatories.</p> <p>Scheme 23 Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden - New footway /cycleway and Scheme 24 Quendon village - Traffic calming. There had been funding put aside of £150k to complete both schemes. The Quendon traffic calming cost was £80k, and work was underway. The scheme was a package of measures that covered the stretch of the 30mph limit through Quendon and included improved traffic islands for pedestrians, better signage and increased width and bollards on footways.</p>	
7.	<p>Report on Schemes Awaiting Funding</p> <p>The Highways Liaison Officer explained the budget figures, she said that the Casualty Reduction Schemes had been taken out of the Highways remit but each Panel now gave a contribution towards the funding, UDC's contribution was £34,515.</p> <p>She said that the budget included an extra £100k from 2021/22 which had not been spent due to resourcing issues across the district.</p> <p>She said that the £79k was the budget already set aside for the remaining two schemes not yet completed; Langley Lower Green and Thaxted Road new footpath/cycleway.</p> <p>She said that there was additional funding from the Local Highway Panel of £200k and UDC funding of £200k.</p> <p>She said that the budget for new schemes was therefore £701,483, if the cost of the remaining schemes were over or under spent the figure would change.</p> <p>Councillor Barker asked if the budget for S106 schemes could be available for the June meeting.</p> <p>The following schemes had funding agreed: _</p> <p>Scheme 5 Walden Road, Hadstock – Signage.</p> <p>Scheme 7 Hall Road, Henham - 40mph buffer speed limit, the cost was £8.5k for the design and investigation.</p> <p>Scheme 8 Wicken Bonhunt - traffic management improvements.</p> <p>Scheme 9 Church Street, Saffron Walden – Bollards.</p>	

Scheme 14 Brookend, Stebbing - 30mph speed limit extension.

Scheme 15 Debden village - 20 when lights flash and signage Improvements.

Scheme 18 B1051, Stansted to Elsenham - Weight limit.

There was discussion about the intended route for diverted lorries, the Highways Liaison Officer said that HGV's would be diverted before Stansted and would travel on the most appropriate route which was onto the A120 or the B1383 if going into Saffron Walden. She said that it was a large piece of work which should be completed in this financial year but needed to be done properly.

The Chair said that once the provision was in place it could then be enforced if necessary.

The Highways Liaison Officer said that the investigation would involve the engineers visiting the site and doing a route study, followed by a consultation involving the Chair, Councillor Barker, District and Parish Councillors and a public consultation.

In response to a question from Councillor Driscoll, the Highway Liaison Officer said that it would be 7.5 tonne environmental weight limit. She said that the signage would be the first step, as it was not currently clear and this scheme would move the signage out to the main road. She said the next stage would be camera enforcement but the Government had not made their final decision yet regarding legislation. Once the scheme was installed it would be left for a period of time to see if it worked before enforcement was considered. There was not a definitive cost but was currently budgeted at £25k, this figure might need to be adjusted. The cost covered design, feasibility and consultation elements of the investigation.

Scheme 21 Saffron Walden - Market amendments. This was showing as amber but had a cost of £8k.

Scheme 25 Saffron Walden - Street clutter review. The Highway Liaison Officer said that this would extend out to other town centres once completed here. Councillor Barker said it was expensive but the Highways Liaison Officer said it was a standard cost and related to the time it took to carry out the review.

Scheme 27 Hall Road, Henham - 40mph buffer speed limit – contribution of £8k from the Highways Panel, the Parish Council to fund the remainder.

Scheme 60 and 61 A1060 Chelmsford Road jct with Dunmow Road, Hatfield Heath - Mini roundabout and Stortford Road / Chelmsford Road Hatfield Heath - Mini roundabout

These were nearly completed but needed extra funding for the legal

elements relating to land before they could go ahead.

Scheme 62 B184 Wimbish - 30mph speed limit – the design has been completed the £12k was an estimated amount for signage. Councillor Barker asked for it to be noted that she did not agree with this scheme as she did not think it would work.

Scheme 66 Gate house Bridge - Sign for the bridge
To be combined with Grove Hill scheme so can be ignored.

Scheme 72 Braintree Road, Felsted - Keep Clear markings

Scheme 76 Quendon village - Traffic calming phase 2
The progression of an additional feature that the Parish Council requested and was viable.

Cycling Schemes

Scheme 1 Great Chesterford to Saffron Walden – Cycleway.
The scope of the scheme was in depth, the design would be progressed by Sustran.

Scheme 2 Saffron Walden

To fund a feasibility study to investigate what cycle schemes could be taken forward as viable.

Councillor Gadd said that the study would consider what, if any cycle schemes could be delivered in Saffron Walden. He said that developments had been approved on the basis that cycle routes would be provided to mitigate extra traffic, Essex Highways approved the applications on that basis, but then the cycle routes were turned down because they were not viable.

He said that following the study the S106 monies to the value of £300k would be used to implement the schemes, no further funds would be needed from the Highways Panel.

The Highways Liaison Officer said there was one more cycling scheme that was not on this paperwork but related to Scheme 23 on the funded schemes, Thaxted Road. The outline estimate was £150k, £70k had already been allocated so another £80k of funding was required. There was a small amount of S106 monies which would be used so this figure could be reduced.

Passenger Transport

Scheme 1 Hall Road, Takeley - Bus stop relocation.

This was to move the existing bus stop away from the junction to have better sight lines and provide a short section of footway. This would fund the feasibility/design.

Public Rights of Way

Byway 75 Debden - Surface improvements to byway

The paperwork says £15k but it would be £20k to complete the works. The costs for the works had not changed but the contribution from the Highway Panel had increased.

	<p>Councillor Barker raised the byway in Great Canfield and the current quote of £7k. Councillor Jones said that the byway needed to be repaired for the use of everyone and not just the section that the land owner wanted repaired. It was decided to put on hold for the next meeting to get a proper costing.</p> <p>Other schemes in validation were discussed:-</p> <p>Scheme 16 B184 Ongar Road, Great Dunmow - 40mph buffer speed Limit. Councillor Jones asked why this scheme was still in validation. The Highway Liaison Officer said there were a number of schemes still in validation but that they should all be completed for the June meeting.</p> <p>Highways Liaison Officer agreed to revisit schemes 31 and 64 as they were the same scheme.</p> <p>Scheme 73 Hoblongs junction, Gt Dunmow - Signal controlled junction. Councillor Jones asked for an update as he was concerned about the number of accidents at this junction. He said that there were S106 monies from the Smiths Farm Development. The Highway Liaison Officer said this scheme would possibly fall into a major scheme category which would take it out of the Panels remit. She said that she would know more by the June meeting once the validation process had been completed. She said she would need to speak to various colleagues in different departments including Casualty Reduction and Development to ensure it would be a complete joined up scheme taking into account all aspects so that money was not wasted.</p> <p>The total amount committed was £273,200.</p> <p>The Highways Liaison Officer said that the next meeting would allocate the rest of the budget. She said that it was the intention to validate all the rest of the schemes by then.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>Specific dates to be agreed.</p>	

Meeting closed at 5:00pm