

## COLCHESTER LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2023 - 10.00hrs

### ONLINE MEETING: MICROSOFT TEAMS

<b>Chairman:</b>	County Councillor Sue Lissimore
<b>Panel Members:</b>	County Councillors: Lewis Baber, Lee Scordis, Dave Harris, John Jowers.  City Councillors: Jeremy Hagon, Lesley Scott-Boutell  Parish Councillor: Cllr John Gili-Ross and Cllr Robert Johnstone
<b>Officers:</b>	CCC Jane Thompson  Essex Highways: Jon Simmons – Highways Liaison Officer
<b>Secretariat:</b>	Colchester City Council: Robert Carmichael – Democratic Services Officer.

Item		Owner
1.	<b>Welcome and Introductions:</b>  The Chairman welcomed Councillors and officers to the meeting.	
2.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>  Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Julie Young and Simon Crow.	
3.	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on the 6 December 2022</b>  The minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.	

<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b></p> <p>The Senior Highways Liaison Officer updated the panel on the following matters:</p> <p>Under minute 5 it was noted that an update had been provided to Cllrs Harris and Lissimore and confirmed that the proposed zebra crossing would be installed in Q1.</p> <p>Under minute 5 it was noted that the proposed roundabout had been reviewed and explained that the raised dome did reduce speed and would therefore reduce accidents so would not be looking to reduce height. Councillor Harris outlined that this was not the view of residents and thought that Cllr Scott had been in agreement on this. The Senior Highways Liaison Officer detailed that they would contact Cllrs Harris and Lissimore outside of the meeting.</p> <p>Under Minute 5 it was noted that Cllr Scott and Highways Officers had attended the County Council Scrutiny Meeting and a number of improvements had been developed and a full update of these would be circulated to the panel when they were available.</p> <p>Under Minute 7, it was noted that there were issues of land ownership surrounding the proposal and that a study costing £2,500 would be required. At the request of the panel the Senior Highways Liaison Officer confirmed that a breakdown of the monies as indicated would be provided.</p> <p>Under minute 7, it was noted that Councillor Jowers had been contacted on the 27 January 2023.</p>	
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Report on Funded Schemes 2022/23</b></p> <p>The Panel considered a report providing an update on the current position of all the schemes which the Colchester Local Highway Panel has recommended for inclusion in their 2022/23 programme.</p> <p>In discussion the following update was provided about the funded schemes in 2022/23:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bounstead Road/ Berechurch Hall Road / Berechurch Road, Colchester – Junction Improvements. The scheme had been completed in March 2023.</li> <li>2. Mersea Tourism Signage – Investigation of East Mersea Tourism Signage to ensure it is all correct. The scheme was completed in February 2023 subject to remedial works.</li> <li>3. Ipswich Road near East Street, Colchester – Pedestrian Crossing Improvements. The scheme was completed in March 2023.</li> </ol>	

	<p>4. Scarfe Way, Avon Way Colchester – Bus Stop infrastructure. This scheme had been cancelled as it had been implemented by the Passenger Transport Team.</p> <p>6. Shrub End Road, Colchester – Pedestrian Crossing improvements as near as possible to the Co-op/ Texaco garage on shrub end Road- This scheme would be implemented after resurfacing of the road.</p> <p>7. Footpath 5 off Tollgate Road, Stanway – ProW access improvements – Step and surface improvements to footpath to encourage pedestrian use. The scheme had been completed in January 2023 and confirmed that the next stage was land acquisition and that conversations were happening regarding this. It was noted that County Members had not been advised of items 14, 16, and 27 being completed without County Members being informed.</p> <p>8. Rectory Hill, Wivenhoe – Street Lighting improvements for pedestrians from two bus stops. The scheme had been completed in March 2023.</p> <p>9/10/11 Broomgrove Infant &amp; Junior School, Broome Grove , Wivenhoe – School Street / Millfields Primary School, Bowes Road, Wivenhoe – School Street / Myland Primary School, Mill Road, Mile End – School Street. Local Community Workshops planned for late April 2023 to supplement survey data (Councillors, Parents, School, staff, residents and businesses).</p> <p>21. A1124 London Road j/w Straight Road, Colchester – Traffic Management Improvements. It was noted that this had been added to the June 2022 Panel Meeting.</p> <p>22. Dedham Parish- Traffic Management improvements – The Panel heard that dates were being looked at for completion working with Cllr Barber and the Parish Council.</p> <p>25. Titania Close j/w Avon Way, Colchester – Dropped kerbs and tactile paving. It was detailed by the officer that the scheme should be carried forward to the 23/24 budget.</p> <p>26. London Road, nr j/w Millers Lane, Stanway – Signalised Crossing. It was noted that the feasibility had been completed and that the road safety audit had concluded that it should not be taken forward. The Senior Highways Liaison Officer detailed that they would send on the report to Cllr Scott-Boutell and Cllr Hagon.</p>	
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	<p>27. Nr Co-op, Chappel Road, West Bergholt – raised table at Zebra Crossing. The design had been completed and had concluded that there was a need for additional street lighting, locations of columns under review due to high voltage electricity cabling. Cllr Gili-Ross confirmed that the Parish Council owned land on one side of the proposal. The Senior Highways Liaison Officer detailed that they would pass this on to the design team.</p> <p>Cllr Barber queried a delay in the replacement of a speed indicator device that had gone missing in West Bergholt. The Senior Highways Liaison Officer detailed that they were waiting for a date from the supply chain partner to bring this back and would update the Councillor accordingly.</p>	
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>Report on schemes awaiting funding 2022/23</b></p> <p>The Panel considered a report providing an update on the current position of all the schemes which the Colchester Local Highway Panel that were awaiting funding in 2022/23. The Highway Liaison Officer outlined that funding for the 2023/2024 budget would be different as it had been agreed that the capital budget would be for £500,000 with additional funding of £250,000 for Footway schemes and £250,000 for additional footways minor works. It was noted that a list of schemes would be circulated and that they could be prioritised with the additional funding.</p> <p>In response to questions the Senior Highways Liaison Officer detailed that they did not yet know the criteria for these schemes, that Members would be able to put forward schemes to the Highway Panel in advance to avoid missing out if they could not attend the meeting. It was noted that Members of the panel could consult with their parishes if they wished to but confirmed that there was parish representation on the panel.</p> <p>The Senior Highways Liaison Officer detailed that there were reductions from the budget of £73,125 for Countywide Casualty reduction schemes and £176,875 for carriageway improvements. As such this meant that the Panel would never be asked to contribute towards any schemes related to either of these areas and noted that there were some schemes that were to be carried forward and that due to the financial process the funding would not be available to Members until the June meeting.</p> <p>It was requested that Monkwick cycleway improvements were allocated funding in the 2023/2024 budget.</p> <p>Councillor Johnstone queried whether Essex County Council followed the guidance related to LTN 120 as there had been an instance where they had not been in compliance at an area for three years. The Senior Highways Liaison Officer responded that the first</p>	

stage would be to widen the footway and then implement the cycleway. Cllr Johnstone responded that this was promoting a shared footway and cycleway which was against key design principles.

It was agreed that the funding for the Monkwick cycleway improvements be agreed and included in the new budget.

A query was raised regarding item 32, Essex Yeomanry Way, Tollgate Road, Warren Lane and whether there was any update as this scheme had been in validation for a long time. The Panel heard that the scheme had been improperly named and would be amended accordingly and would be updated at the next meeting if there was any progress.

It was noted that Ian Henderson was leading the Safer Road Schemes in Colchester and had been setting up meetings with Division Members where there were schemes in their wards.

The Chair queried whether there had been an update regarding item 38, Drury Ladder Roads. The Senior Highways Liaison Officer said that they would chase this up and provide an answer outside of the meeting.

A question was raised regarding item 24 Packards Lane, j/w B1508, Wormingford for a Salt Bin. The Panel heard that the highways website could be used to locate all salt bins as linked below:

[Salt bins | Essex County Council \(essexhighways.org\)](https://www.essexhighways.org)

The Panel heard that bins were refilled through the Parish and urban Salt Bin Partnership and confirmed that if there was a bin proposed that was not on an adopted highway then this may not be adopted by the partnership.

Councillor Scott-Boutell queried the progress of item 21 – Warren Lane near Joe Firmin Close, Stanway – Warning Signs. The Senior Highways Liaison Officer confirmed that an update would be brought to the June meeting on this issue. Councillor Hagon also questioned whether there was an update on the footpath on Warren Lane and whether there was any need to request support from the Parish Council. The Senior Highways Liaison Officer detailed that they would provide an update on this at the next meeting.

Councillor Gili-Ross queried item 27. West Bergholt pedestrian crossing and asked whether clarity could be provided to residents on why the crossing had been rejected as the technical description was very difficult to understand for constituents. The Senior Highways Liaison Officer detailed that this they would look into simpler wording and that the crossing would require Cabinet

	<p>Member funding, Section 106 funding or Section 278 funding and would not be something that the Local Highway Panel could fund.</p> <p>The Chair outlined that there was a wider issue of communication rather than County Councillors having to interpret very technical updates. The Chair asked that in future there was a short explanation if there were technical comments included within the action.</p> <p>Councillor Gili-Ross asked that item 7 of Passenger transport should show Cllr Barber as the requestor.</p> <p>Councillor Barber detailed that for requests for areas that were parished and where land ownership was known that these should be followed up by discussions as this could give flexibility with a scheme. The Senior Highways Liaison officer detailed that some proposals could extend beyond the highway boundary and a compulsory purchase may be required.</p>	
<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>None.</p>	
<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>Date of next meetings:</b></p> <p>Via Video call:</p> <p>Tuesday 13 June 2023          Tuesday 19 September 2023          Tuesday 19 December 2023          Tuesday 19 March 2024</p>	