

Minutes of the meeting of the **DOVER JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD** held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Thursday 18 February 2010 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor B R Cope

Councillors: T A Bond  
N J Collor  
A Friend  
G J Hood  
S G Leith  
S C Manion  
S R Nicholas  
L B Ridings  
J A Rook  
C J Smith  
J F Tranter

Also Present: Mr K Gowland (KALC)  
Mrs S Hooper (KALC)

Officers: Mr D Barton (Kent Highway Services)  
Mr D Button (Kent Highway Services)  
Senior Transport Officer  
Democratic Support Officer

Apologies for absence were received from District Councillors M D Conolly, R Frayne and R S Walkden, and Mrs M Burnham.

416 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

It was noted that, in accordance with Rule 4 of the Council's Procedure Rules, Councillor S G Leith had been appointed as substitute Member for Councillor R S Walkden.

417 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Transportation Board held on 10 December 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

In respect of Minute No 331, Councillor S R Nicholas raised further concerns about Coombe Valley Road railway bridge, advising that another collision had taken place. Councillor N J Collor advised that, as a result of discussions through the Quality Bus Partnership, the bus service to Clarendon Place would be maintained using Regent Coaches.

418 ENVIRONMENT, HIGHWAYS & WASTE POLICY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

The Board received the reports submitted to the Environment, Highways & Waste Policy and Overview Committee (POC) on 10 November 2009 and the minutes of the same meeting. An update report had also been produced following the POC meeting held on 22 January 2010, and this was presented to the Board for consideration as an item of urgent business in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Referring to the update report, Mr Button advised that a review of Kent Highway Services' (KHS) winter service would be undertaken and a report produced in March. Members were encouraged to send any comments to KHS. Councillor S R Nicholas complained that minor roads had not been gritted during the snowy spell, causing many people to be confined to their homes. Councillor J A Rook expressed concern that EDF had carried out utility works in Deal precinct during the half-term week. Mr Button undertook to investigate further, but advised that emergency works were not subject to the Kent Permit Scheme. Mr Measey, having clarified who received road closure notices, undertook to circulate these to Members.

RESOLVED: That the report, Minutes and update report be noted.

#### 419 MATTERS ARISING FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS

Mr Barton referred Members to Southeastern's e-mail response to questions raised by members of the public at the Deal and Walmer Neighbourhood Forum (NF) meeting, and additional papers circulated to the Board regarding the High Speed Rail Link (HSRL) and 'Growth without Gridlock'. Southeastern's response had also been e-mailed to all those who had attended the NF meeting. Kent County Council's (KCC) Integrated Transport Team continued to apply pressure on Southeastern in respect of timetabling and services to Deal. The Board heard that a campaign had been launched to lobby for the High Speed Rail Link (HSRL) to call at Deal. Deal residents had also raised concerns about the deterioration in train services to the town since the introduction of the HSRL. Scrutiny committees at Dover District Council (DDC) and KCC were due to consider Deal train services in March and June respectively, with Southeastern due to attend DDC's Scrutiny (Community and Regeneration) Committee meeting on 5 March. It was agreed that there was a need to avoid duplicating the work of these committees.

The Board was advised that, emerging from KCC's regeneration ambitions, the 'Growth without Gridlock' Integrated Transport Strategy was an overarching document for Kent that provided a long-term vision for transport in the county. Board Members raised concerns about the level of consultation that had taken place, citing the fact that several town and parish councils had been unaware of the consultation. Some Members were also concerned that Deal – part of the Dover District Growth Point area and the location for 3 significant housing developments - had largely been overlooked by the Strategy. Mr Barton advised that the consultation period had been extended to April 2010.

- RESOLVED: (a) That consideration of train services to Deal by KCC's and DDC's Scrutiny committees be welcomed.
- (b) That, notwithstanding the technical reasons given for the HSRL service not stopping at Deal, KCC be requested to continue to apply pressure on Southeastern to review the issue of the HSRL stopping at Deal and regular train service timetabling.
- (c) That it be recommended to the KCC Executive that the town of Deal be included in the 'Growth without Gridlock' Integrated Transport Strategy for Kent.
- (d) That the Board expresses its concern about the level of consultation on strategies such as 'Growth Without

Gridlock' and requests that improvements be made to the consultation process.

420 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

Mr Barton referred the Board to a paper circulated at the meeting and gave a verbal report on a pilot project that involved the siting of Speed Indication Devices (SIDs) around the county. Under Department for Transport (DfT) regulations, SIDs could not be installed permanently but were being trialled on a rotational basis in order to enhance KHS's highways speed management. The initial phase of 24 locations had been extended to 48 locations, in accordance with the criterion which stipulated that 6 crashes had to have occurred within 500 metres of the sign's proposed location within 3 years. If successful, the pilot, due to finish in April, would be expanded. There was discussion around the issue of KCC Members using the Members' Highway Fund to purchase signs for rural areas.

RESOLVED: That the written and verbal reports be noted.

421 GRAYLEN CLOSE, NORTH DEAL – PROPOSED BOLLARDS

Mr Barton presented a report on the proposal to place two bell bollards at the junction of Northwall Road and Graylen Close in order to address concerns about the risk to pedestrians and property from lorries using the junction as a turning point. Public consultation had been undertaken on the proposal.

- RESOLVED: (a) That the installation of two bell bollards at the junction of Graylen Close and Northwall Road to improve road safety and protect the fabric of the footway be recommended for approval.
- (b) That the investigation and implementation of additional waiting restrictions near the entrance of Graylen Close and at the junction of Northwall Road and Western Road be recommended for approval.

(Councillor J A Rook withdrew from the Chamber during consideration of this item on the grounds of predetermination since she had previously expressed a written opinion on the proposal as part of public consultation.

Councillor A Friend declared a personal and prejudicial interest for the reason that he owned a property in Graylen Close and withdrew from the Chamber during consideration of this item.)

422 COXHILL ROAD AND EYTHORNE ROAD – PROPOSED CHANGE OF SPEED LIMIT

Mr Barton presented a report on proposals to extend the 30 mph speed limit in Coxhill Road and to change the speed limit from 60 mph to 40 mph in Eythorne Road. Concerns were raised about HGVs using the route through the village, but the Board was informed that the Highways Agency had declined to place additional signage on the A2 turn-off.

RESOLVED: That Officers proceed with advertising the Traffic Regulation Order in relation to the proposed changes to the speed limits

in Coxhill Road and Eythorne Road, Shepherdswell, as detailed in the report.

423 PARK STREET AND SOUTH STREET, DEAL

Mr Barton referred Members to a paper circulated at the meeting which gave the historical background to the two schemes. Councillor J A Rook advised that a group had been established comprising KCC, DDC, Deal Town Council, Members and businesses with the aim of making improvements to Deal precinct. The group could look at public realm issues relating to South Street and Park Street, with a view to using money available to it to make cosmetic improvements to South Street. Mr Barton advised that concerns relating to pedestrian safety had been raised in relation to the shared space scheme at the junction of High Street and Park Street. To address these, it was proposed to close the junction to all vehicles, which would necessitate the provision of a turning head as part of the public highway at the entrance to the Somerfield car park. Negotiations with Somerfield were ongoing, but if these failed the scheme would have to be dropped.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report and paper be noted.

424 HIGHWAY WORKS PROGRAMME 2009/10

Mr Button presented the updated Highway Works Programme 2009/10 to the Board for consideration. The Board was advised that it was proposed to abandon the pedestrian crossing in Lewisham Road, River following receipt of a valid objection from the Methodist Church which raised particular concerns about the stopping of cars for funerals and weddings. Moreover, the Road Safety Team considered that a school crossing patrol would be more appropriate.

RESOLVED: (a) That it be recommended that the pedestrian crossing scheme in Lewisham Road, River be abandoned.

(b) That the report be noted.

425 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That, under Section 100 (A) 4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the remainder of the business on the grounds that the item to be considered involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

426 APPLICATIONS FOR DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING BAYS

Mr Measey reported that the application under consideration had previously been refused as the applicant did not meet the criteria - not being in receipt of, nor eligible for, the Higher Rate Mobility Living Allowance (for those aged under 65 years) or Higher Rate Attendance Allowance (for those aged 65 years or over). Following an appeal by the applicant, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Ward and County Members had been consulted. However, no responses were received and the application was therefore being submitted to the Board for consideration.

RESOLVED: That the application be refused in accordance with Kent County Council's current guidelines.

The meeting ended at 19.35 pm.