

**DUNMOW LOCAL ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE held at 8.00 pm on
MONDAY 12 JUNE 2000 at COUNCIL OFFICES, HIGH STREET, GREAT DUNMOW**

Present:- Mr J Gregory - Takeley
Mr P G Leeder - Thaxted
Mr P G F Lewis - Hatfield Heath
Mr C Mangham - High Roding
Mrs J Roberts - Great Hallingbury
Councillor R C Smith- Uttlesford District Council
Sergeant J Sones - Traffic Management, Braintree Police

Officers in attendance:- Mrs R Johnson - Road Safety Officer
Mrs C Roberts - Secretary

DRS47 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr P Hardy - District Transportation Manager, Mr C Stoneham - Essex County Highways Department, Mr H Barbier - Stebbing Parish Council, Mrs P Wiggett - Little Bardfield Parish Council and Mr R Matthews who was retiring from representing Margaret Roding Parish Council.

DRS48 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Mr P Fuller-Lewis be elected Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year. Mr Fuller-Lewis then took the Chair. The representative for Takeley proposed a vote of thanks for Mr Fuller-Lewis's work on behalf of the Committee and Mr Fuller-Lewis thanked him from the Chair and offered his thanks to the Secretary for her support.

DRS49 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs S Flack be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

DRS50 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2000 were received, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the alteration of the word "present" in Minute DRS39, to read "apologising for absence".

DRS51 BUSINESS ARISING

(i) Minute DRS40 - Road Improvements at Little Canfield junction A120 with High Cross West

Councillor R C Smith expressed disappointment that there was no representative present from the Essex County Highways Department who could explain the position as regards

these road improvements and the use of monies provided for such works further to a Section 106 Agreement.

(ii) Minute DRS40 - Weight restrictions Stansted Airport Coopers End

The representative for Takeley informed the meeting that renewal of planning permission on the Coopers End Crossing was imminent.

(iii) Minute DRS48 - Road surface - Takeley Street

The representative for Takeley informed the meeting that the problems here had not been resolved.

(iv) Minute DRS49 - Pedestrian crossing at Takeley - Four Ashes

The representative for Takeley informed the Committee that a meeting had been held with representatives of the Essex County Highways Department and a request placed for bollards to protect pedestrians. Since then there had been incidents of cars crashing into the pavement. The Road Safety Officer asked about the local reaction to the speed of the phasing of the traffic lights.

RESOLVED that the Secretary writes to the District Transportation Manager expressing

- 1 the Committee's concern about the lack of an Essex County Highways department representative at its meeting,
- 2 the importance of information being provided to the Committee on the progress of matters set out in Minutes DRS40, DRS43, DRS48 and DRS49 arising from the last meeting and
- 3 the Committee's wish that a representative should be present to deal with these and similar matters at all further Committee meetings.

DRS52 SECRETARY'S REPORT

(i) Membership

RESOLVED that a substitute for Mr R G F Matthews, the retiring representative of Margaret Roding, be sought as soon as possible.

(ii) BAA - Weight restricted access to Airport

RESOLVED that a reply to the Committee's letter be sought from the Managing Director of BAA.

(iii) Bend at Burton End Stansted Mountfitchet

RESOLVED that the progress of Mr Gover's complaint be monitored with the Essex County Highways Department.

DRS53 ROAD SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT

The Road Safety Officer circulated a written report giving a detailed account of expenditure, road safety education, safer journeys to school, adult education, road safety campaigns, Uttlesford District Council Open Day and new resources including the purchase of a Simtec brake reaction/stopping distance simulator.

She answered questions regarding the Safer Journeys to School initiative and the progress of matters at Hatfield Heath School. Councillor R C Smith commented that the information being obtained through the Safer Journeys to School initiative would be very valuable to the planning service when considering planning near schools. The Road Safety Officer agreed to take this on board.

The Chairman of the Committee congratulated Mrs Johnson on the road safety education figure for the current academic year.

DRS54 POLICE REPORT

Sergeant Sones read a report from acting Inspector Steve Miller setting out accident statistics, which were encouraging for the Dunmow area when compared with the 1998/99 figure. Dunmow, however, had the highest number of casualties when compared with the other areas within the division. There had also been three fatal collisions within the Dunmow area since January 2000. Safety initiatives targeting seatbelts, speed, construction and use of vehicles and eyesight testing were described.

DRS55 DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER'S REPORT

The Committee received a written report from the District Transportation Manager giving details of accident remedial sites, safer journeys to school and the pedestrian crossing for Great Dunmow Junior School. Members were concerned that no Essex County Highways Department representative was present to answer questions on scheme designs or to receive Members' concerns, which on this occasion related particularly to the stretch of road from Takeley to the lights at the motorway.

The representative of Great Hallingbury informed the meeting that the current District Transportation Manager had been informed of the Parish Council's anxiety about this stretch of road and the Council had so far heard nothing. The Parish Council felt that a 40 mph limit was appropriate from Takeley as far as the lights. Hazards were being caused by drivers watching the planes at Start Hill which flew very low near Spellbrook Motors. Spellbrook Motors also provided a distraction of cars on sale on the verge of the road and a question arose as to whether this was on highway land. The hedge appeared to have been removed and the garage was now putting cars much further than the original boundary onto what might be County Highways land.

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm