

**DUNMOW LOCAL ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON
10 FEBRUARY 2003 AT COUNCIL OFFICES HIGH STREET GREAT
DUNMOW AT 8.00 PM**

Present:-	Councillor P F Lewis	-	Uttlesford District Council and Hatfield Heath Parish Council
	Mr R Fox	-	Great Dunmow Town Council
	Mr D Prail	-	Great Easton Parish Council
	Mr A Staines	-	Little Easton Parish Council
	Mr P J Leeder	-	Thaxted Parish Council
	Councillor Mrs C Cant	-	Stebbing Parish Council
	Councillor Mrs S Flack	-	Uttlesford District Council
	Mr P Hardy	-	Essex County Council Transportation and Operational Services Department
	Rose Johnson	-	Uttlesford District Council Road Safety Officer
	Alan Playle	-	Essex Police
	Cathy Roberts	-	Secretary

DRS137 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Inspector Mark Harman.

DRS138 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2002 were received, confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the amendment in Minute DRS131 of the name "Mr D Playle" to read "Mr D Prail".

Councillor Mrs Cant informed the meeting that the reference to "Stebbing Ford Pond" in Minute 136 should read just "Stebbing Ford".

DRS139 BUSINESS ARISING

The Secretary informed the meeting that as yet no reply had been received to the Committee's letter about discussion of its Minutes by the District Council's Environment and Transport Committee and said that she would pursue this.

Mr D Prail said that signs had recently been installed for the new 30mph limit and the extension of the 40 mph limit at Great Easton. He was very pleased with this progress and offered his thanks to the Highways Department.

Councillor Mrs Cant and Mr P Hardy explained that agreement had been reached with the owner of the lake causing concern at Stebbing Ford. The level and incline of the lake was to be reduced under the auspices of the Planning Department.

SECRETARY'S REPORT**(i) Dates for further meetings**

The Secretary said that she had provisionally booked the Committee Room for a meeting of the Committee on 19 May 2003. Further dates would be suggested to the next meeting when it might be clear how long the Committee Room would remain available.

Members expressed approval of the date 19 May 2003 for the next meeting of the Committee.

(ii) Correspondence

The Secretary circulated copies of correspondence received from Mr E Humphries about the junction at Four Ashes Takely, and from Mr D A Dempsey, about cleanliness of road cones and effectiveness of lighting on the Rayne By-pass.

Members discussed the problems posed by both sets of road circumstances, and heard the observations of Mr Hardy.. It was felt that the problem at Four Ashes was simply one of congestion caused by volume of traffic and that lights were the only option for the site until the completion of the new A120, when many options would become available. Meantime, the Area Manager would be reporting to the District Council's Environmental Health and Transport Committee.

As regards the Rayne By-pass, the Area Manager stated that the light problem which had been experienced had been put right very quickly. Alan Playle confirmed that a Police Safety Audit was carried out on these works every fortnight in conjunction with the fortnightly Police traffic management meeting. There had been a spate of thefts of light batteries but otherwise no complaints apart from Mr Dempsey's had been received.

ROAD SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT

The Road Safety Officer explained that she and her assistant had worked with more than 3,000 students so far this academic year.

She described the nature and impact of the performances provided by the Stopwatch Theatre Company.

She would be bringing a promotional video about "Motorwise" to the next meeting. Funding was an acute problem for the 2003 course and some schools still refused to release children for the day necessary to attend the course.

Substantial work was continuing on Safer Journeys to School, In Car Safety and testing of child safety restraints., and the Road Safety team was making new strides by taking road safety talks into relevant areas of business such as taxi driving and recycling.

A very full programme of driver campaigns was planned for the first half of 2003, including the regular five week driver awareness course run from 29 April to the end of May by Steve Woodard.

Mr D Prail, on behalf of Great Easton Parish Council, thanked Rose Johnson for obtaining 30 mph signs for the village by means of the Safer Journeys to School project, The Parish Council had tried unsuccessfully for many years to obtain them through the usual routes.

In answer to a question from Councillor Mrs S Flack, Rose Johnson and Paul Hardy explained that although permission had been given for a bus turning area and crossing place, schools would not provide parking nor allow cars onto school premises.

It was noted that there were instances of children not wearing safety belts in the back of cars and Rose Johnson stressed that parents must be firm about this.

DRS142 **POLICE REPORT**

Inspector Mark Harman had sent apologies that he was still unable to attend meetings due to his involvement in a lengthy trial. A written report from him was circulated at the meeting

Alan Playle explained that there was continued improvement. Countywide there had been 92 road deaths in the current year whereas in the previous year there had been 123 by this time of year. He gave members of the Advisory Committee a series of interesting statistics which he had drawn from the circumstances of the reported fatal accidents. In answer to a question he said that he attributed the improved figures to the combined effects of targeted enforcement by the police, particularly with cameras, continual road safety work by the road safety officers and the rolling programme of highway engineering improvements.

DRS143 **AREA TRANSPORTATION MANAGERS REPORT**

Paul Hardy gave his report as follows.

Accident Remedial Sites:

There had been two new accident remedial sites reported to the department since the last meeting, located in the south of the District, they were:

- **A120 Dunmow Road j/w Broadfield Road, Takeley.**
- **B184 Dunmow Road j/w Bacon End junction, Great Canfield.**

The position with the three accident remedial sites reported at the last meeting was:

- **B183 Dunmow Road 500 metres North of High St. Hatfield Broad Oak –** scheme ordered due to be completed by the end of February.

- **A120 between Crumps Farm & High Cross Farm Lane East** – The proposals would be superseded by the alterations being completed as part of the A120 works. The proposals had been put on hold.
- **A130 Chelmsford Road junction with B184 Chelmsford Road Great Dunmow** – measures completed.

‘Safer Journeys to School Initiative’

Three new schools from the District had been included within the Initiative for 2002/03 and a further meeting had taken place with each of the schools and the engineering measures had been agreed for two of the schools they were:

- **St. Mary’s C.E. Primary School, Castle Street, Saffron Walden** – the measures had yet to be agreed with the school.
- **Thaxted Primary School** – School zone with flashing amber lights together with some additional waiting restrictions for the ‘walking bus’ route.
- **St Thomas More RC School, South Road, Saffron Walden** – additional waiting restrictions, these had been introduced already, the introduction of a Zebra crossing for Peaslands Road and speed cushions for South Road in the vicinity of the school.

Great Easton Primary School

The widening of the footway outside the main pedestrian entrance to the school and the provision of some bollards would start during the half-term week of 17/02/2003.

Felsted Primary School

The ‘build out’ at the entrance to the slip road had been completed. It was hoped to have the speed cushions for the slip road outside the school in place by the end of February but this would be dependent on electrical works.

Mobile Safety Camera Sites

No dates were available yet for the likely implementation of the two new mobile safety camera sites at

- B1383 Cambridge/Newmarket Road, Great Chesterford (30-mph limit).
- A1060 Chelmsford Road, Hatfield Heath.

. A meeting would be held with each Parish Council prior to the sites becoming operational, to agree the location of the permanent camera signs so that approval for the signs could be sought from the DTLR.

- B1383 Cambridge/Newmarket Road, Great Chesterford (30-mph limit).
- A1060 Chelmsford Road, Hatfield Heath.

The meeting ended at 9.05 pm.