

**DUNMOW LOCAL ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE held on  
3 OCTOBER 2005 at COUNCIL OFFICES HIGH STREET  
GREAT DUNMOW at 8.00 PM**

Present:- Mr P F Lewis – Chairman

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|------------------------|---|
| Councillor Mrs C Cant  | Uttlesford District Council                     |
| Mr R Fox               | Great Dunmow Town Council                       |
| Mr J Gregory           | Takeley Parish Council                          |
| Mr P Leeder            | Thaxted Parish Council                          |
| Mr R Parr              | Hatfield Broad Oak Parish Council               |
| Councillor Mrs S Flack | Uttlesford District Council                     |
| Mrs R Johnson          | Uttlesford District Council Road Safety Officer |
| Mrs C Roberts          | Secretary                                       |

Also present:- Mr M Young – Chairman of the Uttlesford Road Safety Working Group.

**DRS239 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from, Inspector M Harman, Mr P Hardy and Mr C Stoneham.

Members asked noted that no Highways representative had attended since their office move to Harlow and asked the Secretary to inquire whether a different time or day of the week would be now more convenient for them.

**DRS240 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2005 were received, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**DRS241 BUSINESS ARISING**

**(i) Minute DRS 223 – Area Transport Manager's Report**

Members asked the Secretary to inquire about the extension of the 30 mph speed limit at Rehobeth Street, High Easter, and the agreed remedial works at High Roding and Great Canfield, and inform local members.

**(ii) Minute DRS 236 – Takeley, Four Ashes crossroads**

Mr J Gregory informed the meeting that the Takeley Parish Council was applying for double yellow lines and a temporary short term loading restriction here and that he would keep the Committee informed.

Concern was voiced by two members about late response or lack of response by Highways to planning consultations. The members thought there might be a manpower issue.

RESOLVED that a letter be sent to Councillor R Bass, the Cabinet Member for Highways at Essex County Council, inquiring about this problem.

**(iii) Minute DRS 237 – Provision of Speed Limit Message Signs**

The Chairman informed the meeting about new “Localisation” grants to be distributed by the Essex County Council for funding of capital projects jointly with Parish Councils. Money for these grants would devolve from the County Council to the Districts for local projects to support community issues. Distribution of the grants by the Districts would be subject to the agreement of six parish council chairmen so that the process would be locally accountable.

The Chairman added that some parish councils wished to apply for funding of a speed limit message sign to be shared between a few parishes.

Councillor Mrs S Flack explained that a larger Parish would have to adopt, insure and be responsible for moving the sign. Insurance was particularly important.

Councillor Mrs Cant suggested that these grants should not be available for carrying out work that other agencies should be undertaking.

Councillor Mrs Flack added that it was understood from Councillor Jowers and Peter Pearson of the Essex County Council that a shared sign would fall within the remit of the particular grant scheme.

Mr M Young informed the meeting that such a sign could be bought by a Parish for between three and four thousand pounds.

The Road Safety Officer suggested that interested parish councils should meet to discuss this at a venue large enough to accommodate all parties.

It was agreed that an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting

DRS242 **SECRETARY’S REPORT**

**(i) Membership**

Members were informed that Mr D Parker had been appointed as the representative for Great Easton Parish Council replacing Mr W Barry.

**(ii) Appointment of representatives to attend Transport and Highways Committee**

RESOLVED that Mr P F Lewis be appointed as representative to attend Transport and Highways Committee and that Councillor Mrs S Flack be appointed as deputy representative.

**DRS243 ROAD SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Road Safety Officer informed the meeting that in the summer term more than 50 cycle training courses had been held with more than 500 students taking part throughout the District. In addition summer holiday cycle training and cycle skills courses had been provided and were well attended. There was a healthy and stable number of instructors, including a new instructor at Takeley.

Impactive themes and activities around Teenage Pedestrian Deaths had been used successfully for Felsted Years 9 and 10 and for the Road Safety Stand at the U2005 Event on Saffron Walden Common.

The Road Safety Officer updated the meeting about the nine walking buses operating in the District. She commented that a further 'bus would undoubtedly be organised at Takeley because of the enthusiasm of the Head of the School there. It was noted that more parental support would be useful to support the proposed walking bus at Takeley. A re-launch of the Thaxted 'bus was planned and more meetings were scheduled about the proposed Little Hallingbury 'bus.

The Road Safety Officer gave an account of the Crucial Crew week's activities and of Motorwise, which had run for eight days to meet increased demand from Senior Schools. These two courses were only able to run because of the hard-working partnership of Uttlesford District Council Officers, Essex Road Safety Officers, Essex Police School Liaison and Traffic Officers, Essex Fire And Rescue, Essex Youth Service and FedEx Personnel.

Essex Police had been of great assistance also at the Hideout Motorcycle Day when they provided assessed ride-outs which were very much appreciated by those partaking, and at the Ladies Car Maintenance Evenings, and the Eye Testing and Drink Drive Campaigns. The Road Safety Officer said that the Team was also indebted to the Essex Fire and Rescue Service for making available the Newport Fire Station and facilities as accommodation for the Ladies Car Maintenance Evening.

The Chairman thanked the Road Safety Officer for a very comprehensive report, and for all the hard work put into the Summer's courses and events.

**DRS244 POLICE REPORT**

The Secretary distributed Inspector Harman's update on fatalities and injuries in the District. Members noted the changes in numbers of touring bikes and increased number of speeding bikes causing traffic problems particularly in the Rodings. Concern was also expressed about dangers posed by use of mini-motor bikes on the road.

**DRS245 AREA TRANSPORTATION MANAGERS REPORT**

The meeting asked that a comment be made to the Area Manager about recent attendance at the Advisory Committee.

**DRS246 THAXTED – PARKING ON THE PAVEMENTS**

Mr P Leeder expressed concern about cars parking on the pavements in several streets in Thaxted.

The Road Safety Officer explained that in the absence of complaint of breach of traffic restriction, it was difficult for the Police to act.

Councillor C A Cant informed the meeting that high kerbs had been found to provide a solution in Stebbing.

Mr Leeder said that he would ask the Parish Council to request the Police to ticket the offending cars.

**DRS247 CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES**

Councillor Mrs S Flack expressed concern about the wide draft terms of reference of the District Council's proposed new Environment Committee which was intended to cover transport and highways matters amongst others.

Councillor Mrs Cant said she thought transport and highways matters might be dealt with by area.

Councillor Mrs Flack added that it seemed the Police divisional areas were to be altered and she asked the Secretary to circulate details of consultation meetings to the Parishes.

**DRS248 LORRY ROUTES**

Mr J Gregory and Mr R Parr informed the meeting that some roads near their parishes were on point of collapse due to use by lorries in defiance of weight restrictions. They thought the low fines contributed to this undesirable situation.

Members discussed what methods could be used to ensure such lorries were reported.

**DRS249 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting would be 5 December 2005.

The meeting ended at 9 30 pm.