

**TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE held at HIGH STREET  
GREAT DUNMOW at 7.30 pm on 10 MARCH 2005**

Present:- Councillor G Sell – Vice Chairman in the Chair.  
Councillors E C Abrahams, C M Dean, D W Gregory,  
J E Menell and A M Wattbot.

Also present at the invitation of the Chairman:- Councillor S Flack.

Officers in attendance:- M Cox and J G Pine

**TH48 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors W F Bowker, B M Hughes and Peter Fuller-Lewis – representative from the Local Road Safety Advisory Committee.

**TH49 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2005 were received, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**TH50 BUSINESS ARISING**

**(i) Minute TH43 – Audley End Station to Saffron Walden Cycleway and Feasibility of Development of an Integrated Transport Package for Audley End Station**

Councillor Menell asked it to be noted that Wendens Ambo Parish Council did not want there to be a cycleway through the village. Officers confirmed that the views of the Parish Council had been made known to Mouchel Parkman who was undertaking the study that the Council was funding.

She then mentioned the new roundabout at Sparrows End and further letters from local residents who were concerned at the proposed lighting scheme. Some Members expressed concern at the County Council's lack of willingness to negotiate with locals on the design of the lighting scheme and the lack of consultation with the adjoining parish council on such a large scheme.

**(ii) Minute TH44- Fly Parking around Stansted Airport**

Members were advised that a meeting had been held between the County Council, District Council and Takeley Parish Council to discuss the issues of fly parking at Takeley. It had been agreed that local residents should be consulted on the extent of the scheme and the options of a restricted "no waiting" parking limit or the introduction of a residents parking scheme.

**(iii) Service Plans Budget and Council Priorities 2005/06**

Councillor C Dean asked about the progress of the feasibility study into a half hour tariff in the Council's short stay car parks. Officers said that they would reply to her direct.

**(iv) Minute TH39 – Statement by member of the public**

The comments made by Mr and Mrs Morgan had been put forward as part of the review of decriminalisation. Officers of the County Council were clarifying whether the area in question was highway land before giving further advice.

TH51

**PRESENTATION BY SAFFRON WALDEN INITIATIVE**

The Committee was advised that as a result of obtaining funding from Uttlesford Futures, the Saffron Walden Initiative (SWI) had carried out a study of town centre improvements that could benefit pedestrians and cyclists without excluding vehicular access. The proposals had already been publicised locally. John Reddy, the architect of the project, and Peter Riding and Councillor Stephen Jones, directors of SWI, outlined the details of the scheme and answered Members questions.

TH52

**M11 JUNCTION 4 TO 14, INITIAL ROUTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY JANUARY 2005**

The Committee received details of the Highways Agency's consultation document on the Initial Route Management Strategy (IRMS) for the M11. It was part of a series of studies being undertaken for the entire trunk road and motorway network. This study had identified 16 route outcomes, which set out what the Highway Agency sought to obtain from the M11 during the 10-year life span of the IRMS and would be used to develop a Route Management Plan (RMP).

The report commented on each of the outcomes and Members made the following additional general comments without prejudice to the consideration of any planning applications, which might result subsequently. It was hoped that any widening of the carriageway would not lead to a subsequent increase in the level of lighting. Any widening should coincide with the work to provide any new traveller care facilities that might be permitted. If it did not, any new facilities be located so as not to require relocation if the carriageway were subsequently widened. There was general support for additional junctions benefiting local access, although it was noted that it was not the Highway Agency's policy to allow additional motorway junctions. Members also questioned how this study related to the East of England Plan for additional houses.

Officers commented that the main emphasis of the IRMS was upon undertaking of studies and working with stakeholders to produce the RMP. There was concern that no timescales had been given for carrying out the studies and this might affect the Highways Agency's ability to implement the route outcomes within the 10-year period.

RESOLVED that Members pass any comments on the IRMS to officers so that they could be forwarded to the Highway Agency by the end of the consultation period on 17 April 2005

**TH53           UTTLESFORD TRANSPORT FORUM**

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Uttlesford Transport Forum held on 19 January 2005.

At Minute 5, Integrated Transport System for Audley End Station, Cllr Menell mentioned the possible extension of the car park and hoped that thought would be given to the effect of any additional lighting. Members were also advised of discussions in relation to providing access for people with disabilities to the northbound platform

**TH54           LOCAL ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

The Committee received the Minutes of the Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow Road Safety Advisory Committees held on 5 January and 7 February 2005.

Members discussed various issues arising from the minutes, in particular the increasing number of lorries that appeared to be using the A130 to Chelmsford, following the opening of the new A120. Officers advised that they had already written to the County Council portfolio holder, Councillor Bass, on this issue. Members asked that representations be made to the County regarding making the A131 the dedicated lorry route to Chelmsford. They also emphasised concern at the under funding of speed cameras.

The Locally Determined Budget would be considered at the next meeting. Members stressed the importance of an officer from ECC Highways being present at the meeting

**TH55           LAST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL YEAR**

The Chairman thanked officers and Members for their support during the year. He informed the Committee that Les Scott – the Council's parking Enforcement Manager had been called up to serve in Iraq for 6 months. On behalf of the Committee he wished him well and expressed thanks to Mr Scott for all his work in the introduction of decriminalisation.

The meeting ended at 9.05pm