

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

30 November 2009

Report of the Interim Director of Kent Highway Services

Part 1- Public

Matters For Information

1 PETITIONS SUBMITTED TO KENT HIGHWAY SERVICES

Summary

An update on petitions currently being considered by Kent Highway Services (KHS) and information on fresh submissions.

1.1 Petitions currently under consideration

1.1.1 In keeping with recent practice, this report on petitions received by KHS is a standing item on the Board's agenda paper. For this meeting, KHS will be considering the following four items:

- Priory Road Bridge Bashing Incidents
- Holmes Court, Medway Wharf Road, Tonbridge.
- A228 / Kent Street Junction Improvements
- Road Safety Measures along Walderslade Woods Road

1.2 Priory Road Bridge Bashing Incidents

1.2.1 A site visit is pending and information will be relayed to Members in advance of the next meeting of the Board.

1.3 Holmes Court, Medway Wharf Road, Tonbridge

1.3.1 Kent Highway Services have received a letter signed on behalf of 18 residents of Holmes Court, Medway Wharf Road, Tonbridge requesting a safe cross-over for residents to cross at this junction to access the local shops.

1.3.2 Kent Highway Services have met with the lead petitioner to discuss their concerns and have carried out traffic and pedestrian surveys for this location. Once the results of these surveys have been analysed KHS will report back to this Board.

1.4 A228 / Kent Street Junction Improvements

- 1.4.1 As reported orally to the last meeting of the Board, Kent Highway Services received a petition signed by 42 residents of Mereworth requesting safety improvements to the junction of Kent Street and the A228 for drivers and pedestrians.
- 1.4.2 Officers and the Cabinet Member for Highways have meet with the petitioners, members and local representatives to discuss potential improvements. Officers are now in discussions with adjacent land owners to secure land to improve visibility splays and provide a new footway.
- 1.4.3 Subsequently a further petition has been submitted signed by 56 residents registering continued concerns over the junction and supporting the proposals discussed.
- 1.4.4 Land owners agent has now accepted that a quid quo pro proposal at Brewers Hall Farm is not equitable. Dialogue is now regarding the market value of the land and further input is required from Chartered Surveyors.

1.5 Road Safety Measures along Walderslade Woods Road

- 1.5.1 Kent Highway Services have received a petition from Mrs Gillian Tatnell from Walderslade Woods with 212 signatures requesting a reduction in speed limit with traffic islands and hatching. The petition has received the support of Boxley Parish Council. As Walderslade Woods Road falls within both Maidstone and Tonbridge and Malling Boroughs this petition has been reported to both Joint Transportation Boards.
- 1.5.2 Kent Highway Services are currently investigating this request and have commissioned speed and vehicle surveys. Unfortunately since early summer we have been dealing with an unusually large number of traffic survey requests, whilst contending with various installation procedure changes, staffing changes, holidays and other enforced leave, and a data collection problem experienced with existing survey tube stocks. These varied problems allied with existing commitments to annual KHS workloads have meant that we have been unable to complete work as we would have liked to. However, the surveys proposed for Walderslade Woods are planned to be carried out week beginning 23rd November 2009. The results of these surveys and our investigations will be reported back to the next meetings of both Maidstone & Tonbridge & Malling Joint Transportation Boards.

1.6 Petitions received since the last meeting

- 1.6.1 None

1.7 Legal Implications

1.7.1 None at this stage

1.8 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.8.1 As reported.

1.9 Risk Assessment

1.9.1 Not applicable.

1.10 Policy Considerations

1.10.1 Community

Background papers:

Nil

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