

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

07 March 2011

Report of the 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).

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 items:

- Priory Road Bridge Bashing Incidents
- Holmes Court, Medway Wharf Road, Tonbridge.
- A228 / Kent Street Junction Improvements
- A20 Wrotham Hill
- Greenfrith Drive & neighbouring roads – school related parking
- Traffic volume and congestion on the High Street, East Malling
- Traffic volume and speed of traffic along Vines Lane, Hildenborough

1.1.2 Further petitions have been received since the last meeting of this Board.

- The withdrawal of the Arriva 101 Service from Bus Stops at Cobtree Golf Course and Salisbury Road, Kits Coty

1.2 Priory Road Bridge Bashing Incidents

1.2.1 In follow up and to confirm the report on this issue at the last JTB; additional signing has been identified and templates are being designed. Implementation is currently intended via 2011/12 funding allocations. This item will be reported again at the next meeting of this Board.

1.3 Holmes Court, Medway Wharf Road, Tonbridge

- 1.3.1 As previously reported Kent Highway Services had 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 A scheme is now proposed to be funded by a combination of developers to assist pedestrians crossing from Holmes Court and Ashby's Yard to the town centre and encourage vehicles to use Medway Wharf Road and Sovereign Way as opposed to the High Street in line with the objectives set out in the Town Centre Area Action Plan.
- 1.3.3 Outline design is still currently to be programmed as a Section 106 agreement for Ashby's Yard is yet to be signed. Members will be updated at the next JTB.

1.4 A228 / Kent Street Junction Improvements

- 1.4.1 Cross referencing with the Highway Improvement Schemes paper to this Board and in particular under Developer Funded (Section 106) schemes; a sum has been identified from the Kings Hill development which is appropriate to both design and fund implementation of the A228/Kent Street junction scheme. Namely:-

Kings Hill	£1m for Local traffic management and calming measures benefitting pedestrian and cyclists.	1st instalment of £100k for monitoring/design to be requested.
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- 1.4.2 The threshold for receipt of the £100k element has been passed and a formal request for delivery of this funding has been made. Updates regarding the progression of this scheme will continue.

1.5 A20 Wrotham Hill

- 1.5.1 As previously reported a petition was received from the local County, Borough and Parish councillors regarding recent fatal road traffic crashes on the A20 at Wrotham Hill. A study of the crash records has been undertaken. There have been two very regrettable fatal crashes in the last three years, one of which involved three fatalities and another causing the death of a cyclist. The circumstances of these crashes are unusual and the strongest pattern of crashes involves rear end shunts.
- 1.5.2 At the last meeting of this Board it was considered that surface treatment to the roundabout approaches could be justified; adding this to remedial proposals arising from crash cluster analysis work that is currently being undertaken. However, as with all budgets for next financial year, the budget for crash remedial measures will be limited. It is unlikely that use of this allocation could be given to anything that is not identified on this years crash cluster (or black site) list.

1.6 Greenfrith Drive & neighbouring roads – school related parking

- 1.6.1 This petition signed by 62 residents expressed concerns about school related traffic resulting in residents' drives being blocked. The petition requested the installing of access protection markings.
- 1.6.2 Residents have now been given all the relevant information to apply for Access Protection Markings. Currently it is not considered that this issue needs further reporting to future meetings of this Board.

1.7 Traffic Volume and Congestion on the High Street, East Malling

- 1.7.1 A petition has been received signed by 32 residents of East Malling concerned over the heavy flow of traffic using the High Street. The petition states residents' regularly suffer being disturbed by horns, abusive language and threatening behaviour from motorists who experience regular grid lock on the road. The petition is appended to this report at **Annex 1**.
- 1.7.2 Particular reference is made in the petition to closure of the A228 last summer and incidences which required Police involvement. Whilst the petition brings concerns to the Highway Authority, it is not understood if a preferred way forward or solution is expressed or proposed.
- 1.7.3 Members may be aware that Kent Highway Services have been working in association with the Borough Council over the East Malling parking plan and at the last JTB this Board was advised that speed and traffic volume information is to be gathered. Regrettably the restricted conditions in East Malling (namely at Chapel Street) is proving problematic to safely install a traffic counter across the road without additional temporary traffic management measures in place to undertake this (for a duration of approximately 1 - 1.5 hrs to install and 3/4hr to uninstall one week later).
- 1.7.4 At the time of writing it is understood that a quote for temporary traffic management has been obtained from Ringway by Jacobs Traffic Data Team, although clarification of the method and procedures involved is being sought. It is hoped that a further verbal update on this issue can be made at the time of the JTB.

1.8 Traffic volume and speed of traffic along Vines Lane, Hildenborough

- 1.8.1 This petition signed by 37 residents of Vines Lane, Hildenborough has requested action be taken to traffic calm Vines Lane before a serious accident occurs to pedestrians due to the speed and volume of traffic.
- 1.8.2 The lead petitioner has been informed that the petition will be investigated and at the last JTB it was expected that the results of surveys would be available for comment and discussion at this JTB. Whilst safe installation of the counting equipment is not an issue here as at East Malling, the periods of bad weather since the last JTB and staff availability and transport (vans) during these periods

has led to the delays in this instance (this has also been a factor in the East Malling surveys and all other request across the County prior and post Christmas).

- 1.8.3 At the time of this JTB it is expected that the surveys for Vines lane will have been completed. The data will need to be processed, validated, issued and analysed. A further update will be given to the next meeting of this Board.

1.9 The withdrawal of the Arriva 101 Service from Bus Stops at Cobtree Golf Course and Salisbury Road, Kits Coty

- 1.9.1 At the last meeting of this Board it was reported that a petition had been submitted calling for the reinstatement of the 101 Bus Service to the Cobtree Golf Course and Salisbury Road, Kits Coty Bus Stops

- 1.9.2 It was agreed that further quotes would be obtained for the preferred option at the Cobtree Golf Course in an attempt to reduce the cost. To obtain further quotes a detailed design and safety audit of the option was required and this has now been completed. KHS are now in a position to obtain the further quotes.

- 1.9.3 With regards to the Salisbury Road, Kits Coty stop it was reported that to upgrade the stop would cost over £200k. This cost is beyond any funding currently available therefore, Kent Highway Services are arranging a meeting with local Members to discuss what alternatives can be investigated

1.10 Legal Implications

- 1.10.1 N/A

1.11 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.11.1 As outlined in the report

1.12 Risk Assessment

- 1.12.1 N/A

Background papers:

Nil

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