

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

MINUTES

Monday, 6th March, 2023

Present: County Cllr H Rayner (Chair), Cllr R P Betts, Cllr D A S Davis, Cllr M Taylor, Cllr D Thornewell, County Cllr Mrs S Hohler, County Cllr M Hood, County Cllr S Hudson and County Cllr P Stepto.

(Note: As Borough Councillor R I B Cannon was unable to attend in person and participated via MS Teams they were unable to vote on any matters).

In attendance: Councillor R V Roud was also present pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No 15.21.

Mr Owen Baldock and Mrs W Palmer were also present on behalf of the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC).

Virtual: Mr David Gaunt (KALC) and Councillors Mrs J A Anderson, P A Bates, V M C Branson, R I B Cannon, Mrs A S Oakley, M R Rhodes, T Shaw, K B Tanner and Mrs M Tatton participated via MS Teams and joined the discussion when invited to do so by the Chair in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 15.21.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P J Montague (Vice-Chair), R I B Cannon, County Cllr Mrs T Dean and County Cllr A Kennedy.

PART 1 - PUBLIC

JTB 23/1 NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

There were no substitute Members for this meeting.

JTB 23/2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

JTB 23/3 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Transportation Board held on 21 November 2022 be approved as a

correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendment:

- Minute JTB 22/27, Proposed Single Yellow Line Waiting Restrictions – Oldbury Lane, whereby the recommendation to be amended to read 'Old Lane Junction A25 Only'.

MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION

JTB 23/4 INVOLVEMENT IN HIGHWAY ASPECTS OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members received the report of the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, Kent County Council which advised of involvement in the highway aspects of planning applications.

There was in depth discussion and a number of concerns were raised, including the confidentiality of pre-application advice and non-disclosure under a Freedom of Information request due to the potential effect on the commercial viability of the site and that the response of the Highways Authority on planning applications could not take into account assumptions or opinions of the local community.

Members questioned whether Kent County Council officers considered comments submitted via the Local Planning Authority by members of the public, Members and other organisations; whether a Parish Council could claim costs associated with the engagement of a highways engineer whose opinion contradicted that of Kent County Council officers; and if due regard was given to heavier vehicles, parking requirements, off road parking and garage sizes when a planning application was considered. Members were advised that comments raised at the meeting would be responded to by Kent County Council officers.

JTB 23/5 ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE

The report of Kent County Council Highways and Transportation provided an update on Kent County Council's Active Travel agenda.

During discussion, Members believed that there could be improved connections between public right of ways and questioned the likelihood of funding to reconstruct the collapsed section of the Medway Towpath, Aylesford and sought details of any data analysis undertaken to determine the popularity of the link. Furthermore, Members asked how funding for the development of a Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan would be used.

JTB 23/6 HIGHWAYS FORWARD WORKS PROGRAMME 2022/23 AND 2023/24

The report of the Kent County Highways, Transportation and Waste summarised schemes programmed for delivery in 2022/23 and provided an update on Road, Footway and Cycleway Renewal and Preservation Schemes (Appendix A), Drainage Repairs and Improvements (Appendix B), Street Lighting (Appendix C), Transportation and Safety Schemes (Appendix D), Developer Funding Works (Appendix E), Bridge Works (Appendix F), Traffic Systems (Appendix G) and the Combined Members Grant (Appendix H).

Members sought an update on the developer funded works for junction improvements at London Road/New Road, East Malling and associated land ownership issues; and the proposed additional cleansing and CCTV survey to expand the survey area between New Road and new Hythe Lane to address the flooding issues. Furthermore, reassurance was sought that the programmed machine resurfacing works on the A25 Borough Green would be undertaken on 5 June 2023 and would not be postponed further.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE**JTB 23/7 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no items considered in private.

The meeting ended at 8.18 pm