

## Epping Forest District LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL MINUTES

3 April 2023

5.00pm – 6.00pm

### Virtual Meeting on MS Teams

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| <b>Chairman:</b>          | Councillor S Kane (ECC)  |
| <b>Panel Members:</b>     | Councillor C Whitbread (ECC)<br>Councillor J McIvor (ECC)<br>Councillor C Pond (ECC)<br>Councillor M Vance (ECC)<br><br>Councillor I Hadley (EFDC)<br>Councillor H Kane (EFDC)<br>Councillor A Lion (EFDC)<br>Councillor D Wixley (EFDC) |
| <b>Other Councillors:</b> | Councillor K Williamson (EFDC)   |
| <b>Officers:</b>          | Dan McClean – Highways Liaison Team Leader (Essex Highways)<br>Jenny Boxall – Highways Liaison Officer (Essex Highways)<br><br>Mandy Thompson – Service Manager, Technical (EFDC)  |
| <b>Secretariat:</b>       | Gary Woodhall – Team Manager Democratic & Electoral Services (EFDC)  |

| Item |   | Owner |
|------|---|-------|
| 1.   | <b>Welcome and Introductions</b><br><br>The Chairman welcomed Members, Officers and Guests present.   |       |
| 2.   | <b>Apologies</b><br><br>Apologies had been received from Cllr H Whitbread.<br><br><b>Declarations of Interest</b><br><br>There were no declarations of interest pursuant to the Council's Code of Member Conduct. |       |

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| 3. | <p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2023 be agreed by the Panel as a true record.</p>   |               |
| 4. | <p><b>Matters Arising from Minutes of the previous meeting.</b></p> <p>Cllr Wixley acknowledged that the cost for installing a new salt bin in Goldingham Avenue (202036) had now reduced to £6,000 but still felt that this cost was excessive. The HLTL believed that it was necessary to purchase some land for the salt bin but agreed to confirm the breakdown of the cost for circulation after the meeting.</p>   | <b>DMC</b>    |
| 5. | <p><b>Report on Funded Schemes</b></p> <p>The HLTL updated Members on the Funded Schemes list and advised that the £200,000 additional funding for 2022/23 had not been released. Therefore, the budget position was actually £116,082 in deficit not £83,918 unspent.</p> <p>The HLTL added that the scheme for Ice Warning signs at Vicarage Lane (LEPP202033) had now been completed, and that the Panel could re-commission all of the remaining uncompleted schemes that were due for completion in Q4 of 2022/23. This would clear all of the outstanding schemes prior to the recommendation of any new schemes.</p> <p>The HLTL stated that the design work had been completed for all of the outstanding schemes, but the County Council would need to approve the slipping of all of these schemes into 2023/24. If the Panel were in agreement, then the HLTL would report back if there were any issues.</p> <p>Cllr A Lion stated that residents in Grange Crescent and Manor Road, Chigwell had been waiting 4 years for the requested parking layby (LEPP192041) to be implemented, and he would be in favour of this scheme being re-commissioned.</p> <p>Cllr Vance advised that for scheme LEPP202015, the installation of speed humps in Smarts Lane, Loughton, the southern end of the Lane had been completed but not the northern end. The HLTL responded that an estimate to complete the remaining works would be required and he would report back to the Panel.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>(1) That the outstanding schemes on the Funded Schemes List for 2022/23 be re-commissioned for 2023/24.</p> | <b>DMC/JB</b> |
| 6. | <p><b>Report on Schemes Awaiting Funding</b></p> <p><u>Carriageway Improvements Budget</u></p> <p>The HLTL presented the list of schemes awaiting funding and advised that there had been a change in scope with at least £123,000 being allocated for</p>   | <b>DMC/JB</b> |

Carriageway Improvements (CIs). The Panel would be asked to prioritise the schemes listed under CIs.

The HLTL added that all of the Panels across Essex contributed to the Safer Road Schemes (SRS), whereby any schemes considered had to have had at least 4 collisions at the location in the past year. No recommendations had been made by any of the Panels and hence the 'Commissioned Schemes' and 'To be Allocated' columns were greyed out in the report.

Cllr S Kane highlighted that if a location was on the route of 'Ride London' then all defects would be repaired in preparation.

The HLTL confirmed that footpath schemes and minor works were included within CIs and that the Panel would be given three lists to prioritise:

- (i) Carriageway Improvements.
- (ii) Footway schemes; and
- (iii) Footway minor repairs.

As many schemes as possible would be repaired in priority order until the budget was fully spent.

Cllr C Whitbread added that the budget for CIs was supplementary to the existing maintenance budget and was confident that this additional money would improve matters across the district.

Cllr McIvor highlighted that communication with District and Local Councillors would be important in identifying defects across the district.

Cllr S Kane pointed out that not all potholes would be fixed but the aim would be to repair the more serious ones across the district. The Panel needed to ensure that it was getting the best value from the allocated budget, and the Panel would have to agree a priority list of schemes – possibly 3 schemes to be suggested by each County Councillor.

#### Other Schemes

The HLTL stated that the other schemes on the list had an estimated cost of £609,000 in total, for which there was £174,800 remaining in the 2023/24 budget. As the Panel had agreed to progress the slipped schemes from the Funded Scheme List for 2022/23, there were no further recommendations to be made at this point.

It was suggested that this list should be considered at the next meeting of the Panel and that each member should select two key schemes from the list for consideration. If any new schemes arose before the next meeting, then it should be added to the list for validation in the normal manner.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That a priority list of schemes under the Carriageway Improvements budget be considered and agreed at the next meeting with a maximum of three schemes to be suggested by each County Councillor member; and

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|           | (2) That the remaining items on the Schemes Awaiting Funding list be reviewed at the next meeting with each member selecting two key schemes for consideration.   |               |
| <b>7.</b> | <p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Cllr Vance requested an update on the request for 3 salt bins to be installed on the High Road, Buckhurst Hill. This location was already the subject of scheme LEPP222012. The HLTL stated that it would be more efficient and cheaper to get the works gang to install the salt bins when there were already in location. Cllr Vance agreed to raise a further maintenance work request.</p> <p>Cllr Wixley enquired if there had been any progress on the proposed replacement or repairing of bus shelters. Cllr Vance stated that the update had been delayed until September 2023 now but had asked Loughton Town Council if they would be prepared to pay for the new bus shelter in Loughton. The HLTL would try to obtain further information and circulate it to the Panel.</p> <p>Questions were asked by the Panel regarding the enforcement of 'red lines' within the district; the HLTL undertook to obtain further information from the North Essex Parking Partnership for the Panel.</p> | <b>DMC/JB</b> |
| <b>8.</b> | <p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Epping Forest District Local Highways Panel would be on 3 July 2023 at 7.00pm.</p> <p>Further dates for the 2023/24 municipal year were agreed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 11 September 2023.</li> <li>- 15 January 2024; and</li> <li>- 11 March 2024.</li> </ul>   | <b>GJW</b>    |