

COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS from 24 March 2010 meeting

Local Joint Committee for Albrighton Area

Item

7

Public

Comments/Questions/Suggestions	From	Response Requested From	Response/Action
<p>A member of the public said that he had asked a question at the last meeting regarding the quality standard of street furniture and in particular what the Highways Authority is required to provide and that this had not been recorded.</p>		<p>Tom McCabe (Answer previously provided at 10 February 2010 meeting in response to issue raised on 8 October 2009)</p>	<p>Having liaised with colleagues I can confirm that there is not a standard approach for street furniture across Shropshire as the built landscape is so varied. Each proposed street enhancement scheme is considered on its merits with reference to local history, established design indicators etc.</p>
<p>Mr Rod Smith who had made a presentation at the last meeting of the committee regarding the missing stretch of footpath in Elm Road, Albrighton expressed his concern that no reference to this item was included in the feedback sheet. In addition he wanted to know what response had been to the committees' request.</p>	<p>Tom McCabe Hugh Dannett</p>	<p>Hugh Dannett Group Manager Traffic & Highway Engineering</p>	<p>The additional cost of providing this short length of footway is estimated to be £20,000. However there is a side issue of land ownership/encroachment in this area which would need to be resolved before construction.</p> <p>We unfortunately do not have the additional funds for this financial year. As we had promised we have decided to progress the remainder of the scheme.</p> <p>The inclusion of the Elm Road footway would result in a delay to the scheme.</p> <p>Works are programmed to start on site on 12th April 2010.</p>

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<p>Another resident commented about the number of road signs that were located on the stretch of road from The Bell Public House along the A41 in the direction of its junction with the M54. He said that these signs were not speed limit signs but felt there were too many in an area of outstanding beauty and that if there were any that were unnecessary that they should be removed.</p>	<p>Glyn Shaw Senior Traffic Engineer Traffic Management and Regulation</p>		<p>I have now had the benefit of a drive through along this section. Most of the signage is traffic directional and is laid out and designed to DfT trunk road standard, as I suspected. There is evidence that some of the signs have been replaced as part of the maintenance regime, on a "like for like" basis. Large lower case lettering is used as would be the case on a road of this character, with derestricted approach speeds (60mph for cars and motorcycles, 40mph for HGV's). Although this road is now de-trunked it is still used as such by many drivers, especially truckers who use it as a direct route from the Irish ferries at Holyhead to Birmingham and beyond, and vice-versa. Given the foregoing, I take the view that the size and frequency of the signage is still appropriate for the character of the road, being visible and legible from a vehicle travelling at derestricted speeds at an appropriate and safe distance to allow for reaction time.</p>
<p>Further information was given regarding a question that was asked at the previous meeting concerning gates to properties in Ashgrove that back onto Garridge Close, Albrighton. Many of the occupants of those properties had installed gates so that they could gain access onto Garridge Close. In response, the Chairman said that</p>	<p>Meeting with residents of Ashgrove</p>		<p>Please see the attached notes of a meeting held on 29th March 2010.</p>

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<p>there may be a question of right of access over the land that could prevent the continuation of this use.</p>			
<p>A question was raised about parking in Ashgrove, Albrighton the questioner said that the road was in an awful condition. It had been suggested that that an area of land could be cleared and used as a parking area but that there were some underground pipes that would not be able to support the weight of the parked vehicles. It was agreed that this issue should be taken up with the appropriate Highways Officer.</p>	<p>Meeting with residents of Ashgrove</p>		<p>Please see the attached notes of a meeting held on 29th March 2010.</p>
<p>An issue was raised at a previous meeting regarding the approval of a planning application relating to The Hollies and a questioner asked why an amended application had been approved. Stuart West (Chairman of the Southern Planning Committee) said that the application related to the design of the proposal and did not impact on the access to the site, which was the questioners' main concern. Another person said that work was commenced on New Years day and that the area was flattened. Stuart West added that action could only be taken against the owner if protected trees had been removed and that he would look into what had occurred. Other comments were made about the use of the lay-by by buses. He agreed that he would look into this and report back to the committee.</p>		<p>Stuart West to advice on progress</p>	<p>The trees that were removed from the site were not the subject of Tree Preservation Orders and the owner was entitled to remove them. Once the building works are complete screening will go ahead.</p>
<p>Several comments regarding the usage of the skateboard park were made and how it is managed and locked up. Martin Stephens said that he would speak to the management committee to address the issues and concerns raised.</p>			