

BRAINTREE LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL MINUTES - 31st March 2022 4.00pm

Virtual Meeting (not held in public)

Chairman:	Councillor C Siddall (Chairman)	(ECC)
Panel Members:	Councillor Mrs L Bowers-Flint	(ECC)
	Councillor G Butland	(ECC)
	Councillor T Cunningham	(ECC)
	Councillor D Louis	(ECC)
	Councillor R Playle	(ECC)
	Councillor P Schwier	(ECC)
	Councillor P Thorogood	(ECC)
	Councillor Mrs M Cunningham	(BDC)
	Councillor P Euesden	(BDC)
	Councillor R van Dulken	(BDC)
Councillor Mrs S Wilson	(BDC)	
	Councillor D Gronland	(BALC)
Officers:	Charlotte O'Connell - Highways Liaison Officer, Essex Highways	
	Samir Pandya – Operations Strategy and Policy Manager (BDC)	
	Justin Styles - Design Manager, Essex Highways	
	Also in Attendance:-	
	Corinne Foster – Governance and Members Officer (BDC)	
	Neil Jones – Principal Planner (BDC)	
	Jon Simmons - Senior Highways Liaison Officer, Essex Highways	
Secretariat:	Alison Webb – Governance and Members Officer (BDC)	
	(ECC - Essex County Council)	
	(BDC - Braintree District Council)	
	(BALC - Braintree Association of Local Councils)	

Item		Owner
1.	Welcome and Introductions: Councillor C Siddall welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	Apologies for Absence, Declarations of Interest and Public Questions:	

<p>Apologies for Absence:</p> <p>An apology for absence was received from Ms L Hinman - Area Manager, North Essex Parking Partnership.</p> <p>Declarations of Interest:</p> <p>There were no interests declared.</p> <p>Public Questions:</p> <p>The meeting was not held in public, but the Chairman allowed two people to make statements, the details of which are set out below.</p> <p>Also, the Chairman invited Councillor S Dedman, representing Finchingfield Parish Council, to attend the meeting. Councillor Dedman did not ask a question or make a statement.</p> <p><u>Statement by Councillor J Cockell for Hatfield Peverel Parish Council</u></p> <p>Councillor Cockell made reference to the following schemes which were listed within the 'Schemes Awaiting Funding' report (Agenda Item 6). Councillor Cockell explained that the schemes related to potential traffic calming measures in Hatfield Peverel and Nounsley.</p> <p>LBRA212015 – Traffic management improvements (speed survey), Station Road/Terling Road, Hatfield Peverel (in validation)</p> <p>Councillor Cockell stated that vehicles were driven at speeds in excess of 30mph in this area on a daily basis and to and from the railway station. The area was also used by pedestrians walking to and from the station. It was considered that the construction of 140 new dwellings on the former Arla dairy site would exacerbate the problem.</p> <p>LBRA212022 - Traffic management improvements (speed survey), Church Road, Hatfield Peverel (validated and assessed to have a red RAG status due to a speed survey showing good compliance with the existing 30mph limit)</p> <p>Councillor Cockell stated that the village schools were located between two, effectively blind, bends and permitted parking on one side of the road reduced the carriageway to one vehicle width. Pedestrians had to cross the road between parked cars, which meant that drivers of approaching vehicles had limited vision. It was considered that 20mph was an appropriate speed limit in the vicinity of a school.</p>	
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<p>3.</p>	<p>Minutes:</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting of Braintree Local Highways Panel held on 27th January 2022 were approved as a correct record.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 27th January 2022:</p> <p><u>Minute 6 - 'Schemes Awaiting Funding'</u> (New Process for Vehicle Activated Signs and/or Speed Indicator Devices)</p> <p>Reference was made to previous discussions by Members of the Panel regarding the new process implemented by Essex Highways, which enabled Parish, Town and District Councils to request, purchase and erect Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) and/or Speed Indicator Devices (SID) under a licence arrangement. Any such requests would be determined by Essex County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport. Previously, the Local Highways Panel had considered such requests, but could only recommend them for approval if a speed survey had identified a significant speeding problem.</p> <p>In response to a question by Councillor R van Dulken it was clarified that, if preferred, Councils could still ask the Panel to consider a VAS and/or SID request as previously.</p> <p>Action By: Charlotte O'Connell, Essex Highways. To send a copy of the report regarding Essex Highways' new procedure for dealing with requests by Parish, Town and District Councils for Vehicle Activated Signs and/or Speed Indicator Devices to Councillor R van Dulken.</p> <p><u>Minute 6 - 'Schemes Awaiting Funding'</u> (LBRA152064 - Signalised crossing, A131, Panners roundabout adj. to Hungry Horse Public House, Great Notley)</p> <p>Reference was made to an issue raised by Councillor G Butland at the last meeting of the Panel regarding the status of scheme LBRA152064 - signalised crossing, A131, Panners roundabout adj. to Hungry Horse Public House, Great Notley and whether the scheme was to be processed as a project for possible capital funding, or via the Highways Panel. It had been agreed that Essex Highways Officers should investigate the current status of the scheme.</p> <p>Councillor Butland was pleased to report that he had subsequently discussed the matter with Justin Styles, Design Manager, Essex Highways and Charlotte O'Connell, Highways</p>	<p>(C O'Connell - HLO)</p>

	<p>Liaison Officer, Essex Highways, who were dealing with it and would be submitting a report.</p>	
5.	<p>Funded Schemes 2021/22:</p> <p>Consideration was given to a report on the Panel’s Funded Schemes for 2021/22, which had been recommended for approval. The report provided an update on the current position of all schemes in the 2021/22 programme of work.</p> <p>Members of the Panel were reminded that funding of £407,789 had originally been allocated to Braintree Local Highways Panel for the year 2021/22. Subsequently, a further £200,000 had been allocated making a total of £607,789 available for expenditure in 2021/22.</p> <p>It was reported that £399,500 of the Panel’s budget had been allocated to various schemes within the programme of work and that £7,500 had been allocated specifically to safer roads schemes, making a total commitment of £407,000.</p> <p>In discussing this Item, reference was made to scheme LBRA173006 – Zebra crossing, South of Stubbs Lane, Cressing Road, Braintree, which Councillor P Thorogood had agreed to cancel following the receipt of objections. Therefore, a sum of £81,000 was available for re-allocation and expenditure.</p> <p>DECISION: That the report be noted and that the following scheme be removed from the report:-</p> <p>LBRA173006 – Zebra crossing, South of Stubbs Lane, Cressing Road, Braintree Estimated Cost:- £81,000 Reason for Cancellation:- Decision by Councillor P Thorogood following the receipt of objections.</p>	
6.	<p>Schemes Awaiting Funding:</p> <p>Consideration was given to a ‘Schemes Awaiting Funding’ report, which included details of requests received for funding from the Panel’s budget.</p> <p>Members of the Panel were advised that Essex County Council had allocated £407,600 to Braintree Local Highways Panel for the financial year 2022/23. It had also been agreed that additional funding of £200,000 should be allocated to the Panel, as in the previous financial year. The County Council had also agreed that casualty reduction schemes should be funded from a central fund derived from the budgets of each of the Local Highways Panels across the County. This would reduce the</p>	

	<p>budget allocation for the Braintree Panel by £59,612. Sums of £100,000 additional funding and £177,594 re-profiled funding from 2021/22 remained available for expenditure. However, it was reported that five schemes which had been approved and designated for completion in 2021/22 had slipped to 2022/23. These schemes totalled £128,000 and were:</p> <p>LBRA198001 - Creation of Public Right of Way, Church Road, Rivenhall Estimated Cost:- £3,000</p> <p>LBRA168003 - Public Right of Way improvements, Byway 43, Steeple Bumpstead Estimated Cost:- £45,500</p> <p>LBRA173005 - Zebra crossing, outside Templars School, Crossing Road, Witham Estimated Cost:- £67,000</p> <p>LBRA192048 - Road narrowing signage, Head Street, Halstead Estimated Cost:- £6,000</p> <p>LBRA215002 - Echelon parking, Manor Street, Braintree Estimated Cost:- £6,500</p> <p>Therefore, a total of £697,583 was available for expenditure by the Panel in 2022/23.</p> <p>The total value of unallocated schemes on the potential schemes list was £351,500. In discussing these schemes, reference was made to an E-Mail which had been sent to Essex County Council Members of the Panel by Charlotte O'Connell indicating which of the schemes could be implemented. It was agreed that this E-Mail should be sent to Braintree District Council and BALC Members of the Panel too. Reference was also made to some typographical errors within the report and it was agreed that these should be amended. Councillors raised queries also regarding the schemes which had been transferred from the 2021/22 programme of work to the 2022/23 programme and Charlotte O'Connell agreed to contact these Councillors individually to provide the requisite information.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that a number of schemes, including those which individual Members had identified as their top priorities, were still subject to validation and had not been included in the current 'Schemes Awaiting Funding' report. However, it was anticipated that an update on these schemes and any others submitted would be reported to the next meeting of the Panel.</p>	
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<p>Action By: Charlotte O’Connell - Highways Liaison Officer, Essex Highways:-</p> <p>(1) To send a copy of the E-Mail indicating which schemes listed on the ‘Schemes Awaiting Funding’ report could be implemented to the Braintree District Council and BALC Members of the Panel.</p> <p>(2) To amend the typographical errors within the report.</p> <p>(3) To provide information to Councillors who have raised queries about the schemes which have been transferred from the 2021/22 programme of work to the 2022/23 programme.</p> <p>DECISION:</p> <p>(1) That it be noted that the following schemes, which had previously been included in the 2021/22 programme of work, have been transferred to the 2022/23 programme of work:-</p> <p>LBRA198001 - Creation of Public Right of Way, Church Road, Rivenhall Estimated Cost:- £3,000</p> <p>LBRA168003 - Public Right of Way improvements, Byway 43, Steeple Bumpstead Estimated Cost:- £45,500</p> <p>LBRA173005 - Zebra crossing, outside Templars School, Cressing Road, Witham Estimated Cost:- £67,000</p> <p>LBRA192048 - Road narrowing signage, Head Street, Halstead Estimated Cost:- £6,000</p> <p>LBRA215002 - Echelon parking, Manor Street, Braintree Estimated Cost:- £6,500</p> <p>(2) That the following schemes be recommended for approval and included in the programme of work for 2022/23:-</p> <p><u>Traffic Management</u></p> <p>LBRA162026 - Quiet Lane, Sheepcotes Lane, Silver End Estimated Cost:- £8,000</p> <p>LBRA162030 - Quiet Lane, Tey Road and America Road, Earls Colne Estimated Cost:- £9,500</p>	<p>(C O’Connell - HLO)</p>
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	<p>LBRA162031 - Quiet Lane, Newhouse Road and Nightingale Hall Road, Earls Colne Estimated Cost:- £8,000</p> <p>LBRA162038 - Quiet Lane, Boley Road, White Colne Estimated Cost:- £10,500</p> <p>LBRA172006 - Quiet Lane, Sages End Road, Helions Bumpstead Estimated Cost:- £8,000</p> <p>LBRA172042 - Quiet Lane, Sunnyfields Road, Braintree Estimated Cost:- £5,000</p> <p>LBRA192007 – Quiet Lane, Elms Hall Road, Colne Engaine Estimated Cost:- £3,000</p> <p>LBRA202010 - Safety improvements, Junction of Jenkins Lane/Maldon Road, Hatfield Peverel Estimated Cost:- £8,000</p> <p>LBRA212017 - Zebra Crossing, High Street, Halstead Estimated Cost:- £6,500</p> <p>LBRA182003 - Junction improvements, Manor Street, Braintree Estimated Cost:- £6,500</p> <p>LBRA182042 – Parking, Church Road, Wickham St Paul Estimated Cost: £14,000</p> <p>LBRA192058 - Verge protection, Temple Lane, Silver End Estimated Cost:- £22,000</p> <p>LBRA192059 - Verge protection, Broadway, Silver End Estimated Cost:- £21,500</p> <p><u>Walking</u></p> <p>LBRA193004 - Dropped kerbs, East Street, Coggeshall Estimated Cost:- £2,000</p> <p>LBRA193005 - Zebra crossing, Rickstones Road, Witham Estimated Cost:- £6,500</p> <p>LBRA193006 - Crossing improvements, Coggeshall Road, Railway Street and Courtauld Road, Braintree</p>	
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	<p>Estimated Cost:- £10,000</p> <p>LBRA193007 - Zebra Crossing, Bridge Street, Halstead Estimated Cost:- £10,000</p> <p>LBRA193009 - Dropped Kerbs, Jeffreys Road, j/w Mill Lane Crossing Estimated Cost:- £6,500</p> <p>LBRA193011 - 'Pedestrian in road signage', Upper Farm Road, Ashen Estimated Cost:- £3,000</p> <p>LBRA163006 – Footway, Boars Tye Road, Silver End Estimated Cost:- £45,500</p> <p>LBRA152140 - Signalised crossing, B1389 Hatfield Road, Witham Estimated Cost:- £32,500</p> <p><u>Passenger Transport</u></p> <p>LBRA185004 - Raised kerbs, Grooms Lane East side bus stop, Western Road, Silver End Estimated Cost:- £22,500</p> <p>LBRA185005 - Raised kerbs, Grooms Lane West side bus stop, Western Road, Silver End Estimated Cost:- £10,000</p> <p>LBRA185008 - Raised kerbs, Co-Op Store, West side bus stop, Broadway, Silver End Estimated Cost:- £11,500</p> <p>LBRA185009 - Raised kerbs, bus stop, Silver Street, Silver End Estimated Cost:- £11,500</p> <p>LBRA185010 - Raised kerbs, Boars Tye Road bus stop, Silver Street, Silver End Estimated Cost:- £9,000</p> <p>LBRA185011 - Raised kerbs, Boars Tye Road bus stop, Boars Tye Road, Silver End, Estimated Cost:- £11,500</p> <p>LBRA195001 - Raised Kerbs, Halstead Road, Gosfield Estimated Cost:- £16,500</p>	
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<p>7.</p>	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p><u>LBRA162021 – Inworth Road, Feering (Legal process for the provision of the remaining section of a new footway)</u></p> <p>Councillor P Thorogood queried the current status of scheme LBRA162021 – Inworth Road, Feering (legal process for the provision of the remaining section of a new footway) as it was no longer listed within the Panel’s ‘Schemes Awaiting Funding’ report. It was agreed that this should be investigated.</p> <p>Action By: Charlotte O’Connell - Highways Liaison Officer, Essex Highways to investigate the current status of scheme LBRA162021 – Inworth Road, Feering and to advise Councillor P Thorogood.</p> <p><u>Braintree Local Highways Panel – Members’ Guide</u></p> <p>It was agreed that a copy of the Braintree Local Highways Panel – Members’ Guide should be circulated to Members of the Panel.</p> <p>Action By: Charlotte O’Connell - Highways Liaison Officer, Essex Highways to circulate a copy of the Braintree Local Highways Panel – Members’ Guide to Members of the Panel.</p>	<p>(C O’Connell - HLO)</p> <p>(C O’Connell - HLO)</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>It was noted that the next meeting of Braintree Local Highways Panel was scheduled to take place on Thursday, 30th June 2022 and that the start time of the meeting was to be agreed.</p> <p>It was not known if the meeting would be held at Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree ‘in person’, or virtually.</p> <p>The meeting commenced at 4.00pm and closed at 4.54pm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Councillor C Siddall (Chairman)</p>	