

BRAINTREE LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL MINUTES - 17th September 2020

12.00noon

Virtual Meeting (not held in public)

Chairman:	Councillor R Mitchell (Chairman) (ECC)
Panel Members:	Councillor J Abbott (ECC) Councillor S Canning (ECC) Councillor D Louis (ECC) Councillor P Horner (BDC) Councillor R van Dulken (BDC) Councillor Mrs S Wilson (BDC) Councillor J Bendall (BALC) Councillor D Gronland (BALC)
Officers:	Rissa Long – Highways Liaison Officer, Essex Highways Jasmine Wiles – Asst. Highways Liaison Officer, Essex Highways Samir Pandya – Operations Strategy and Policy Manager (BDC) Paul Seabright – North Essex Parking Partnership and Neil Jones – Principal Planner (BDC) were also in attendance.
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 R Mitchell welcomed everyone to the meeting and he introduced Rissa Long, Highways Liaison Officer, Essex Highways who would be taking over from Jasmine Wiles, Asst. Highways Liaison Officer. It was reported that Jasmine would be taking up a new role within the Road Safety Team at Essex Highways. Councillor Mitchell asked everyone present to introduce themselves.	

2.	<p>Apologies for Absence, Declarations of Interest and Public Questions:</p> <p>Apologies for Absence:</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs J Beavis (ECC), Councillor G Butland (ECC) Councillor Mrs M Cunningham (BDC) Councillor D Finch (ECC), Sonia Church (Highways Liaison Manager, Essex Highways) and Lisa 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. There were no questions asked, or statements made.</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes:</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting of Braintree Local Highways Panel held on 25th June 2020 were approved as a correct record.</p>	
4.	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting:</p> <p>The following matter was raised:-</p> <p><u>Minute 6 – Schemes Awaiting Funding ('Quiet Lanes')</u></p> <p>Members of the Panel were reminded that discussions had taken place at previous meetings about 'Quiet Lanes' schemes. Whilst many of these had been assessed and met the criteria for implementation, it would not be possible to implement them during the coronavirus pandemic as they required public consultation, including the holding of public meetings.</p> <p>The Panel had acknowledged that 'Quiet Lanes' were important and that if surplus funds became available these should, if possible, be allocated to the implementation of one or two schemes taken in chronological order.</p> <p>It had been suggested that the requisite public consultation could be carried out by virtual means and it had been agreed that advice should be sought from Paul Turner, Essex County Council's Monitoring Officer, on whether this would be possible.</p> <p>It was reported that Sonia Church, Highways Liaison Manager, Essex Highways had contacted Paul Turner, but that his response</p>	

	<p>had not been received yet. In the meantime, the public consultation process would commence and a letter would be sent to interested parties advising them that the requisite public meetings would either be held 'in person' or 'virtually'. It was suggested that the consultation letters should ask people to indicate if they had the facility to attend an on-line meeting.</p>	
5.	<p>Funded Schemes 2019/20 and 2020/21:</p> <p>Consideration was given to a report on the Panel's Funded Schemes for 2019/20 and 2020/21, which had been recommended for approval.</p> <p>The report provided an update on the current position of all schemes in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 programmes of work.</p> <p>It was reported that the following schemes, which had been included in the 2019/20 programme of work would be transferred to the schedule of Schemes Awaiting Funding:-</p> <p>LBRA152042 – One-way system, Panfield Lane, between junctions with Aetheric Road and Rayne Road, Braintree Estimated Cost: - Not known</p> <p>LBRA152070 –Weight restriction, installation of new signs and re-routing of HGVs, Oak Road, Rivenhall Estimated Cost: - Not known</p> <p>It was reported that the following schemes, which had been included in the 2020/21 programme of work would be removed from the programme pending funding becoming available and they would be transferred to the 2021/22 programme of work:-</p> <p>LBRA162022 - 20's Plenty, Valentine Way and School Road, Silver End Estimated Cost: - £4,500</p> <p>LBRA182030 - Gateway features, Hatfield Road, Terling Estimated Cost: - £6,000</p> <p>LBRA192012 – Installation of two bollards to protect a fire hydrant, Colchester Road, Bures Hamlet Estimated Cost: - £4,500</p> <p>LBRA198001 – Creation of a public right of way, Church Road, Rivenhall Estimated Cost: - £3,000</p> <p>Furthermore, the following scheme, which had been included in the 2020/21 programme of work would be removed from the programme</p>	

	<p>as it was being funded and implemented by Cressing Parish Council:-</p> <p>LBRA182040 - Gateway features, Cressing Estimated Cost: - £16,000</p> <p>DECISION: That the report be noted.</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>The total value of unallocated schemes on the potential schemes list was £1,440,500.</p> <p>Members of the Panel expressed concern that the value of the unallocated schemes was considerably higher than the Panel's capital budget and it was noted that representations regarding inadequate funding would be made to the Government by Essex County Council.</p>	
7.	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>At the close of the meeting the Chairman bade farewell to Jasmine Wiles, Asst. Highways Liaison Officer who would be taking up a new role within the Road Safety Team at Essex Highways.</p> <p>The Chairman stated that Jasmine had joined Essex Highways as an apprentice and that she was a shining example of the benefits of apprenticeships and what could be achieved.</p> <p>On behalf of the Members of the Panel, the Chairman thanked Jasmine for her help, work and advice and he wished her well for the future and success in her new role.</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>	
8.	<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, 28th January 2021. The start time is to be confirmed.</p> <p>The meeting commenced at 12.00nn and closed at 12.43pm.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Councillor R Mitchell (Chairman)</p>	

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