

TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

DECISIONS made by the Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment, Councillor M Lock on 22 February 2010 at County Hall, Lewes.

Councillor Barnes spoke on items 4, 5 and 10 (see minutes 66, 67 and 72)
Councillors O'Keeffe spoke on items 6 and 10 (see minutes 68 and 72)
Councillor Tidy spoke on item 8 (see minute 70)
Councillor Healy spoke on items 9 and 10 (see minutes 71 and 72)
Councillor Daniel spoke on items 9, 10, 11 and 12 (see minutes 71, 72, 73 and 74)
Councillor Stroude spoke on item 10 (see minute 72)
Councillor Whetstone spoke on item 10 (see minute 72)

63. MINUTES

63.1 Councillor Lock approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2010.

64. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

64.1 Councillor Lock declared personal, non-prejudicial interests in the following:

- Item 9 (Dropped Kerb Parking Enforcement) as a Cabinet Member of Hastings Borough Council. When this issue was discussed at the Borough Council he declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting.
- Item 12 (Draft National Policy Statement for Nuclear Power Generation) as a Member of Hastings Borough Council.

64.2. Councillor O'Keeffe declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 6 (Station Street, Lewes) as a Member of Lewes Town Council and Lewes Town Partnership.

64.3 Councillor Whetstone declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 10 (Sustainable School Travel Strategy) as his son-in-law is headmaster of Hurstpierpoint College.

64.4 Councillor Daniel declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 12 (Draft National Policy Statement for Nuclear Power Generation) as a Member of Hastings Borough Council

65. REPORTS

65.1 Copies of the reports referred to in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.

66. PETITION REQUESTING LOWER SPEED LIMITS IN BURWASH

66.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. Mr C Baverstock addressed the Lead Member on behalf of the petitioners.

DECISION

66.2 RESOLVED - to advise the petitioners that the County Council will review the speed limits on the A265 through Burwash Common and Burwash Weald in the 2010/11

financial year, with a view to implementing lower limits where appropriate during 2011/12.

Reasons

66.3 Following the review, the revised speed on the A265 through Burwash Common and Burwash Weald will, where appropriate, be implemented in 2011/12 as part of the speed limit review programme which was approved by Lead Member on 17 December 2007. The programme needs to be followed to match the available budget and resources.

67. PETITION REQUESTING SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES IN ETCHINGHAM

67.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. Mrs M Varrall, Chairman of Etchingham Parish Council, addressed the Lead Member on behalf of the petitioners.

DECISIONS

67.2 RESOLVED – to advise the petitioners that (1) the County Council will review the speed limits on the A265, including Etchingham, in the 2010/11 financial year, with a view to implementing lower limits where appropriate during 2011/12

(2) Etchingham is included in the County Council's Forward Programme of parking reviews to address problems caused by parking.

Reasons

67.3 A review of speed limits is being undertaken in Burwash in the 2010/11 financial year. The Lead Member considered that this issue should be looked at in an holistic way and therefore include Etchingham and other villages along the same route. Problems caused by parking and general lack of roadspace will be addressed by the parking review.

68. PETITION REQUESTING THE WIDENING OF PAVEMENTS IN STATION STREET, LEWES

68.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. Ms D Matthews addressed the Lead Member on behalf of the petitioners.

DECISIONS

68.2 RESOLVED – to advise the petitioners that the potential for footway widening in Station Street will be investigated and considered as part of a wider traffic management scheme covering part of Lewes Town Centre that will be considered for inclusion in the Integrated Transport Capital Programme by the Lead Member on 22 March 2010.

Reason

68.3 A scheme to investigate and potentially fund widening the pavements in Station Street has been provisionally included on an indicative list of schemes for possible inclusion in the Integrated Capital Programme between 2011/12 and 2014/15

69. SUTTON AVENUE/STEYNE ROAD, SEAFORD: PART-TIME 20MPH SPEED LIMIT

69.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. At the invitation of the Lead Member, Mrs M Diamand addressed him on behalf of the petitioners.

DECISIONS

69.2 RESOLVED – to (1) note the contents of the report; and

(2) request the Director of Transport and Environment to develop and consult on a part-time advisory speed limit on Sutton Avenue and Steyne Road, Seaford in 2010/11 with a view to implementing the proposed scheme in 2011/12 after the anticipated revised guidance on speed limits has been received from the Department of Transport.

Reason

69.3 The proposals described in this report will help to emphasise the message of the need to drive more slowly at school arrival and departure times.

70. WADHURST HIGH STREET: PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSING

70.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment and reported receipt of representations from Wadhurst Parish Council.

DECISIONS

70.2 RESOLVED – to (1) defer consideration of this item to enable the Lead Member to make a site visit with the local Member and Chairman of the Parish Council; and

(2) request the Director of Transport and Environment to report back on the outcome to a future Lead Member meeting

Reason

70.3 Representations have been received for a review of the proposed location for a pedestrian crossing in Wadhurst and, therefore, the Lead Member considered that it would be appropriate to make a site visit before giving the matter further consideration.

71 DROPPED KERB PARKING ENFORCEMENT

71.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISION

71.2 RESOLVED – to (1) approve the Enforcement Policy, appended to the report, in relation to dropped kerb and double parking contraventions; and

(2) thank Councillors for their input on this issue.

Reason

71.3 The adoption and enforcement of these new powers will promote improved access for the disabled, provide a real deterrent for inconsiderate parking across driveways and improve safety on the roads of East Sussex.

72. SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL TRAVEL STRATEGY

72.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISION

72.2 RESOLVED – to approve the draft Sustainable School Travel Strategy and action plan subject to the comments made at the meeting by Members of the Transport and Student Support Panel being taken into account.

Reasons

72.3 The draft Sustainable School Travel Strategy sets out how the County Council will, in accordance with the duty in the Education and Inspections Act 2006, set out the County Council's approach to delivering measures and initiatives that will encourage safer, sustainable and healthier travel on the school journey for families in the county. The strategy will contribute towards tackling health, transport and environment issues and will involve cross-departmental working in order to successfully deliver the draft strategy's action plan.

73. DEPARTURE FROM HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE POLICY

73.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISIONS

73.2 RESOLVED – to (1) note the departure from the Highway Maintenance Policy and the progress made in repairing the roads;

(2) agree to extend the relaxation of the Highway Maintenance Policy requirement to attend Priority 1 defects within two hours of a defect being notified until the next Lead Member meeting on 22 March 2010; and

(3) request the Director of Transport and Environment to report back on the situation to the next Lead Member meeting on 22 March 2010.

Reasons

73.3 As a result of the relaxation of the usual system, good progress has been made across the County with over 7000 pot holes being fixed in the first two weeks. Twenty six maintenance gangs have been deployed across the County and it is estimated that, to date, 60% of the work has been completed broken down as follows;

- A roads - estimated 90% complete
- B roads – estimated 75% complete
- C roads – estimated 20% complete U roads – mainly only in urban areas of the major towns with Eastbourne, Hastings, Seaford, Lewes, Bexhill, Hailsham and Heathfield about 40% complete.

73.4 Whilst progress is being made, more time is needed and consequently Councillor Lock has agreed to extend the relaxation of the Highway Maintenance Policy requirement until his next Lead Member meeting and has asked for an update on the situation to that meeting.

74. DRAFT NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION

74.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISION

74.2 RESOLVED – to respond to Government that the County Council considers that it is premature to exclude Dungeness so that the environmental impact can be further reviewed and that the economic impact of Dungeness's exclusion should be given greater weight.

Reasons

74.3 The Government is seeking comments on draft NPSs for Energy infrastructure. A SSA has excluded Dungeness from potential suitable sites. This is considered premature and Dungeness's inclusion would allow further study. The economic benefits of a further nuclear power station at Dungeness for the eastern part of East Sussex should be taken into account.