

TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

DECISIONS made by the Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment, Councillor M Lock, on 5 September 2005 at County Hall, Lewes.

Councillor Dyason spoke on item 4 (see minute 26 below)
Councillor Tunwell spoke on item 6 (see minute 28 below)

24. MINUTES

24.1 Councillor Lock approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2005.

25. REPORTS

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

26. NORMANDALE, BEXHILL ON SEA : PETITION REQUESTING A REVIEW OF PARKING

26.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. Mr W Bowyer addressed the Lead Member on behalf of the petitioners.

DECISIONS

26.2 To inform the petitioners that (1) their concerns relating to parked vehicles will be considered within the next Bexhill Parking Restriction review; and

(2) in the meantime, the Director of Transport and Environment will be requested to seek further information from Hastings Direct, Rother District Council, transport operators and any other appropriate parties about the issues raised by the petitioners.

Reasons

26.3 Formal parking restrictions on the public highway require the backing of a Traffic Regulation Order made under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. This is a time consuming and costly process and it is therefore important that best use is made of the limited resources available.

26.4 The progression of parking restrictions within an area review has been found to be the most economical and effective method of addressing all such concerns. The prioritisation of each review produces the most effective use of these resources and ensures that those sites of greatest need are addressed first.

26.5 Whilst the concerns of the residents of Normandale are appreciated the relative importance of this issue would not merit a high enough priority to ensure an immediate review. The area will be included in the next review of parking restrictions in Bexhill and, in the meantime, further information will be sought from a range of interested parties to see what steps can be taken to ameliorate the situation.

27. A272 BETWEEN PELLINGBRIDGE AND NORTH CHAILEY : PETITION REQUESTING A 40MPH SPEED LIMIT AND DOUBLE WHITE LINES

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

Lewes District Councillor Sharon Davy addressed the Lead Member on behalf of the petitioners.

DECISION

27.2 To advise the petitioners that this location does not meet the national criteria for the provision of double white lines, nor does it satisfy the County Council's current policy for the implementation of a 40 mph speed limit. The implementation of a limit will be reconsidered when the County Council's policy on the setting of speed limits is reviewed.

Reason

27.3 The road does not meet the current national guidelines for the provision of a double white line system and, with a relatively good crash record, Sussex Police would not support an exception in this case. The recent review of speed limits did not recommend any changes to the existing 40 mph limit on the A272. However, with the anticipated publication of new guidelines on the setting of speed limits in Autumn 2005, this matter will be reviewed once the County Council has had an opportunity to consider any appropriate changes to its policy on the setting of speed limits.

28. EASTBOURNE DECRIMINALISED PARKING SCHEME

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

28.2 Councillor Lock referred to the informal meetings he held with Eastbourne Borough Council Members to discuss the proposed introduction of decriminalised parking in Eastbourne and expressed concern that, to date, although both political parties on the Borough Council had been invited to send representatives, the opposition had so far declined to do so.

DECISION

28.3 That all necessary steps be taken, in close consultation with Eastbourne Borough Council, to introduce decriminalised parking enforcement in Eastbourne at the earliest practical date.

Reason

28.4 The introduction of decriminalised parking enforcement is a vital element of the overall transport strategy for Eastbourne and will bring significant benefits to business and residents. Similar arrangements now apply, or are being introduced, in most other towns of similar size and, increasingly, in smaller towns. It will take some time to get everything in place and the Director of Transport and Environment considers, therefore, that all necessary steps should be initiated now so that, subject to securing the necessary approvals, the Scheme can be implemented at the earliest possible date.