



LEAD MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

MONDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2015

10.00 AM COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNTY HALL, LEWES

MEMBERSHIP - Councillor Carl Maynard, Lead Member for Transport and Environment

A G E N D A

- 1 Decisions made by the Lead Cabinet Member on 19 October 2015 (*Pages 3 - 6*)
- 2 Disclosure of Interests
Disclosure by all Members present of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Members regard the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- 3 Urgent items
Notification of any items which the Lead Member considers urgent and proposes to take at the appropriate part of the agenda.
- 4 Petition requesting the rescheduling of bus service 7 in Hastings (*Pages 7 - 8*)
Report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.
- 5 Allocation of the 2015/16 Community Match Funding to a number of community led local transport schemes (*Pages 9 - 12*)
Report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.
- 6 Any urgent items previously notified under agenda item 3

PHILIP BAKER
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6 November 2015

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LEAD MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

DECISIONS made by the Lead Member for Transport and Environment, Councillor Carl Maynard, on 19 October 2015 at County Hall, Lewes

Councillor Galley spoke on item 5 (see minute 31)
Councillor Hodges spoke on item 4 (see minute 30)
Councillor St Pierre spoke on items 5 and 7 (see minutes 31 and 33)
Councillor Stogdon spoke on items 4, 5, 7 and 8 (see minutes 30, 31, 33 and 34)

28 DECISIONS MADE BY THE LEAD CABINET MEMBER ON 14 SEPTEMBER 2015

28.1 Councillor Maynard approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2015.

29 REPORTS

29.1 Reports referred to in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.

30 PETITION FOR SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE PAVEMENTS IN ASHFORD ROAD, HASTINGS

30.1 The Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.

30.2 Councillor Andy Batsford of Hastings Borough Council, the Lead Petitioner, spoke in support of the petition.

DECISIONS

30.3 RESOLVED to (1) Advise the petitioners that their request for the full resurfacing of the pavements in the Ashford Road area has been assessed by the local Highway Steward and maintenance engineers;

(2) Advise the petitioners that the condition of the pavements in Ashford Road does not warrant whole scale replacement at this time; and

(3) Reassure the petitioners that the area concerned will continue to be inspected by the local Highway Steward and that all defects will continue to be repaired in accordance with the existing County Council highway maintenance policy.

Reasons

30.4 The pavements were found to be in a serviceable condition by the Highway Steward and maintenance engineers and do not warrant whole scale replacement at this time. The local Highway Steward will continue to monitor the condition of the pavements in Ashford Road, and any defects that meet with the County Council's policy will be repaired.

31 PETITION REQUESTING A 40MPH SPEED RESTRICTION ON COOPERS GREEN ROAD, UCKFIELD

31.1 The Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. It was clarified that the road lay within the Buxted Parish Council area.

31.2 Mr Graham Midmer, the Lead Petitioner, spoke in support of the petition.

DECISIONS

31.3 RESOLVED to advise the petitioners that (1) a 40mph speed limit on Coopers Green Road is not a priority for the County Council; and

(2) the C33 at Ringles Cross was approved at the Lead Member meeting on 14 September 2015 as a priority for a Local Safety Scheme in the 2015/16 financial year; the Road Safety Team is presently investigating a set of safety improvements to help make this part of Coopers Green Road safer.

Reasons

31.4 The C41 Coopers Green Road has a relatively good safety record and has not been identified as a priority for a lower speed limit. There has been a number of injury crashes reported to Sussex Police on the C33 at Ringles Cross, and this has been identified as a priority for a Local Safety Scheme from capital funding.

31.5 The petitioners may wish to approach Buxted Parish Council with the support of the Local Member to establish whether they would support an application through the County Council's Community Match Initiative.

32 PETITION REQUESTING A MORE FREQUENT BUS SERVICE 129 IN WINTERBOURNE, LEWES

32.1 The Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. The Lead Member congratulated the officers on the result of the negotiations.

DECISIONS

32.2 RESOLVED to advise the petitioners of the successful negotiations between Compass Travel and East Sussex County Council which have led to the restoration of an hourly daytime bus service in the Winterbourne area.

Reasons

32.3 The County Council and Compass Travel agreed to integrate the bus used on the County Council supported service 129 with the bus used on Compass Travel's commercial services 127 and 128. Through minor amendments to the routes of these services, this has provided significantly better utilisation of the two buses and drivers overall, thereby allowing more frequent services to be provided. The feedback the bus company has received from service users since the changes in September has been positive.

32.4 Lewes Town Council is providing some funding support to Compass Travel, which has helped the bus operator in taking the decision to improve these services.

33 NOTICE OF MOTION: USE OF NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDES ON EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL LAND

33.1 The Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.

DECISIONS

33.2 RESOLVED to recommend the County Council to (1) reject the Notice of Motion from Councillor St Pierre because there is inconclusive evidence on the use of neonicotinoids to agree a Policy stance; and

(2) agree an amended Notice of Motion to read:

“The County Council recognises the divided opinion on the use of neonicotinoids. The County Council does not use neonicotinoids on its own land. Taking into account the precautionary approach in this case, the County Council will review, at the appropriate time, farm business tenancy agreements to ensure that no pesticides that are banned by either the UK Government or the European Commission are used on any part of the smallholding.”

Reasons

33.3 The importance of a healthy bee population for agriculture and the environment is recognised by the County Council. Evidence is divided on the use of neonicotinoids. However, they are not used on County Council land. Farm business tenancy agreements always contain a clause preventing the use of pesticides banned by the UK Government on any holding and changes could be introduced to ensure the same for pesticides banned by the European Commission.

34 CURRENT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN HIGHWAY ASSET MANAGEMENT

34.1 The Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.

DECISIONS

34.2 RESOLVED to approve the publication of the new Asset Management Policy and Strategy in line with Department for Transport funding requirements.

Reasons

34.3 The Department for Transport expects to see increased adoption of asset management principles by local highway authorities, and to that effect future funding will become dependent on demonstrating continuous improvement in this area.

34.4 The County Council has already adopted asset management principles which have produced a significant improvement in the way the county's highway infrastructure is managed and investment decisions are made.

34.5 With the decreasing resources in the coming years, continuing to build on this work should be a priority if the County Council is able to achieve value for money during the life of the new highways maintenance contract, and therefore the maximum available resource available through the incentive grant. Formal adoption of an Asset Management Policy and Strategy is a key milestone in this process.

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Report to: **Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment**

Date of meeting: **16 November 2015**

By: **Director of Communities, Economy and Transport**

Title: **Petition requesting the rescheduling of bus service 7 in Hastings**

Purpose: **To consider the response to a petition requesting changes to the timetable of East Sussex County Council funded bus service 7**

RECOMMENDATION: The Lead Member is recommended to advise the petitioners of the successful negotiations between East Sussex County Council and its contractor, Stagecoach, which have led to the provision of an earlier first bus service 7 departure and an increased daytime frequency.

1 Background Information

1.1. At the County Council meeting on 14 July 2015 Councillors Daniel and Hodges presented a petition to the Chairman requesting East Sussex County Council:

“look at the early morning schedule of the number 7 bus which forms an invaluable service for the residents of the St Helens area. The number 7 with its new timetable leaves many bus residents with no bus service until 10.30am, making doctors and hospital appointments almost impossible in the morning”.

1.2. A copy of the petition is available in the Members Room. Standing Orders provide that, where the Chairman considers it appropriate, petitions are considered by the relevant Committee or Lead Member and that a spokesperson for the petitioners be invited to address the Committee or Lead Member. The Chairman has referred this petition to the Lead Member for Transport and Environment.

2 Supporting Information

2.1. A new Public Transport Strategic Commissioning Strategy and reformulated supported bus network were agreed by Cabinet on 16 December 2014. This decision followed a 12 week public consultation between July and September 2014, which included the proposal to reduce the frequency of supported service 7 from hourly to 2 hourly with effect from April 2015.

2.2. The supported bus network, which service 7 forms part of, was designed using a hierarchy of service provision, so as to meet the needs identified in the Strategy. By identifying and then meeting the needs of residents on the basis of strategic priorities, the County Council was able to make decisions on a uniform and equitable basis across the County and to balance the wishes of bus users with the requirement to make savings.

2.3. The service 7 bus timetable introduced from 26 April 2015 was devised in such a way that only one bus is required for the combined operation of 2 hourly Hastings services 7, 27, 29 and Hastings-Pett service 347. The timetables for these constituent services are further constrained by the need for the 347 service to take school children to and from Guestling Bradshaw School.

2.4. The detail of the new service 7 timetable resulted in concerns being raised by service users, who are predominately elderly, leading to representations being made to the County Council from the Local Member, Hastings Borough Councillors and Amber Rudd MP. These concerns have centred on the 10:27am timing of the first bus from the hilly St Helens area, when before April there were early buses at 9:12am and 10:12am, and the reduced daytime service.

2.5. The County Council's Transport Hub officers have been working closely with Stagecoach, the bus operator providing services 7, 27, 29 and 347 under contract to the County Council, to identify a way of addressing the concerns raised. This has involved detailed consideration of how best to optimise the timings of these timetables for the communities served, within the resource constraint of the single bus. As a result of this work, new timetables have been introduced from 2 November 2015 at no additional cost to East Sussex County Council.

2.6. The following changes have been made:

Service 7 - an earlier first bus has been introduced at 9.30am, with the weekday daytime frequency increased from four journeys to six journeys.

Service 27 - in the Priory Avenue/Linton Road area there is an additional earlier departure at 9.05am, with the first bus having been 11.01am since April.

Service 29 - which serves Milward Road at off-peak times, is withdrawn and replaced by diverting service 347.

Service 347 - The morning peak service arriving Hastings Station at 08:51 is unchanged. Changes have been made to the timings of the off-peak service 347, with most journeys terminating at Priory Meadow instead of Hastings Station.

The combination of these alterations has provided the time needed for the earlier and additional journeys on services 7 and 27.

3 Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation

3.1. The changes made to the supported bus services have addressed the concerns raised in relation to service 7 as well as a separate request for an earlier bus from service 27 users. As a result of these changes, all the communities served by these revised services will have a bus journey arriving in the centre of Hastings by 9.45am at the latest. It should be noted that these improvements have had to be achieved without additional cost to the County Council due to the savings it is required to find.

3.2. The Lead Member is therefore recommended to inform the petitioners of the positive outcome of the negotiations between Officers and Stagecoach.

RUPERT CLUBB

Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

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LOCAL MEMBER

Councillor Hodges

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

Report to: Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment

Date of meeting: 16 November 2015

By: Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

Title: Allocation of the 2015/16 Community Match Funding to a number of community led local transport schemes

Purpose: To seek approval for the proposed allocation of match funding to a number of community led local transport improvement schemes

RECOMMENDATIONS: The Lead Member is recommended to:

- (1) Agree that £60,000 of match funding should be allocated towards four specific community led transport improvement schemes for construction in 2015/16;
 - (2) Agree that development work on any further community match schemes is not commenced at this time;
 - (3) Agree that development work on two other previously approved schemes should continue for possible match funding later in 2016/17; and
 - (4) Agree that the remaining unallocated £48,607 from the match funding available in 2015/16 should be rolled forward to 2016/17 for potential allocation to schemes in the next round of funding in March 2016.
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1 Background Information

1.1 A sum of £100,000 has been allocated from East Sussex County Council's 2015/16 capital programme for local transport improvements to match fund improvement schemes that are to be developed and implemented through the Community Match Fund. The funding that was unallocated in 2014/15 has also been rolled forward into 2015/16, giving a total of £113,607 available to take forward schemes in this financial year. Of this, £5,000 was allocated within the second funding round in Q1 2015/16, leaving £108,607 still available for allocation within this current funding round.

1.2 For those schemes that are selected to be taken forward through the Community Match initiative, the County Council will contribute up to 50% of the design and construction costs, with the remainder being met by the local community.

1.3 If an amount totalling £60,000 is allocated towards specific schemes then the balance of £48,607 could be rolled forward to 2016/17 for potential allocation to Community Match Schemes in the next funding round in March 2016.

2 Supporting Information

2.1 Three new applications were received within this funding round, and three of the schemes that were approved for design work within previous funding rounds are now ready to be considered for the Match funding to enable them to be constructed.

2.2 Four Community Match schemes have been completed and work continues on four further schemes previously approved for construction which have suffered delays to their delivery. East Sussex County Council's resources allocated to Community Match are therefore still being utilised in delivering these schemes that have previously been approved. This, coupled with the pressures of delivering the County Council's own Capital Programme of Local Transport Improvements, means that there is no spare capacity within the County Council's staff team and so it is not possible to resource the development of any new Community Match schemes at this time.

2.3 In addition, with the Re-Procurement of the Highways Contract, the way in which the scheme development and delivery work on Community Match schemes is undertaken will need to be reviewed to take account of the new Client/Contractor responsibilities.

2.4 Details of all the Community Match schemes are shown in the table in Appendix 1. The schemes and issues surrounding Community Match were considered by a Cross Party Member Panel, consisting of Councillors Stogdon, St Pierre, Hodges and O'Keeffe, on 28 September 2015 with Councillor Pursglove unable to attend.

2.5 Members of the panel agreed that a recommendation should be made to the Lead Member for Transport and Environment that three schemes on which design work has been carried out should now be approved for construction. Members also recommended that a small scheme providing new name plate signs for the Ringmer Twinning Association should be approved as it is a straightforward and low cost project that would require minimal County Council staff resources but that would deliver economic benefits to the village.

2.6 Members of the panel also agreed that a recommendation should be made to the Lead Member for Transport and Environment that development work does not commence on any new Community Match schemes at this time, but that the remaining two new applications are held on record and considered within the next funding round.

2.7 Members of the panel further agreed that a recommendation should be made to the Lead Member for Transport and Environment that development work on the two previously approved schemes should be continue, however a decision would have to be taken at a future meeting of the member panel in March 2016 about whether the match funding required to enable them to be constructed should be allocated to each of them in 2016-17.

2.8 Members of the panel also agreed to recommend to the Lead Member that the balance of £48,607 should be rolled forward to 2016/17 for allocation to Community Match Schemes in the next funding round in March 2016.

3 Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation

3.1 In line with the recommendations of the Cross Party Member Panel, the Lead Member is recommended to agree the allocation of £60,000 of match funding to the following four community led local transport improvements:

Wadhurst - Pedestrian Crossing and build out near Wadhurst C of E School	£27,000
Westfield - New footway along Cottage Lane	£22,000
Kingston and Cranedown - New pedestrian island near Cranedown	£10,000
Ringmer - New village name plate signs to reflect twinning	£1,000

3.2 The Lead Member is also recommended to agree that development work does not commence on any new Community Match schemes at this time.

3.3 In addition, the Lead Member is also recommended to agree that development work on the following two schemes which was approved in September 2014 and March 2015 should continue, but that a decision about whether match funding should be allocated to allow them to be implemented in 2016-17 should be taken at a future cross party member panel meeting.

Sedlescombe - Footway near village shop
Withyham - Blackham Ashurst footway along A264

3.4 It is further recommended that the Lead Member agree that £48,607 which would remain unallocated from the £113,607 of match funding available in 2015/16 should be rolled forward to 2016/17 for potential allocation to Community Match Schemes in the next funding round in March 2016.

RUPERT CLUBB

Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

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LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillors Davies, Galley, O'Keeffe, Maynard, Standley, St Pierre, Taylor and Whetstone

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

Community Match Funding Q3 2016/17 - November 2015 Lead Member Meeting

CM No	Scheme Name and Description	Overall VfM scoring	Scheme Cost	External funding amount	Match Funding required	Match Funding allocated 2014/15	Match funding allocated Q1 2015/16	Match funding to be allocated Q3 2015/16	Potential Match funding required 2016/17 (previously approved schemes only)	Notes	Recommendation Q3 2015/16	
Round 1 - 2014/15	6	Street lighting upgrade at existing zebra crossing - Jarvis Brook	179.8	£5,537	£2,768	£2,769	£2,769	-	-	-	Scheme complete	Complete
	2	A267 / B2100 junction Mark Cross, closure of slip road	60.7	£20,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	-	-	-	Scheme requires traffic regulation orders which has caused delay. TRO's to be advertised, and construction planned for Feb 16	Continue to implementation
	8	Sedlescombe, new footway from pub to village shop	41.8	£15,000	£7,500	£7,500	£0	£0	£0	£7,500	Initial design carried out and discussed with Parish Council, who wish to explore other off highway options before deciding whether to proceed	Scheme on hold (potential approval for construction Q1 2016/17)
	1	Beechwood Lane footway, Cooksbridge	36.6	£93,157	£46,578	£46,579	£46,579	-	-	-	Scheme complete	Complete
	5	Cottage Lane footway, Westfield	34.2	£45,000	£23,000	£22,000	£0	£0	£22,000	-	Parish Council have undertaken consultation which has shown good local support for the scheme. Initial design work has been undertaken and options discussed with Parish Council. Still some uncertainties around land and final design details which need resolving.	Proceed to construction, subject to outcome of safety audit, availability of land and Parish Council's
	3	Hide Hollow Eastbourne, Lay by outside crematorium	33.9	£51,700	£25,850	£25,850	£25,850	-	-	-	Construction started on 1 Sept 2015 after delays due to UKPN plant in the vicinity. Scheme complete	Complete
	9	Wadhurst pedestrian crossing and build out	33.8	£54,000	£27,000	£27,000	£0	£0	£27,000	-	Preliminary design work completed, Parish have undertaken consultation and wish to proceed.	Proceed to construction
	7	Speed limit reduction A22 at Wych Cross	30.5	£10,000	£5,000	£5,000	£0	£5,000	-	-	Traffic regulation orders prepared and will be advertised shortly. Implementation planned for Feb 16	Continue to implementation
	4	CCTV electrical supply in Rye Town Centre	21	£11,000	£10,000	£1,195	£1,195	-	-	-	Scheme complete	Complete
	Total						£86,393	£5,000	£49,000	£7,500		
Round 2 - Q1 2015/16	15	Chailey St. Peters School - speed cushions in layby	84	£2,000	£1,000	£1,000	-	£0	-	-	To be 100% paid by ESCC Education, design underway, construction planned for Oct 15	Being progressed outside of Community Match
	16	St. Philips School - Rush Barrier and footway	75	£5,000	£5,000	£0	-	£0	-	-	To be 100% paid by School Governors, design underway, construction planned for Oct 15	Continue to construction
	12	Kingston and Cranedown - pedestrian island and footway	48	£20,000	£10,000	£10,000	-	£0	£10,000	-	Design underway, however stats issues have necessitated moving the crossing from the original location. Residents Association keen to proceed.	Proceed to construction
	19	A275 Chailey School - pedestrian refuge	41.6	£25,000	£4,000	£21,000	-	£0	-	-	Parish Council do not have prospect of sufficient funds to proceed at this time, however they are keen to explore the options available to them.	Continue to informally advise the Parish Council
	11	C7 Northease-Rodmell footway	38	£52,528	£26,264	£26,264	-	£0	-	-	Initial design carried out, but Parish Council have subsequently confirmed that unfortunately there is no prospect of them finding their share of the funding	Scheme cancelled
	20	Withyham, Blackham - Ashurst footway along A264	37.7	£42,500	£21,250	£21,250	-	£0	£0	£21,250	£10,000 has been identified as available from WPC. However the remaining £11,500 will be raised by fund-raising events and strong commitment given at recent meeting.	Continue with design (potential approval for construction Q1 2016/17)
	13	Forest Row - Double Yellow Lines	36	£2,500	£2,500	£0	-	£0	-	-	Traffic regulation orders prepared and will be advertised shortly. Implementation planned for Feb 16	Continue to implementation
	18	Chiddingly School - footway	28	£750	£200	£550	-	£0	£0	-	Small section of grass verge to be tarmaced, concerns over safety of proposals	Not proceed at this time
	17	Iden, Military Road from Houghton Green Lane to Scots Float - Cycle route	22.9	£100,000	£0	£100,000	-	£0	£0	-	High risk due to proximity of EA flood defences. Land required from EA. Expensive scheme, not particularly suited to Community Match. No confirmed match funding	Not proceed at this time
	14	Forest Row Priory Road - footway build out	19.6	£10,000	£5,000	£5,000	-	£0	£0	-	Build out to widen existing footway. This will result in need for priority working to facilitate this.	Not proceed at this time, re-consider within Q1 2016/17 funding round
21	Plumpton - speed limit reduction	18.8	£7,000	£3,500	£3,500	-	£0	£0	-	Accidents are not speed-related and 2 slights.	Not proceed at this time, re-consider within Q1 2016/17 funding round	
10	Glynde - closure of Mill Lane to vehicular traffic				£0	-	-	-	-	NOT ASSESSED - Proposals not appropriate	Refuse application - work informally with PC to see if an alternative scheme can be developed	
Total							£0	£10,000	£21,250			
Round 3 - Q3 2015/16	22	Eastbourne - New Zebra Crossing outside St Andrews School	Not yet assessed				-	£0	-	-	ESCC do not have sufficient resources available to take forward any new Community Match schemes at this time. Application to be kept on record and considered within the next funding round in spring 2016	Not proceed at this time, consider within Q1 2016/17 funding round
	23	Ringmer - New village sign (to include twinning details)		£2,000	£1,000	£1,000	-	£1,000	-	-	Minor signing changes requested, can be delivered easily with minimal resources. Economic benefit to Ringmer of having twinning recognised on signage.	Proceed to design and implementation
	24	Maresfield - Nether Lane, Nutley, 30mph zone from junction with the A22 to Down Street	Not yet assessed				-	£0	-	-	ESCC do not have sufficient resources available to take forward any new Community Match schemes at this time. Application to be kept on record and considered within the next funding round in spring 2016	Not proceed at this time, consider within Q1 2016/17 funding round
Total								£1,000	£0			

Summary	2014/15	Q1 2015/16	Q3 2015/16	Q1 2016/17
Match Funding available	£100,000	£113,607	£108,607	£148,607
Match Funding Allocated	£86,393	£5,000	£60,000	£28,750
Carried Forward	£13,607	£108,607	£48,607	£119,857

Key to colours:

- Recommendation Q3 2015/16 (Nov 2015)
- Live CM Scheme approved for design and/or construction in Q3 2014/15
- Live CM Scheme approved for design and/or construction in Q1 2015/16
- Live CM Scheme approved for design and/or construction in Q3 2015/16
- Application not yet taken forward, to be considered in Q1 2016/17
- Scheme completed
- Scheme not being taken forward

Notes re Q1 2016/17:

Assumes previously approved schemes are ready to proceed to construction.
Assumes the same level of funding is allocated to Community Match and unallocated funding is rolled forward.
This would give scope to accept new schemes for design in Q1 2016/17 with approval to construct in Q3 2016/17.

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