



Executive Board

**Minutes of a meeting held on
Wednesday 3rd August at 6.30pm**

**Sevenoaks Council Chamber
Bradbourne Vale Road**

Meeting started at 18.00

Meeting ended at 20.11

Executive Board Members:

Cllr Simon Raikes	Sevenoaks Town Council	Apologies
Cllr Victoria Granville-Baxter	Sevenoaks Town Council	Apologies
Linda Larter	Sevenoaks Town Council	Apologies
Cllr Avril Hunter	Sevenoaks District Council	Present
Cllr Tony Clayton	Sevenoaks Rail Travellers Association	Apologies
Cllr Richard Streatfeild	Kent County Councillor	Present
Austin Blackburn	Go Coach	Present
Victoria Raggio	Southeastern	Apologies
Jane Parish	Sencio	Absent
Cllr Andrew Eyre, Chairman	Stag	Present
Hannah Kay	Knole	Absent
Luke Jacobs	Sevenoaks Chronicle	Absent
Roger Walshe	Sevenoaks Society	Present
Maxine Morgan, V Chairman	Specsavers	Present
Elizabeth Dolding	Warners Solicitors	Apologies
Roberta Ware	Francis Jones Jewellers	Present
Glenn Ball	Local Architect	Present
Dawn Blee	Chamber of Commerce	Present
Jim Hughes	Resident Association	Present
Cllr Elizabeth Purves	Hollybush RA	Present
Helen O’Sullivan	Eardley Road RA	Present
Byron Brown	Bradbourne RA	Present
Mike Williams	Round Table	Absent
Police	Police	Absent

In attendance: Cllr Canet, Cllr Clack, Roger Johnson Sevenoaks RTA, Alan Osuoha KCC, Jamie Watson KCC

Further apologies: Cllr Mrs Parry, Cllr Parry, John Ingram BRA, John Levett

MINUTES

1. Declarations of Interest

None

2. Minutes

To receive and approve the minutes of the Town Team Board Meeting of 15th June 2022.
Cllr Purves noted that she was incorrectly noted as representing SDC. She asked the minutes be amended to show say she represents Hollybush Residents Association not SDC

20 mph Proposals Consultation

Cllr Streatfeild gave a short update which included that the Dartford road side may need a crossing to be included in the 20mph zone – this road wasn't included before.

KCC gave an update presented by Jamie Watson

- He talked about the process of getting any 20mph zone, as it needs to get a Traffic Regulation Order. TROs need an official consultation for changing speed limits, with a minimum of 3 weeks consultation. Six or more objections means it goes to Joint Transportation Board committee which is comprised of KCC & SDC. All plans will be considered by the JTB
- KCC are hoping to launch the consultation on 30th September. It could be delayed but they don't want it to, because the Joint Transportation Board is in September, and they need reports 2 weeks before this.
- Timeline. It is hoped to have an agreed scheme with plans ("shovel ready") before March 2023

Alan Osuoha continued:

- He talked through the updated 20mph zone. One of the main things discussed is that the 20-zone has been made much wider. He thinks they can also include Dartford Road in the overall 20-zone to connect the north and south of the Town. This would require one way and splitting traffic around the war memorial, designing a joint pedestrian and cycle path up the hill to the left of it (Northbound) redesignating additional land in front of the War Memorial verge jointly for pedestrians and cyclists. A new zebra crossing at the North end of the War Memorial island will make the area "feel more 20mph". So Northbound traffic will have a single lane of vehicles and a joint cycle and pedestrian path marked separately on the road. Southbound traffic will be forced left around the island (and also be able to go down St Botolph's Road). Traffic from St Botolph's Road will be allowed to go either left or right at the War Memorial.
- Making a road one way requires a separate TRO to prohibit driving south – so this route would depend on responses to both of these, and would affect whether or not the 20-zone in this part of the town will work.



- The edits made since the last showing of the maps mean that there is a longer run up of 20mph zones before schools, and about 50m generally between 20mph repeating zones
- Oak Lane has been brought into the 20-zone and although there was a long conversation at the last meeting, Brittain's Lane and all the roads off it remain in the 20-zone.

KCC need to know if there is sufficient basis for a town wide consultation before they go for it. The meeting was advised that it is easier to take roads out after public consultation than add in new roads, and so the starting point is to have an initial larger area proposed.

Signage was discussed – the more continuous the area is, the less signage will be needed. So if one whole area is 20mph, most smaller roads would not need to have signs. Cllr Streatfeild said he wants to give the sense there is town-wide scheme, where roads that really wouldn't work with an applied 20mph limit being outliers that then need signage.

KCC advised that their understanding was that this was being funded by Sevenoaks Town Council. Cllr Streatfeild said it would also use the majority of his members fund (his Members' Grant fund would be £50,000 over five years), and had to be cost neutral to KCC. There was a discussion about this funding and the Chairman confirmed he would investigate whether it was in place.

The funding on costing continued about the impact this scheme would have where the speed limit was not enforced by the Police. When questioned, KCC felt that speed limit repeater roundels would be needed around every 50 metre. Overall costs would be of the order of £500-750k but no detailed costing had yet been done.

It is hoped that the consultation would be started in September.

Alan also gave an update on KCC's Active Travel Fund project, because it is being completed by the same team as the 20-zone. It is aimed that the two schemes would complement each other

KCC were granted £1.2million from Active Travel Fund for West-East cycling.

KCC still need to consult on it and would like to time the consultation at same time as the 20-zone (30th September)

The cycling route is from Amhurst School to Seal (the Tri-School site). It's a continuous route which has various alternatives proposed, due to some being initially considered which do not yet have landowner permission- It goes from Amhurst School to Trinity School, using off carriage way routes mainly. At major junctions eg. London Road, they have proposed different ways of crossing so that different abilities of cyclists can use them-

This includes making footpaths wider but then having joint cycling / pedestrian use with lines-or cycling through land such as woodland, changes to roads to indicate giving way to pedestrians on the route eg. at Lake View Road, reducing the width of car lanes at various points land use would change – such as at Sevenoaks Primary School would change the carriageway and require the use of some of the school's land and parking spaces.



A main part of the agreement between Active Travel England, was that the routes would be made through reallocating carriageway. Active travel England may remove funding if the route isn't whole and continuous, especially if the plans are reduced to avoid losing road space.

Timescale: consult would be same time as 20mph – (30th Sept is when they want to make a start on that). They would hope to have started the works by March 23. Active Travel England want things to be built not talked about, so the maximum timescale for works to be carried out/started is March 2024. They are aiming for completing by 2023.

Town Team reaction: General support with many concerns raised over safety of dual use between pedestrians & cyclists and the impact of so much money spent when the speed limit would be purely voluntary.

Returning to the main meeting

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Noted Victoria Raggio has joined the Executive Board.

Noted Mike working to get someone from Blighs' new managing agents, Workman, to join the board.

3. Public Realm

- Noted National judging tomorrow
- There is no bin outside Waitrose. Individual board members volunteers to clean up after the meeting ready for judging tomorrow.
- Thanked Austin, volunteers, STC, SDC
- Noted hoarding signs look great, pedestrian crossings
- Noted working on signage plus plan to branch out towards station & B&B station

4. Wayfinding project

A meeting with Thomas Heatherwick has taken place. It will be too expensive to use his services throughout the project, but he is going to provide some preliminary design ideas.

5. Britain in Bloom

The Regional judging has taken place. While the judge could not discuss his opinions, he did drop a couple of hints so that changes and additions will be made for the National judging which takes place on 4th August.

6. Sevenoaks Business Show

The event this year will take place on Friday 14th October at the Bat & Ball Centre. Work has only just started on this. Clive Emson and Thackray Williams have been secured as sponsors with one or two more being sought.

7. Autumn Vegan Market

The markets are proving popular, and the next will be held in Vine Gardens on Saturday 10th September.



8. REPORT FROM TOWN TEAM MEMBERS

- Specsavers: They are moving to new and bigger premises at end of year of next year taking over the empty ex-Halifax site.
- Go Coach, – They will stop operating out of Otford shortly. They did get authorisation to run buses from Monday for another year. Update on services: Thank you to Richard Streatfeild for campaigning on their behalf. Go2 is carrying on but with small vehicles. Temporarily suspending Direct. School buses, fares changing – lower. Going to do contactless payment & half term and yearly passes. Noted more graffiti on buses.
- Bradbourne Residents Association - 10 families in their area are affected by school buses with 16 kids. Working with Haylee White & SDC on grant application for Bradbourne Lakes. Cooperating with STC's HEO (Iona) for B&B Centre events, and they have partnered with neighbouring residents associations to oppose the Croudace planning application.
- Eardley Road RA – update on replacement of rubbish bins and maintenance of stakelights and plants
- Jim Hughes – many things done for Sevenoaks in Bloom
- Richard Streatfeild - school buses: New routes will come through Sevenoaks Bus Station so there are going to be monitors from KCC at the start of term because there will be students in morning and afternoon periods changing buses. It will be hectic and need monitoring to see if it works.
- Cllr Canet on behalf of senior action forum have noted have seen more old people involved in making town look nice and cleaning up which is great
- Francis Jones – Its sad about the hardware centre going
- Sevenoaks Society— The 900 Years Exhibition at Kaleidoscope was very good
- Chamber of Commerce - the chamber membership is back to pre 2018 levels. Concern with staff shortages because of students returning to University
- Hollybush RA - Heritage trail – grass bowls club are collaborating with the indoor bowls club and Hollybush Residents for this
- Stag - reported the Stag was seeing 40% less people for cinema and theatre, noticed more antisocial behaviour which has been reported to the Police and the CSU.

Next Meeting: Wednesday October 5th.