

Joint Transportation Board

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Joint Transportation Board held on Microsoft Teams on the **14th December 2021**.

Present:

Cllr. B Heyes (Chairman);
Mr. P Bartlett (Vice-Chairman);

Cllrs. Burgess, Cornish, Feacey, Krause, Spain.

Mr. S Campkin, Mr. P M Hill, Mr. D Robey, Mr. D Ross, Mr C.Simkins.

Mrs. C Drury – KALC Representative.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Mrs A Hicks, Mr A Rogers.

Also present:

Cllrs. Brooks, Hayward, Michael, Ovenden.

In Attendance:

Community Safety and Wellbeing Manager – ABC, Civil Enforcement Team Leader – ABC

Schemes Project Engineer – KCC, District Manager – Ashford – KCC.

208 Declarations of Interest

Mr Bartlett	Made a 'Voluntary Announcement' as he lived adjoining the Sevington Inland Border Facility site.	212
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209 Minutes

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of this Board held on the 7th September 2021 be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

210 Parking and Waiting Restrictions – update summary

The report provided an update on schemes that were currently being managed and progressed through the Parking, Highways and Transportation team.

Resolved:

That the report be received and noted.

211 Highway Works Programme Update

The report provided an update and summarised the Highways Works Programme and the identified schemes approved for construction and delivery in the next two years. An additional item had also been appended to this report and circulated separately, giving details of a proposed speed limit reduction to 40mph to be implemented on Chart Road and Long Length, Ashford.

With regard to the Programme itself, the Chairman opened up the item for discussion. The District Manager Ashford agreed to report back to Members on the following points: -

- Would the improvements to existing road markings at the Drivers Roundabout would include hatchings to prevent blocking?
- The absence of a 20mph scheme in Bybrook Road from Appendix H (Combined Members Grant Programme Update).

In relation to the Chart Road and Long Length speed limit reduction, the Schemes Project Engineer introduced this part of the report which advised that the current speed limit of this single carriageway urban distributor road was National speed limit (60mph). This had been considered as inappropriate when adjoining roads were 30mph and primarily residential, and a proposed speed limit reduction to 40mph for this section of road had received support from Kent Police and a majority of local residents who had responded to the consultation.

Both the local KCC and ABC Members supported the proposals. It was suggested by a number of Members that 30mph may be more suitable in this particular location as it was close to schools and a children's play centre/nursery, without footpaths. The Chairman advised that the Board could only vote on the proposal before them, which was a reduction to 40mph.

Resolved:

- That**
- (i) the Highway Works Programme be received and noted.**
 - (ii) the implementation of the proposed speed limit reduction on Chart Road and Long Length, Ashford be agreed.**

212 Update on the Sevington Inland Border Facility

The Senior Highway Manager – KCC had submitted an update report on the Sevington Inland Border Facility (including Operation Fennell). He had been unable to attend the meeting but had endeavoured to respond to any questions that were raised.

The Vice-Chairman said that with regard to the strategic signage being arranged by the DfT, by way of an update he could advise that Ashford's MP Damian Green had met with National Highways and this would be happening in the New Year.

Resolved:

That the update be received and noted.

213 Overnight HGV Parking Enforcement and Clamping

The Civil Enforcement Team Leader introduced the update report which advised that Ashford CEO's had recommenced enforcement on 7th September 2021, following the six month KCC trial, and gave details of activity since that date.

The Vice-Chairman asked if data could be collected during the first six months of 2022, including reports from the public, about which locations HGV's were still using to park once the larger Ashford Truck Stop was open. This would enable hotspots outside of the five designated clamping areas to be identified and the Board could perhaps decide whether any further action was required at its June 2022 meeting. This was supported by the Board.

A Member said that most lorries coming in to the UK did not have enough money to park in the Truck Stop due to wages and this forced them to park at alternate places. He did have a lot of experience in this area having worked in transport all his life and he would be happy to be involved in finding solutions in the future.

Resolved:

That the update be received and noted.

214 Moving Traffic Enforcement

The Civil Enforcement Team Leader gave a verbal update and advised that the Government had announced its intention to enact part 6 of the 2004 Traffic Management Act which would give devolved powers to CEOs for some Moving Traffic Enforcement (MTE) contraventions. Subject to parliament timescales, it was currently expected to go through in February 2022. KCC had already confirmed they would be applying for the devolved powers for Kent when possible to do so and would then discuss with Districts how to move forward once they decided how the powers were delegated. Only a select number of contraventions would be included and all MTE would be done through certified camera enforcement. The PCN would be issued by a CEO from a desk using the camera enforcement and this could be a

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Static or Mobile camera. No MTE could be issued by a CEO in uniform from the street and this did not replace any powers currently held by the Police. MTE would not change anything in the enforcement of Parking currently and how CEOs enforce on street - this would be additional and a separate way of working.

In response to questions, it was clarified that bus gates were included in the list of MTE contraventions and this was already on Officers' radar for the Ashford Borough. Members mentioned the Finberry/Bridgefield and Beaver Road Bus Gates as potential locations. The Community Safety and Wellbeing Manager advised that she was meeting with the KCC Lead Officer for MTE the following day and she would be discussing Bus Gates in particular.

Resolved:

That the update be received and noted.

215 Date of Meetings 2022/23

1st March 2022

7th June 2022

6th September 2022

6th December 2022

7th March 2023.

Queries concerning these Minutes? Please contact Member Services:
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