CHEAM NORTH AND WORCESTER PARK LOCAL COMMITTEE
4 March 2010 at 7.30 pm

MEMBERS: Councillor Abigail Lock (Chair), Councillor Richard Butt (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Stuart Gordon-Bullock, Gerry Jerome, Kirsty Jerome, Roger Roberts and Tony Brett Young

ABSENT: Councillors Brendan Hudson and Helen Senior

177. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for having to cancel the previous meeting due to officers not being able to attend because of inclement weather.

The Chair expressed condolences to the family of Gilbert Harris, a Community Representative, on behalf of the Committee. Mr Alan Plant would be standing in as his substitute for the time being.

178. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
An apology for absence was received from Councillor Brendan Hudson.

179. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 November were agreed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment, and signed by the Chair.

That the second title heading under the resolution of Minute 938/09 should read ‘The Close, Stonecot’.

180. PETITION - D’ARCY ROAD
Mr Merciar presented a petition, signed by local residents, which requested a road blockage in D’Arcy Road to deter unnecessary non residential use and, as a last resort, speed humps to slow the through traffic.

Mr Paul Tugwell, Traffic Engineer, reported that speed reports from the Metropolitan Police showed extremely low numbers of speeding vehicles. There were no reported personal injury accidents during the last three years. In respect of this, D’Arcy Road was not a priority for remedial measures. He also reported that there would not be enough space for a turning circle if the road were to be blocked.

There were various options discussed but members did not have enough information on which to base a decision. Options discussed included doing nothing, road humps or blocking the road, controlled parking zone and 20mph signage or other speed signage.

Resolved: (i) To request a detailed report on all possible options to the next meeting of this committee and for that report to also contain the average speed for the whole length of D’Arcy Road.

181. TAKE PART TAKE PRIDE
Suzy Humphries, Project Manager, explained Take Part Take Pride which runs every year. This year’s event would run from 12-18 July 2010. Ideas were requested of any organisation or group that could be contacted to take part in the
event. This year there would be a budget of £400, for this local committee area, to organise a street party or an event aimed at getting people together.

Suggestions put forward by councillors and public included:
- Tree planting event at the Daisy Field in Stonecot Ward
- Something at the new Hamilton Avenue Recreation Ground i.e. open day event
- A mobile cinema in a park
- Flower planting for Cuddington Recreation Ground
- That Suzy Humphries contact the group tidying up around Worcester Park Station which can be found on the notice board at the station.
- Painting of railings at Park Farm Road.
- An ‘in bloom’ competition.
- Councillor Brett Young stated that he had three historic walks around North Cheam set up for 18 April, 6 June and 3 October, all starting at 2pm and would be happy to run another one on 18 July as part of Take Part Take Pride.

Resolved: To thank Suzy Humphries for attending and to note the suggestions put forward.

182. SUTTON CENTRE FOR THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

Susannah Bennett, Sutton Centre for the Voluntary Sector, explained a new project called Take Part which aim was to raise awareness of how people could become active citizens which could involve setting up or getting involved in community groups, becoming a magistrate or a school governor. Part of the project was also aimed at giving residents the necessary skills to undertake some of these roles. Leaflets with further information were distributed at the meeting.

Resolved: To thank Susannah Bennett for attending.

183. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1) Written question from Mr Siegwart – read out by the Chair
My question refers to a matter that is outstanding since the matter of Public Rights of Way is given low priority in the London Borough of Sutton.

I made the original request, on behalf of and with statements by 19 local users, by formal application 14 November 2005. It was referred to again in my 20 November 2006 letter to Peter O’Connell, then Interim Head of Planning, Transport and Highways, following which I was notified by a phone call received on 19 December 2006 from Steve Shew, Head of Highways, that a register had been prepared.

Can the revision now being prepared of the April 1986 Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way in the London Borough of Sutton, be modified to include the alternative path provided to replace the footpath, proved as a public right of way under section 31(1) of the Highways Act 1980, between Hamilton Avenue via Public Rights of Way No 36 and No1 to between No’s 167 and 169 Ridge Road?

This was promised in the Council’s report to the Mayor of London. It is shown in drawing VAL2908 within planning report PDU/1486/01 July 13th 2006, and defined for public use in paragraphs 8,9 and 10 by the phrase ‘the footpath will be surfaced, lit, maintained and adopted by the Council’.

I humbly suggest that this could take place with the additions to the DMS of other public paths, including footpath No 116 and Bridle Way No 117 following the public enquiries that confirmed them also as Public Rights of Way.
Written response from Lyn Robinson, Transport Planning & Network Development, sent to Mr Siegwart

I am writing to confirm that the current situation with the path from Pyl Brook path to Ridge Road, as shown hatched on the attached plan is that the Council’s Legal Section has made an order to include the paths, as bridleways, on the definitive map.

The formal consultation, in accordance with schedule 15 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, will be undertaken shortly. The Ramblers head office will be consulted along with a number of other interested parties. There will be a notice in The Post newspaper and there will be street notices on site.

If no objections are received during the consultation period then the order will be confirmed in approximately 3 months time and the definitive map and statement updated.

2) Written question from Angela Marriott, Worcester Park Residents Association.

The WPRA committee understands that the re-phasing of the traffic lights near the junction of Green Lane and Central Road is now due to take place in March. Please could this be confirmed? Is a specific date known?

Written response from Faran Forghani, Traffic and Transport, sent to Angela Marriott

I can confirm that the works on the SCOOT (Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique) (a tool for managing and controlling traffic signals in urban areas) have been completed and the SCOOT has been commissioned. Unfortunately connection of a BT line to the controller for the Pelican at Windsor Road has delayed the implementation of this scheme. Directorate of Traffic Operations (DTO) at Transport for London (TfL) will commission the signals over the next two weeks.

Once linked, the UTC (Urban Traffic Control) team will fine tune the timings for optimal traffic movements and flow, which will take approximately 6 weeks, during which traffic flow should be improving steadily.

Although there is no guarantee that this will completely resolve the traffic flow concerns along Central Road, the installed system is a real-time traffic adaptive system, which responds automatically to traffic fluctuation and therefore should be able to smooth the traffic flow through adjacent junctions within the network. Similar systems are highly utilised throughout central London, dealing with a highly variable traffic flow situation every day and therefore TfL are confident of improvements to the traffic flowing along Central Road.

3) Written question from Angela Marriott

It is understood that there are proposals for additional car parking, to be developed by both Kingston and Sutton Councils near to Worcester Park station. WPRA members are concerned that creating an extra charged car park and probably a controlled parking zone on Green Lane for permit holders only, is certain to push commuter and other parking into nearby side roads. Please can we be provided with the precise plans for the changes proposed?

Response from Faran Forghani
A map has been sent to Angela Marriott and formed part of the report which was heard at this committee on 5 November 2009.

4) Written question from Angela Marriott
The proposed CPZ looks nightmarish. Might it also be possible to know the public consultation planned for this?

Response from Peter Ashley, Traffic Engineer, sent to Angela Marriott

The Council is seeking Resident & Businesses views as to whether roads within the proposed boundary will benefit from controlled parking. Consultation leaflets will be delivered to Residents and Businesses within the consultation area, as highlighted on the map below, in the next two week. The questionnaire will seek to determine their views regarding the options in the consultation leaflet. The information provided will be used for the purpose of the consultation only.

An Exhibition where the proposals can be viewed and where Officers will be available to answer related questions will be held at Green Lane Primary School, Green Lane, Worcester Park, KT4 8AS on Wednesday 24th March 2010 at 5pm to 9pm, Thursday 25th March 2010 at 6pm to 10pm and Saturday 27th March 2010 at 8:30am to 4pm.

Due to the number of possible responses the Council is unable to acknowledge or respond to individual comments and letters. The results of the consultation will be analysed and reported to committee, should committee instruct officers to progress the scheme funding must be found for Statutory Consultation and possible implementation.

5) Question from Mr Bunce, resident
I ask as a builder if the contract for the Life Centre went out to tender or was it a negotiated contract? Were there strings attached to securing the £4M grant, for example will the centre have to exist and be maintained for several years and if the project is not self supporting, as intended, will council tax payers have to foot the bill?

Response from the Chair
A written response will be sent to you for those questions as the Manager of the Centre has just left.

6) Question from Mr Ridout, resident
I know that on item 14 you are going to talk about the petition I put in about the buses in Church Hill Road but you don't mention the lorries at all. This is a big problem with the road tables as lorries don't slow down and bounce their loads over the tables. Also, the zebra crossing between Priory Crescent and Priory Avenue there is no mention at all about that. Cheam Park Farm School are still crossing with teachers along this busy road.

Comment from Councillor Kirsty Jerome
When residents were first consulted about road tables I thought there was some undertaking that we would revisit this a year after.

Response from the Chair
That item later is for information only. Ward councillors will take this issue forward.

184. AREA IMPROVEMENTS

Mark Dalzell, Locality Lead Officer, presented his report on the public realm projects and made a request for more ideas for next year's funding which would include a small amount for traffic safety schemes. It was reported that the Friends of Cuddington Recreation Ground had not come to a firm decision about whether or not they would like the recreation ground renamed as a park.

Suggestions for further projects included:

- Tidying up with cycle ways and to have a more unified approach to cycle ways.
- A park locking sign at the London Road entrance of Fairlands Park.
• A park area was to be put in as part of the flood scheme – would like this to be put in place.
• Drainage for pavements in Sutton Common Park.
• Railings or bollards to be extended at the junction of Church Hill Road to prevent the greenway to be used for parking.

There was public praise for the troughs in Central Road and the work undertaken in Sutton Common Park.

A resident requested that the graffiti along Green Lane be removed to which Councillor Gordon-Bullock responded that the Council were awaiting approval from three more houses to allow this to be done under the Community Payback Scheme. The same resident also complained of the devastation and deforestation that took 95% of all the trees over the brook away on one weekend just before last Christmas.

A resident who lived off Cheam Common Road requested that the Council actively promoted residents and traders to grit the pavements in front of their houses or shops. Mark Dalzell responded that the Council had reviewed its gritting arrangements and would be stockpiling twice the amount of grit as last year and were placing more grit bins around the borough. The Council would be providing an additional 20 grit bins for the Local Committee’s area and residents were asked to consider where they would like the bins located.

The Chair informed everyone that Worcester Park Library hold keys to fit all three community notice boards.

Resolved:
(i) To request that Mark Dalzell arrange for pictures of the public realm projects be put onto the local committee website.
(ii) To note that arrangements be made for Mr Bunce to be a keyholder for two of the new community notice boards.
(iii) To request that a poster of all local committee dates be put up in each of the three notice boards.
(iv) To request that the repainting of railings by the Pyl Brook be suggested for the Community Payback Scheme.

185. ISSUES IN STONECOT WARD

a) Kimpton Road traffic calming update
The Chair read out a statement from Paul Blunt, Traffic Engineer:
“The traffic calming on the Kimpton Industrial Park is in place and Minden Road open to traffic. The traffic calming was put in to deter anti social behaviour with vehicles on the estate. Police have reported that problems around the estate have been greatly reduced with very few calls. No calls or letters have been received as far as we are aware to the Council on the subject, which would indicate that businesses and road users are generally satisfied with the scheme. The Kimpton Park Way approach to the traffic signals on the A217 Sutton By-Pass has been widened to two lanes. Initial indications are that this improvement has substantially reduced the queues to the signals.”

Sue Evans, local resident, stated that the humps were not high enough and cars were racing again.

Resolved: To request that Ward Councillors take this forward with the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

b) Renaming of Hamilton Avenue Recreation Ground
Councillor Brett Young stated that residents had suggested renaming the recreation ground to maybe a park and opened this idea up to the committee and residents for their comments.
There were no local residents attending that supported this idea.

Resolved: That the idea of renaming Hamilton Avenue Recreation Ground be taken no further unless there was public support for it.

c) Renaming of Kimpton Road
There was a problem of large vehicles getting stuck down this road due to width restrictions and had problems turning around. The agenda report suggested that renaming the road would have no effect on satellite navigation systems.

A local resident suggested width restriction at the top of the road to prevent lorries turning into the road. There could be a key barrier for dust carts etc.

Resolved: That the idea of renaming Kimpton Road be taken no further due to it not be able to realise the desired outcome of preventing lorries following satellite navigation systems into the road.

186. REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

a) St Helier, The Wrythe and Wandle Valley Local Committee
Simon Densley, resident, spoke to this item which requested the planting of trees and maybe lighting in Daisy Field, Reigate Avenue Recreation Ground which was in Stonecot Ward.

Mark Dalzell, Head of Parks and Highways, did not recommend lighting due to the expensive maintenance costs which could not be found from public realm funding. However, he would be happy to talk about the options for planting trees and suggested that residents could get involved in Tree Planting Week. Baby trees could be planted in a large clump for £1 per tree and the price rises with the size of the tree. Planting season for trees was October/November.

Councillor Gordon-Bullock requested that Green Lane be included in a tree planting exercise.

It was reported that there was £9K of this year’s budget left over so this could be shared out between the three wards.

Resolved: To request back a report on what trees could be bought for each ward given they have £3K each.

b) Sutton South, Cheam and Belmont Local Committee
This reference was withdrawn as the Cheam Bowling Club will be financing the women’s changing facilities for their club.

Resolved: To note that Cheam Bowling Club will be self financing the women’s changing facilities at the club.

187. SCHOOL EXPANSION PROGRAMME

The Chair read out a statement from Stephen Ingram, Executive Head of Service Management.

“In response to the increasing birth rate, the Council has discussed with a number of schools the possibility of expansion by a form of entry, 30 pupils, from September 2011. For the Worcester Park area, one school identified for possible expansion is Cheam Common Infants, with a follow on expansion project for the junior school. However, following further discussions with the head teacher and governors of Dorchester Primary School, the Council has also decided to include Dorchester within the consultation process for possible expansion. The Council will decide which schools to expand in June following the consultation process. A consultation paper has been produced and copies are available tonight.
The paper sets out how you can respond. The consultation lasts until the end of April.”

Members and residents were encouraged to take away the consultation forms to have their say.

Resolved: To note the report.

188. UPDATE ON FLOOD OPTIONS

Mark Dalzell read out the update provided by Chris Reid, Executive Head of Environmental Sustainability. The Environment Agency and Sutton Council were looking into joint solutions and a further report would come back to this committee in June 2010.

Resolved: To note the update and to note that a further report would be on the agenda for the next meeting of this committee in June 2010.

189. LIFE CENTRE UPDATE

Martin King, Centre Manager, gave a verbal update on the Life Centre. He reported that the building works were to be completed by July 2010, that this was within budget and that there had been a few changes to the original plans which had meant a reduction in cost and increase in safety. The police and fire safety officers would be located in the building which reduced operational costs. A publicity strategy for the centre was being worked on.

The Chair explained some of the features of the new centre and that information could be gained from Sutton’s website which also contained an interactional DVD that would take you on a virtual tour of the centre.

Residents who had any further questions were asked to contact Martin King on tel: 0208 649 0640.

Resolved: To thank Martin King for his report.

190. CHURCH HILL ROAD UPDATE

Further to previous discussions regarding bus use of Church Hill Road a letter from Go-Ahead and traffic counts were provided for information. The letter from Go-Ahead stated that out of hours buses that did not use Church Hill Road as part of its normal route would be stopped from using Church Hill Road.

Residents complained that buses were still running too fast down this road and requested a key barrier.

Resolved: To request that this matter be taken forward by ward councillors.

191. FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE

There was information on the S3 Bus Route Extension Consultation for residents to take away as well as an easy-to-read procedure document for the gating of alley ways.

192. DRAFT WORKPLAN

Resolved: To note.

193. ANY URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DIRECTION OF THE CHAIR

There was no urgent business.
194. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chair reported that this was the last meeting of this committee before the local elections in May and that she wished to thank councillors, community representatives, and their input was greatly appreciated, as well as Mark Dalzell and Angela Guest.

Councillor Roger Roberts gave thanks to the Chair for the way in which the Committee had been conducted over the past few years.

Resolved: To note that the next meeting would be held on 17 June 2010.

The meeting ended at 10.20 pm

Chair: ............................................................
Date: ............................................................