

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
HIGHWAYS BOARD
HELD ON TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2003 FROM 7.00PM TO 8.35PM**

Present:- Bob Haacke(Chairman), David Chopping(Vice Chairman), UllaKarin Clark, David Lee, Mrs J Lissaman, Fiona Rolls, Paul Swaddle and Mrs D Tomlin

Also present:- Mrs A Drake, Mrs T Marinos and Rob Stanton

PART 1

28 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 21 October 2003 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

29 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

Junction of Evendons
Lane/Finchampstead Road

The Board considered a report on a petition received requesting a safety study on the junction at Evendons Lane and Finchampstead Road and measures to improve safety at this junction.

Mrs T Marinos addressed the Board as a Local Ward Member in support of the petition.

The Board agreed the recommendation set out on Agenda page 10 to undertake a safety study to establish whether any additional measures could be undertaken to improve road safety, and to proceed to a Stage II report.

Woosehill Spine Road

The Board considered a Stage II report following the receipt of a petition calling for a thorough road safety review of the Woosehill Spine Road.

Mrs T Marinos addressed the Board as a Local Ward Member in support of the Options identified on Agenda page 13, including a reduction in the speed limit.

The Board supported the Officer's recommendation to remove the lower branches of four trees and to reposition a road sign, which restricted clear visibility for vehicles exiting the superstore, but did not support a reduction in the speed limit as this would require significant engineering works and would not be vigorously enforced by the Thames Valley Police.

Members considered whether to approve measures to close the gap in the central reserve opposite the superstore. It was felt that further consultation was required with Local members and user groups, and the outcome of negotiations with the superstore known, before a decision could be taken, hence the Board resolved to recommend that the Executive defer this issue.

RESOLVED That the Executive be recommended:

1) To approve the following actions, subject to the availability of funding:

a) Evendons Lane/Finchampstead Road – proceed to a Stage II report;

b) Woosehill Spine Road – Removal of the lower branches of four trees, and the repositioning of a road sign (as described on Agenda page 13);

2) To defer consideration of option (b) (closure of the gap opposite the superstore) pending the outcome of negotiations with the superstore, and the

report, in order to allow the school bus to stop (Agenda page 50);

d) consider any objections which may be received and, if none are received, to authorise the introduction of the restrictions.

35 VEHICLE-ACTIVATED SIGNS

The Board considered a report set out on Agenda pages 52-60 regarding the development of the policy and provisional programme for the installation of Vehicle-Activated Signs (VAS).

The Team Leader for Traffic Management and Road Safety drew Members' attention to a revised report containing a revised list of proposed sites for further investigation during 2003/2004, set out in paragraph 16 of the report.

In response to a question, Members were advised that the list of sites for future consideration, set out in paragraph 17 of the report (Agenda pages 59-60) had been compiled in order of requests received, and was not a priority list.

Members of the Board and Local Ward Members present welcomed the progress being made on the VAS programme and suggested other roads in the district which might be suitable for the installation of VAS. The Board was advised that further suggestions would be added to the list of sites for future analysis.

RESOLVED That the Executive be advised to:

a) approve the policy for vehicle activated signs set out in paragraphs 9-10 of the report (Agenda pages 55-56);

b) authorise the feasibility, assessment and further development of the 2003/2004 programme of VAS, as follows:

1. Bearwood Road, Wokingham
2. New Wokingham Road, Wokingham Without
3. A4130/White Hill/Remenham
4. Kiln Ride/Nine Mile Ride Junction

c) authorise the feasibility, assessment and development of the 2004/2005 programme of VAS, based on the details set out in paragraph 17 of the report, as amended.

36 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2003/2004

The Board considered a report set out on Agenda pages 61-78 on the status of the 2003/2004 Environmental Services Capital Programme.

The Consultancy Contract Manager drew Members' attention to a revised set of appendices which had been previously circulated, as the version contained in the Agenda contained inaccuracies. The Board approved the amendments to the schedule set out in bold type in the revised appendices, as recommended, subject also to the inclusion of £69,266 Section 106 funding agreed at the last meeting.

RESOLVED that the Executive be advised to note the status of schemes detailed in Appendix A, as amended, and approve the amendments to the schedules identified in bold type (***revised appendices attached to these Minutes***).