

WEST AREA COMMITTEE UPDATE

At the last meeting of this Committee, a number of issues were raised that required further investigation.

Ref No.	Issue	Progress	Officer details
02/07 (Minute 238/07)	Rayleigh West Sewage Works – timescale for the implementation of additional/improved signage at Hullbridge, Battlesbridge and Rawreth Lane.	Advance warning of weight limit signs have been erected.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540
07/07 (Minute 239/07)	The Bridge on the Old Chelmsford Road – update on the progress of the feasibility study as to whether it might be possible to install traffic lights on the bridge.	As the site is close to a number of ponds an Environmental Study is required (Great Crested Newts). This has to take place between March and June. The report will therefore be delayed.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540
19/07 (Minute 287/07)	Battlesbridge Conservation Area – Progress on establishing a joint forum for issues relating to the Battlesbridge Conservation Area.	A meeting between the two Councils took place on 24 January 2008 to discuss the arrangements for a joint forum and the implementation of the action plan. The management options included in the plan were discussed and it has been agreed that a further meeting will be organised involving County Highways to explore the options available to begin to implement the proposals. Arrangements for a forum were considered, but have not yet been finalised: initial thoughts are that a forum should involve a wide range of interests, including the Parish Councils.	S Scrutton Rochford District Council 01702 318100

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23/07 (Minute 287/07)	Unauthorised Travellers' Site on A1245.	Essex Districts have agreed to commission consultants to undertake a new Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment. The East of England Regional Assembly published a draft policy on the provision of gypsy and traveller accommodation in February 2008.	S Scrutton Rochford District Council 01702 318100
25/07 (Minute 340/07)	Improvements to the wet side changing rooms and showers at Clements Hall Leisure Centre.	A programme of repair and maintenance items has been agreed with Council officers within the wetside changing rooms and shower areas, to be completed by the end of March 2008, including items such as new ceiling tiles, repairs to lockers and changing cubicles, etc.	J Bourne Rochford District Council 01702 318163
27/07 (Minute 340/07)	Victoria Avenue, adjoining London Road, is in need of re-surfacing.	Victoria Avenue has been included in the County Highways programme for re-surfacing for 2008-09.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540
29/07 (Minute 340/07)	The status of Priory Chase and whether or not this has been adopted. The lights on the turning circle are still not switched on.	Priory Chase is not adopted. Part of the street lighting in Priory Chase is operational and County Highways is awaiting a response to enquiries made to the developer regarding when the remaining lights will be operational.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540

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32/07 (Minute 340/07)	Continued speeding and parking problems in Little Wheatley Chase. Speed limit signs are not illuminated.	An informal consultation has taken place with residents and the school with a view to implementing parking restrictions. Response was favourable, plus an extension to the proposal has been requested. Put forward to be considered as part of next year's Locally Determined Budget works (programme for next year still to be agreed). Speeding is more of an issue and a request has been put forward for mobile enforcement to be considered. (Some enforcement has taken place).	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540
34/07 (Minute 340/07)	Uneven road surface in Rawreth Lane in the vicinity of Trender Avenue.	County Highways is unable to include Rawreth Lane in the surfacing programme this coming financial year.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540
36/07 (Minute 340/07)	Excessive speeding in Langham Drive/Wheatley Chase/Bardfield Way, Rayleigh and limited parking in these roads.	See above item 32/07.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540
37/07 (Minute 340/07)	The possibility of introducing a 20mph speed limit in Glasseys Lane and other roads in that vicinity leading onto Eastwood Road, Rayleigh.	Essex County Council is reviewing policy at present. Draft is expected by March 2008. Ongoing.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540

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38/07 (Minute 340/07)	Extension to double yellow lines in Picton Gardens/Picton Close, Rayleigh.	Objection to the proposal has been overruled. Letters have been sent out to residents requesting permission to fix signs to their walls. Awaiting permission before instructing contractor to start works.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540
44/07 (Minutes 339/07 and 410/07)	Flooding in Rawreth – an assurance to be sought from the Environment Agency that ditches within the District would be maintained to prevent build-up of silt.	A letter has been received from the Environment Agency providing details of the watercourses for which the Agency has responsibility. The Agency looks to carry out maintenance works on an annual basis, and will ensure works do not have a negative impact on wildlife or habitats. In addition, the Agency may also use permissive powers to carry out works where there is a benefit to the public purse, though this does not alter the obligations of other landowners to maintain their watercourses.	S Scrutton Rochford District Council 01702 318100
45/07 (Minute 339/07)	Speeding and traffic-related problems in Rawreth Lane – there have been recent incidents involving children being knocked over in Rawreth Lane.	Statutory Consultation taking place for 21 days with a view to implementing a revision to the speed limit, 40mph western end and 50mph in the centre.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540
47/07 (Minute 409/07)	Youngsters drinking Asda-branded alcohol outside St Nicholas School Area, Rawreth in a poorly lit area.	The Police are taking steps to address this, with consideration being given to various options, including test purchases and a licensing review.	A Parkman Essex Police 01268 775533

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08/08 (Minute 02/08)	Graffiti and damage in play areas in Hartford Close, Rayleigh	Signs in the play space have been removed and will be re-installed within the next 2 weeks. The graffiti on the play equipment has been painted over.	R Evans Rochford District Council 01702 318044
02/08 (Minute 02/08)	Pearsons Farm Estate has no litter or dog bins and is in general need of a re-vamp.	Council officers have completed an informal consultation with residents to locate dog bins near or outside their properties. As a result an additional bin is to be installed at the junction of Cheapside West and Victoria Avenue.	R Evans Rochford District Council 01702 318044
03/08 (Minute 02/08)	Is the no. 3 bus service from Chelmsford to Southend due to cease?	It has been confirmed that the No. 3 service will operate until March 2009. Its future beyond that date is dependant upon the financial performance of the service.	S Scrutton Rochford District Council 01702 318100
05/08 (Minute 02/08)	Trees have been broken and there's an increase in rubbish at Rayleigh Leisure Centre.	Seven trees have been vandalised at this location. They are planned to be replaced before the end of the current season planting. The litter deposited on the grass and amenity areas has been removed.	R Evans Rochford District Council 01702 318044

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06/08 (Minute 02/08)	Rain is soaking pedestrians, including children, walking along Rawreth Lane.	Noted but exact location to target action is required.	L Harvey Essex County Council 01268 297540
08/08 (Minute 62/08)	Speeding in Victoria Avenue, Rayleigh – last traffic survey was conducted 3 years ago.	County Highways have confirmed that the last speed survey conducted in this area was conducted between 22 – 25 March 2005. The survey showed that the 85%ile speeds were in the region of 33 - 35mph. Speeds increased to 40mph by 9pm, and early in the morning.	A Parkman Essex Police 01268 775533
09/08 (Minute 62/08)	Executive Board to consider making provision in next year's budget for an extension to the car park at Rawreth recreation ground.	Consideration will be given to this request by the Executive Board at its meeting on 26 March 2008.	A Bugeja Rochford District Council 01702 318130
10/08 (Minute 63/08)	Why are reported crime figures for Wheatley ward the highest within the west area?	Between 01/08/2007 & 31/12/2007, there were 253 recorded offences in the Wheatley ward. Of these, 130 offences were committed in the High Street (the majority of offences being theft/theft related, assaults and public order incidents). The level of recorded offences is directly linked to the geographic boundaries of the Wheatley ward.	A Parkman Essex Police 01268 775533
11/08 (Minute 63/08)	What range of animal problems are covered by the ASB classification?	ASB2 covers any incident whereby animals are creating a nuisance or people's behaviour associated with the use of the animal is construed as anti-social. (This excludes animal-related problems occurring on the highway (these are covered in the transport codes) and wildlife incidents (these are covered in the PSW codes))	A Parkman Essex Police 01268 775533

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		<p>incidents (these are covered in the PSW codes). The type of incidents recorded under ASB2 would include: uncontrollable animals, stray dogs, non-notifiable dog bites, constant barking, fouling, intimidation by animals - which fall short of notifiable crimes.</p>	
12/08 (Minute 62/08)	Possibility of installing new benches in Sweyne Park?	Consideration will be given to installing new benches in Sweyne Park as part of the works to be developed through the new Open Spaces Refurbishment programme that was agreed in this year's budget setting process.	J Bourne Rochford District Council 01702 318163
13/08 (Minute 62/08)	Advertisement hoarding signs in Rawreth Lane and at the entrance to Trender Avenue.	It has been established that the advertisements in Rawreth Lane are not on highway land and therefore letters have been sent to the companies concerned requesting their removal. Of the signs at the entrance to Trender Avenue, one has been on display for many years and it would not now be possible to take action requiring its removal. The other sign is subject to investigation.	S Scrutton Rochford District Council 01702 318100