

Meeting of the

EASTBOURNE AREA COMMITTEE

held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 26 June 2002

PRESENT:-

Eastbourne Borough Councillors: STANLEY (Chairman), BERRY, ELKIN, HARRIS, LEGGETT, TAYLOR AND WARNER.

East Sussex County Councillors: Mrs HEALY (Vice-Chairman), ELLIS, Mrs LEIGH, SKILTON, TUNWELL, VICKERS and Miss WOODALL.

Apologies for absence were reported from Councillors Thompson (EBC) and Tutt (ESCC).

Officers:

Eastbourne Borough Council: Mr M Ray, Chief Executive; Mr M Probyn, Head of Amenities; Mr D Foden, Highways Manager and Mr D Robinson, Member Services Manager.

East Sussex County Council: Mr R Partridge, Assistant Director of Legal and Community Services; Mr C Walker, Assistant Director, Department of Transport and Environment, Ms V Warren, Head of Special Client Services, Library Service and Mr M Bacon, Group Manager, Eastbourne Library Service.

Mr Ray reported the death of former Borough Councillor, Honorary Alderman Leslie Mason at the weekend. The meeting observed one minute of silence in memory of Leslie Mason.

	1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN. Borough Councillor Stanley was elected Chairman and County Councillor Mrs Healy was elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing Council year.		
	2. MINUTES. The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2002 as a correct record.		
	3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT. The following Members disclosed interests as set out below:-		
	Councillor:	Nature of Interest:	
	Elkin	} } } }	Personal interest by virtue of being non-executive Directors of Eastbourne Buses Limited. Interest not considered prejudicial in so far as discussion of transportation issues arising at this meeting.
	Leggett		
	Skilton Warner		
	4. HIGHWAY SCHEMES IN EASTBOURNE. The Committee considered the report of the County Director of Transport and Environment listing details of highway schemes under construction or being designed within the next twelve months in Eastbourne. Of particular note were the recent opening on 19 June 2002 of the A27 Polegate Bypass and new A22 route into Eastbourne. There would be a further update at the Committee's next meeting on the impact on traffic flows in the town. Members also discussed the proposed Sovereign Harbour bus link and District General Hospital public transport interchange schemes and the important contribution both these schemes could make to improving the town's bus services. NOTED.		

	<p>5. STREET LIGHTING. The Committee considered the report of the County Director of Transport and the Environment describing the main outcomes of the recent scrutiny review of street lighting. Members welcomed the proposed improvements and noted the contribution better street lighting could make to reducing crime and improving road safety. There were, however, reservations at the loss of traditional style lampposts, particularly in conservation areas. The County would continue to seek financial contribution from borough and district councils for enhanced design standards in such areas.</p> <p>Mr Walker also reported upon continued efforts to reach agreement with Seeboard for a better response to the repair of mains faults.</p> <p>NOTED.</p>	
	<p>6. PEOPLE'S NETWORK AT EASTBOURNE LIBRARY. Mick Bacon, Group Manager, Eastbourne County Library Service, submitted an information note on this initiative. Over 200 computers were being installed in libraries to provide free high speed internet access for the public. Government funding was being provided as part of the People's Network scheme. 29 computers had been provided at the Eastbourne Central Library and up to 150 visitors were now using the computers each day for sessions of between 15 minutes and one hour. On 20 June an additional six computers had been provided in the Children's Library.</p> <p>NOTED.</p>	
	<p>7. MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE. Viv Warren, Head of Special Client Services, for the County Library Service submitted an information paper setting out the criteria for mobile library stops. This followed the County's scrutiny review of the mobile library service and the reduction from four to two vehicles. Following application of the new criteria all but six stops in the Eastbourne area had been discontinued.</p> <p>NOTED.</p>	
	<p>8. MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION BY AREA COMMITTEE. The following matters were raised by Members:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · School admissions (Councillor Mrs Healy). · Safe cycle routes into the town centre (Councillor Taylor). · Progress towards the decriminalisation of parking (Councillor Elkin). · Recycling (Councillor Elkin). · Impact of A27 Polegate bypass and A22 new route. 	

	<p>9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS. The following dates for 2002/2003 were agreed:-</p> <p>16 October 2002</p> <p>15 January 2003</p> <p>26 March 2003</p> <p>All meetings at 6.00 pm on Wednesdays.</p>	
The meeting closed at 7.53 pm.		
		<p>N D A Stanley</p> <p>Chairman</p>
(der:\P\area\02.06.26\mins)		