

SOUTH GREENWICH FORUM

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT & ASSOCIATED MATTERS IN THE SOUTH OF THE BOROUGH

Minutes of the 110th quarterly meeting held on Monday January 22 2018
at St Mary's Community Centre, Eltham High Street, SE9 1BJ

Present

Laurie Baker (Chair)
Richard Cornell
John Babb
Robin Clark
Judy Smith
John Lawton

Representing

The Eltham Society
Royal Borough of Greenwich
Individual member
Eltham Public Transport Users Group
Old Page Estate Residents Association
Riefeld Road Residents Association

1. **Apologies for absence**

Jim Basford (Normanhurst Residents Association)
Margaret Johnson (Progress Residents Association)

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** held on October 23 2017 were agreed.

3. **Eltham High Street Public Realm**

The Footscray Road traffic lights are now in place. The three road layout problems identified by SGF raised at November 22 Stakeholder meeting will be considered when the safety review is undertaken; results expected in April. Raised at this meeting – problems at the bus stop in Well Hall Road by McDonalds, because of the siting of the bus pole, bus shelter, and curve in pavement edge. Loss of parking in Passey Place is said by retailers to have caused a 25% drop in trade. Need for retail regeneration that SGF discussed at last Traffic meeting was raised at the November 22 Stakeholder meeting.

4. **Eltham Town Centre & other major developments**

- a) DLR extension to Eltham & Kidbrooke: Nothing to report on DLR; for Henley X see 13(e) below.
- c) Eltham Masterplan: Second 10 Orangery Lane planning application – very little change from first. No decision yet on Job Centre application for 1 extra floor.
- d) CPZ changes and new charges: Understand design of proposed changes is out for consultation. Cabinet meeting on December 6 agreed to increased CPZ permit charges from April.

5. **Highways Committee**: November 30 meeting reviewed LIP plans.

6. **TfL consultation on changes to 161 route**

Result of this consultation not yet known, and that includes information on whether or where the 161 bus might stop in Thomas Street.

7. **DfT consultation on south east rail franchise**

The DfT has announced that the tender for this rail franchise will restore Charing Cross trains to the Bexleyheath line, but remove Victoria trains. This is seen as a major problem, firstly as many users of the Victoria line have moved house and taken jobs because the service exists, and secondly because the ease of train change at Lewisham is extremely poor, especially for the disabled, those with buggies, luggage etc. Agreed that SGF should liaise with Clive Efford and The Blackheath Society to see how much can be done to encourage passengers to sign the petition that has been set up requesting DfT re-instate the Victoria trains on the Bexleyheath line. Not clear whether the loop line would continue in the new tender, or whether all or any

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Bexleyheath line Cannon Street trains would stop at Lewisham. Clarity on these points, and the need to raise accessibility at Lewisham, requires a public meeting with DfT.

There was also discussion about the way new developments in signalling might help solve the problems associated with the crossover of lines at Lewisham. New in-cab signalling north of St Pancras through to London Bridge is said to have greatly improved reliability and speed of Thameslink trains. Those who have knowledge/experience of the crossover signalling requirements at Lewisham might consider this in-cab signalling system would allow Victoria trains to be retained on the Bexleyheath line. Agreed this should be discussed with Clive and that RBG should be asked to raise this at their regular meetings with public transport providers, as well as support the need for a public meeting with DfT (see above).

Interestingly, Robin advised that he understood our Bexleyheath line trains were in the main controlled/signalled from Three Bridges. He also understood the Bermondsey dive-out offered no benefit to passengers in terms of improved timings.

8. **Eltham Community Hospital**: A 'no parking at any time restriction' has still not been put in place in the section of Passey Place immediately in front of the hospital and lack of it does cause major problems when vehicles are parked there.

9. **Improved pedestrian routes at North Greenwich**: Need to contact Planning again.

10. **Kidbrooke bus proposals (2020) and access to station**

Retain as an Agenda item to ensure progress is monitored.

11. **20 mph on local roads**: Retain as an Agenda item to ensure progress is monitored.

12. **Eltham Public Transport Users Group**:

Robin said it was unfortunate that at North Greenwich the 132 had been moved to stop D, while the 161 remains at stop A. For a goodly section in the Eltham area these two buses follow the same route, and so it is unfortunate that they now stop so far apart passengers who could use either bus have no chance of running from one stop to the other in time to catch the first available bus. Robin welcomed the fact that the 162 now had an improved service. He had been advised that enforcement to stop cars parking in the bus lane in Well Hall Road near the Dobell junction could not be undertaken until new signage was in place.

13. **Matters arising from the October meeting**

- a) **Avery Hill CPZ**: Bexley have again submitted an objection, so back to Mayor of London.
- b) **Footpath from Rochester Way to Kidbrooke Station**: Is footpath open & lit?
- c) **Bus lane in Well Hall Road**: Any response from TfL? Ask Tim Jackson.
- d) **Concrete blocks in Sherard and Dursley Roads**: Judy to raise again.
- e) **Kidbrooke Station footbridge and lift access**: RBG advised Blackheath Society that TfL preferred bidder is Notting Hill Housing Group & U+I; currently engaged with Network Rail to determine what land NR may require in the future. RBG insist Notting Hill & TfL are aware of importance of lifts. SGF continues to ask what happened to the Peter Hendy (Network Rail) letter offering to discuss lifts.
- f) **Sun-in-Sands roundabout – advertising preventing pavement access**: Photo required
- g) **Chequers Parade lighting poor**: RBG have no responsibility unless we can claim it is dangerously dark, in which case they might be able to recommend improvements.
- h) **Dover Patrol parking**: Improvements in hand.

14. **Dates of next Traffic meetings**

2018 April 23 July 23 October 22

All at 8pm at St Mary's Community Centre, 180 Eltham High Street, SE9 1BJ