

AT A MEETING of the Regulatory Sub-Committee (School Transport Appeal) of  
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at the castle, Winchester on Thursday,  
25th January, 2018

\* Councillor Mark Cooper  
\* Councillor Judith Grajewski

\* Councillor Peter Latham

\*Present

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

That Councillor P. Latham be appointed Chairman for this meeting only.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Councils Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 2 of the code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

There were no declarations of interest made by the members of the panel under this item.

3. **DEPUTATIONS**

No deputations were received.

4. **SCHOOL TRANSPORT APPEAL: BISHOPS WALTHAM TO SWANMORE COLLEGE**

The Panel considered the report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment on the walking route from Hermitage Close, Bishops Waltham to Swanmore College.

Members were informed that:

- Following a review of walking routes to Swanmore College, it was determined that there was an alternative walking route from the Bishops Waltham area to Swanmore College.
- This decision affected a number of pupils and subsequently the parents/guardians of 21 students were issued with a letter advising that transport would be withdrawn at the end of term, December 2017. Any new applications received from September 2017 were rejected as being 'under distance'.
- The route measured less than 3 miles. The method and accuracy of measurement was explored by the Panel; the routes are measured using a 'Trumeter' wheel and that an adjustment is made to allow for any possible variance in the measurement.
- The route had been assessed by a Road Safety Officer in accordance with Road Safety GB Criteria.
- In the last 5 years, there has been one accident recorded along this route at the time of travelling to school. No accidents involving pedestrians have been recorded at school/home time.

## 5. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the meeting during the following items of business, as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, and further that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest.

## 6. **EVIDENCE FROM APPELLANT**

The Panel considered the appellant's written reasons for appeal and understood the concerns raised about the safety of the walking route. However, having previously walked the route that morning accompanied by an officer from the Economy, Transport and Environment Department, a Road Safety Officer and the appellant, the Panel concluded that the route was available accompanied, but also unaccompanied.

The Panel's particular reasons for their decision were:

- There was a suitable path and crossing points available for the entire route.
- The Panel were satisfied that the route was within 3 miles of the school (as determined by section 444(5) of the Education Act 1996) and they felt that a child attending Swanmore College would be able to get to school safely using the route available.

RESOLVED:

That the walking route from Winchester Road, Bishops Waltham to Swanmore College is available accompanied and unaccompanied.

---

Chairman,