

SOUTH EAST HIGHWAY AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

Friday 13th June 2014, Brighton Town Hall, Bartholomews, Brighton

PRESENT

DAVID LATHAM - KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CHAIRMAN)	BOB BEANEY OPENREACH (JOINT CHAIRMAN)
ROY CLARKE (SECRETARY) SOUTHERN WATER	IAN ACKERMAN - HANTS COUNTY COUNCIL
ROBERT HUDLESTON – NETWORK RAIL	ALISON HEWS - KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
DAVID PARKER – SLOUGH BC	JAN CHAPMAN - THAMES WATER
WAYNE SCOTT – BRACKNELL FOREST BC	KEITH O’BRIEN – VODAFONE
KEVIN ORLEDGE – SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL	DEXTER DAVID – BRIGHTON & HOVE COUNCIL
JULIE PAYNE - SCOTTISH & SOUTHERN ENERGY	IAN ADAMS – SUTTON AND EAST SURREY WATER
PAUL DOOLEY - UK POWER NETWORKS	EMMA WENHAM - SOUTH EAST WATER
PHIL NICHOLSON – VIRGIN MEDIA	JEAN NEWTON - BBLP
JULIE DAY – EAST SUSSEX CC	KEITH LANGAN - SGN
VICKI STEWART - AFFINITY WATER	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

DARREN HUNTER - SGN	NEIL AINSWORTH – WEST BERKSHIRE CC
DONNA COOPER - SCOTTISH & SOUTHERN ENERGY	EDWINA KACZOR - ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD
BEN SYDENHAM – SEMBCORP WATER	IAIN THORNTON – ISLAND ROADS
JAMES PENMAN – READING BC	ROGER HOWARD – WEST SUSSEX CC
STEVE YOUELL / IAN DAVIES – PORTSMOUTH WATER	FRED WILLET - COLAS
MICHELLE LOVE – PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL	MATT JEZZARD – SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
GRAEME LAKE – EAST SUSSEX CC	GRAHAM BARNWELL - WOKINGHAM BC
MALCOLM LYONS - SSE TELECOMS	PETER SMITH - BBMM

2. CONTACT DETAILS
A list had been circulated for updating.
3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 28th March 2014 – Accuracy
KO – SEPS AOB item was for information rather than a proposal.
4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING 28th March 2014
 - Streetlighting – Ongoing – ESCC putting data on the NSG. RH asked whether any licence would be required if aerial platforms are being used? SEHAUC agreed a licence would only be required if a commercial lorry was being used, but a cherry picker would be part of the works equipment and a licence would therefore not be required.
 - Coring costs – every HA in the Country had to respond to ‘Joe Black’, therefore all should be available.
5. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS ARISING FROM MEETING 28th March 2014
 - Iack to put March minutes on the SEHAUC website as they are.

ACTION

Iack

6. REPORT FROM SEHAUC JOINT WORKING GROUPS (IAck)
- Identification of covers – All HA’s to go back to their own teams for examples of HA covers. ‘Fibreway’ new promoter in Surrey that could be part of Sky.
 - SEHAUC Approved Materials list – The spreadsheet now lists all materials and all Authority’s are assumed to have given consent for their use except where specifically identified. The document is available for download from the SEHAUC website. Only a few HA’s have opted out of approving the regional materials.
 - Inspections - Three venues have been confirmed and invites have been sent out. 30th July Portsmouth, 4th Sept Runnymede, 28th Oct Maidstone. IA to distribute attendee lists to all.
 - Overbanding - SEHAUC does not promote the general use of Overbanding but where situations or circumstances dictate Overbanding may be provided. Situations could be re-instatements that are in wheel tracks, turning circles or areas that would be considered high risk as defined in S2.6.3 of the SRoH. SEHAUC only supports the use of HAPAS approved products specifically designed the purpose following a site specific risk assessment
 - The use of coloured barriers to identify works promoters / contractors was discussed at the WG and considered to be good practice
 - Event – WG pushing for a few more external exhibitors. Ann Morley will be giving an update; Guidedogs for the blind will be there, with a sensory tunnel. BB to liaise with IAck re website & delegate registration.
- IAck
7. TREASURER’S REPORT
- AH ran through the Treasurer’s Report. Outgoings due to event deposit & insurance, and further income received from 2014 SEHAUC event. Outstanding Debt from 1st Intervention now paid. SEHAUC account balance is healthy and will cover the event.
 - Inspection training days – SEHAUC agreed that there would be recompense of travelling costs for those presenting.
- BB / IAck
8. HIGHWAYS AGENCY REPORT / ISSUES
- No HA representation at meeting.
9. AGENDA ITEMS & ISSUES TABLED FOR DEBATE
- **Sustainability:** HAUC England have agreed a spec for slot cutting, details awaited.
 - **Sharing Good Practice:** BB is looking at putting together a ‘wish list’ of potential works on supersensitive roads, and looking to tag onto USRN’s (e.g. potential s81’s etc). These can then be carried out when the HA or another Utility closes the road to carry out works. Discussion took place over whether the best way of flagging potential works would be a forward planning notice, but agreed that someone with ETON Tech Spec knowledge would investigate whether works could be tagged to a USRN. DL will raise with JW.
 - **Performance:** Scorecard – 84 out 152 English HA’s now submitting reports. BB requested reasons for not being able to provide the information. IAck & JN confirmed that there are issues with Confirm preventing them from providing the data.
 - **HAUC(UK):** will take place 22nd July at O2 Arena. HAUC(England) took place on 30th May, Terms of Reference still out for consultation,
- DL

meeting venues will be across England. HAUC(UK) Joint Chairs attended the 1st meeting for handover. DfT attended, confirming localism & de-regulation are still high on the agenda. ‘Very Unlikely’ that any other Lane Rental scheme will be rolled out under the current administration. 2015 draft Permit regs should be now at House of Lords – there is a big rush for HA’s to get Permit schemes approved before de-regulation (only 3 members in DfT Streetworks Team). BB mentioned that the current Safety CoP is being ‘pulped’ due to amount of errors – link to new version as below:- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safety-at-street-works-and-road-works>

BB mentioned that s71 of the TMA has been enacted so that the new code is binding for all works on the highway as of now. TTRO consultation – no intention of removing advertising requirements under the current administration. Inspections – BB to circulate flow chart that is being pegged to the CoP. Discussion took place over whether SEHAUC members would be complying with the new HAUC(UK) Inspections advice note? RC stated that Southern Water would be, but would not be able to ring in the time every remedial was being carried out. All to email RC any opt outs from compliance with the HAUC(UK) advice note before next SEHAUC. Public rites of way – permissible for info only. There will be a future HAUC(England) website, and intention of the group is to discuss best practice from Regions.

- **Venues for future meetings:** Aldershot for Sept, December at Wokingham / Berks, Oakwood House for March 2015.
- **Damage to Apparatus** – IAd ran through the issue of boxes regularly being surfaced over & being filled in with concrete, which will ultimately result in safety issues when a main bursts and valves cannot be located. Discussion took place and standard method is to surface over & re-excavate buried apparatus afterwards. Microsurfacing is the issue, where it is difficult to know the final levels. BB gives 30 days notice & then carries out the repair to the damage, and recharges. General consensus was that the HA could be recharged for damage incurred. However, could be an issue where tarmac is removed, and cover has not been raised in line with new surface. DL suggested having an HA works promoter representative to account for themselves. To be discussed at SEJUG & SEJAG as to whether a representative should sit on SEHAUC.
- **Manual Control of Portable Traffic Signals** – Agreed that next meeting would focus on PTS & get an idea of the scale of issues from JAG members. BB will discuss with DH regarding Holler demonstration at Aldershot. RC will move over to next agenda.
- **SEPS** – BB mentioned that any future Permit Schemes will only be approved if they contain reference to ‘sector approved conditions’ (i.e. HAUC(UK)), and 2015 Regs will reflect that. Envisaged that all current permit schemes will have migrated to those conditions within 5 years, as any changes to the scheme will necessitate this. BB would like to work with all HA’s to migrate to these conditions once document is ratified. VS asked about status of 1.3 SEPS Model conditions, and BB confirmed not universally accepted by JUG members, and to discuss further with MJ. BB/DL to forward Permit Forum minutes to RC for circulation.
- **Dispute Resolution for HA Contractors** – WS confirmed that the issue was now sorted & within the term maintenance contract. DL/BB did confirm that they had no objections for adjudication within SEHAUC for any FPN appeals from HA Contractor.

BB

All

SEJUG
SEJAG

BB
RC

DL/BB

- **Mechanically Mixed SMR for Core & Vac** – Iack mentioned if approved in one Authority, then will be approved across the board (unless opt out). Iack will discuss with DH. **Iack**
- **Private Sewer Pipes** – Iack asked if all are responsibility of the Water Company if s50 licence is applied for? RC not all are under ownership of the Water Company, would need to be adopted under the Water Industry Act. Diagram to be sent with minutes showing what changes



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occurred after 1st October 2011 (see attached PDF).

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **RC** raised issue of Island Roads requesting full or half width reinstatements on all works after resurfacing. RC mentioned the latest HAUC(UK) s58 advice note which states there is no legislation in place for full /half width reinstatement. BB stated that the exempt works listed in the Co-ordination CoP are exempt from s58 restrictions. DL suggested that it should be possible to come to a sensible working arrangement regarding planned works in s58 roads.
- **JP** mentioned a collaborative working Permit issue, where working within other utility road closure. Collaborative working box should be ticked, along with comment ‘working within XX road closure’.
- **EW** mentioned problem with permits being refused & variations being asked for. BB stated should be Permit Modification request. VS suggested a Permit practitioners working group. KO is waiting to stabilise the SEPS scheme & will discuss with DL. SEHAUC Permit training session 2015 was suggested & DL will take to SEJAG. Table of SEPS issues required from JUG members. **DL
JUG**
- **BB** asked for the breakdown of coring costs that the HA’s have provided under the freedom of information Act. All HA’s to send direct to BB. **All HA’s**
- **RH** asked for a SEHAUC on requesting early starts. DL believes this to be by discretion. Some HA’s will not talk until a notice /Permit is on the system, whereas others will grant before Permit applied for. BB suggested best practice would be to submit notice /permit 1st & then discuss.
- **JC** mentioned London & Anglian HAUC have an initiative day regarding checking of Streetworks Qualification cards. JC to send details to RC for circulation. **JC**
- **WS** stated that the Secretary of State has just approved Bracknell Forest’s application to join SEPS, which will go live 5th November 2014. Conditions to be approved.

11. SUBMISSION DATE FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda items to be submitted to the Secretary by 29th August 2014 and Agenda circulated by the Secretary prior to meeting.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 12th September 2014, SGN Aldershot