

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

18th August 2009

The meeting commenced at 9.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Peter Jackson (Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Dave Stubbs, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Denise Ogden, Head of Neighbourhood Management
Sylvia Tempest, Environmental Standards Manager
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

19. Pride in Hartlepool Proposals (*Head of Procurement, Property and Public Protection*)

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To consider the recommendations of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group in respect of proposals for community projects and proposed changes to the grant award scheme.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group recommended the following projects for approval:-

- Burbank Back Alley – a contribution of £2,500 towards the cost of improvements to the alley behind Burbank Street to turn it into a community garden
- Brougham Primary School – a contribution of £2,500 towards costs of installing a multi-sensory garden
- Eldon Grove Primary School – a contribution of £1,000 towards the cost of making an allotment site accessible to wheelchair users and installation of a poly tunnel

- Friends of Seaton Station / Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency – a contribution of £2,500 towards an art project to enhance Seaton Station in preparation for the Tall Ships Races in 2010.
- Central Estate Management Organisation – £961 to replant 62 hanging baskets on sheltered bungalows
- Heugh Gun Battery Trust - £1,000 to fund equipment and resources for their 'Dig For Victory' project.
- Friends of North Cemetery – a contribution of £2,500 towards the design and construction of a number of carved wooden benches and sculptures for the cemetery.

The Environmental Standards Manager also highlighted a number of proposed changes to the Pride in Hartlepool grant scheme as recommended by the steering group, namely

- That decisions on new project proposals be made 3 times a year;
- That the maximum grant be reduced to £1,000 and a bands system be implemented at each funding round (details provided within the report);
- That schools be asked to contribute at least 25% of the total cost of the project and private companies 50% and
- That groups be asked to wait 2 years before reapplying for funding for the same project

The Portfolio Holder referred to the proposal to reduce the maximum grant to £1,000 and introduce new banding levels. He stated that he hoped the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group would be flexible about maximum levels for the bands, particularly in those cases where the applicants would be contributing a substantial amount. The Environmental Standards Manager to take these concerns back to the Steering Group. The Portfolio Holder expressed his support for the applications and changes to the grant scheme.

Decision

That the recommendations of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group in respect of community environmental projects be approved.

20. Resident's Only Parking Controls – Clifton Avenue (Head of Technical Services)

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To consider requests from residents of Clifton Avenue to be reinstated into the residents only permit parking restrictions and to consider the results of a subsequent consultation carried out with residents.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

Clifton Avenue had previously been included with zone A of the Hartlepool resident controlled parking zone. However when Cabinet had approved a decision to progressively increase the cost over a three year period several established zones had asked to be removed from the restricted parking controls. Following consultation with the residents from September 2008 Clifton Avenue had no controlled parking restrictions.

Since the restrictions were removed a number of residents had found it increasingly difficult to park, leading to a petition requesting the reinstatement of the controls. As a result a full consultation was carried out with all residents to gauge the level of support. The results showed a clear split with the majority of Clifton Avenue (east) residents in favour with those living in the west less supportive.

The Portfolio Holder expressed his support for the proposals in line with the wishes of residents. He queried the additional costs involved. The Director of Neighbourhood Services advised that the markings on the road had never been removed when the previous parking controls were lifted. However the signage would need to be reinstated. Cost of advertising the changes would also be an issue.

Decision

That residents' only permit restrictions at those properties on Clifton Avenue, located between St Paul's Road and Eltringham Road, be reinstated into the controlled parking zone. Those properties between Eltringham Road and Linden Grove to remain unaffected.

21. Highway Services Strategy for Hartlepool *(Head of Neighbourhood Management)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval to the proposed Highway Services Strategy for Hartlepool.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Head of Neighbourhood Management outlined the Highway Services Strategy to develop and maintain highways in Hartlepool. It was based on current local working practices, developed to satisfy national guidelines. A copy of the proposed strategy was appended to the report.

The Portfolio Holder praised the work involved in the formulation of the strategy. He asked that it be taken to the Neighbourhood Consultative Forums and other relevant areas for appropriate consultation before being brought back for final decision.

Decision

That the Highway Services Strategy be taken out to public consultation.

22. Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 – Quarter 1 Monitoring Report *(Director of Neighbourhood Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 to the end of the first quarter of the year.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Director of Neighbourhood Services outlined the progress made against the key actions identified in the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 and the outturns to the end of the first quarter of key performance indicators.

Within the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan there are a total of 66 Actions and 44 Performance Indicators identified for which the Portfolio Holder has responsibility. The report summarised the progress made towards achieving these actions and performance indicators. One action had been highlighted as not expected to achieve target, specifically the implementation of the Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Review Action Plan. The Head of Neighbourhood Management advised that this was due to the Mayoral election and timescales in relation to scrutiny. A revised completion date was requested. All performance indicators were on target. Details were also given of key areas of progress made against a number of actions including an increase in the provision of new containers for recycling of materials at the Household Waste Recycling Centre and Hartlepool's acceptance onto the

Local Authority Carbon Management Programme.

The Portfolio Holder commented that he was extremely pleased with the progress being made by the Department and praised the teams involved.

Decision

- I. That the progress and achievements of key actions and indicators be noted
- II. That a change to the due date for the implementation of the Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Review Action plan be approved.

23. Public Lighting Strategy for Hartlepool (*Head of Neighbourhood Management*)

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval to the proposed Public Lighting Strategy for Hartlepool.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Head of Neighbourhood Management set out a proposed Public Lighting Strategy to develop and maintain lighting provision in Hartlepool. It was based on current local working practices developed to satisfy national guidelines. A copy of the proposed strategy was appended to the report.

The Portfolio Holder referred to the retention of 300 mercury discharge lamps which he felt were not cost efficient. He asked officers to look at the cost of switching to SON or CDM-T depending on the preference of the Public Lighting Manager. This was to be progressed as quickly as possible.

Decision

That the adoption of the Public Lighting Strategy be approved. The costs to replace all Mercury discharge lights (300 in the report) be reported to the Portfolio Holder with energy savings to be made so that a budget can be identified to replace the energy inefficient Mercury discharge lamps.

The meeting concluded at 9:15am.

PETER DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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