

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

DECISION RECORD

24th November 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 Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Alastair Smith, Assistant Director (Transport and Engineering Services)
Kate Ainger, Pride in Hartlepool Officer
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Also present: Councillors Jonathan Brash and Geoff Lilley

34. 20 mph Speed Limits – Trial Sites *(Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering))*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval to introduce 20 mph speed limits on Davison Drive, The Front, Seaton Carew and the streets bounded by Elwick Road, York Road and Park Road.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

Government policy encourages local authorities to use their powers to implement 20 mph zones and speed limits in residential areas to contribute to a reduction in road casualties. Several 20 mph zones had already been implemented in Hartlepool, including Clavering Road, King Oswy Drive and Masfield Road. It was now proposed to introduce a 20 mph speed limit to the following three areas of the town using signage only:

- Davison Drive (between Warren Road and Carrick Street)
- The Front, Seaton Carew
- The area bounded by Elwick Road, York Road and Park Road

Details were given of speed survey and accident data procured for these

areas. Letters explaining the proposals had been sent to the Ward Councillors, residents and businesses affected by the proposals with the majority in favour of these measures. The Police were also in favour but had asked that The Front on Seaton Carew be monitored closely with consideration being given as to the possible use of further traffic calming measures should speeding not reduce. The schemes would be funded through the Local Transport Plan.

The Portfolio Holder expressed his support for the proposals, particularly in Elwick Road where double parking and recent changes to bus routes had been problematic. He noted the majority of respondents had been in favour of the measures.

Decision

That the implementation of the schemes as outlined in the report be approved.

35. Proposed Toucan crossing – Catcote Road *(Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering))*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the installation of a new Toucan crossing on Catcote Road adjacent to Summerhill Lane.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The existing town cycle network provides routes through Burn Valley and Catcote Road, onto Summerhill and their off road cycling facilities. These are often utilised by schoolchildren travelling to and from English Martyrs School and Catcote School. There are currently no controlled facilities in this area meaning cyclists have to cross Catcote Road utilising the Central island or the pelican crossing near Browning Avenue. Through the Sustrans "Links to Schools Funding" bid 50% of the cost of projects to provide new cycling facilities to schools or enhance existing ones. A successful application for funding towards the installation of a Toucan crossing on Catcote Road at the entrance to Summerhill Lane had subsequently been made. The Local Transport Plan would cover the remaining 50%. All Ward Councillors had been advised of the proposal. Should the funding be withdrawn the scheme would either not proceed or be fully funded through the Local Transport Plan.

The Portfolio Holder indicated his support for the proposed crossing which would benefit cyclists and the two schools. He praised officers' success in accessing external funding for this initiative.

Decision

That the installation of a Toucan crossing on Catcote Road adjacent to Summerhill Lane be approved.

36. Greatham Local Safety Scheme *(Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering))*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval to implement vehicle activated signs and a road narrowing in Greatham Village.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

Following complaints from Ward Councillors and residents a speed survey had been undertaken in Greatham Village, showing an average speed of 30.2 mph. Since 2005 there had been four injury accidents recorded – one serious. It was therefore proposed to implement a 20 mph zone on Front Street, Woodbine Terrace, Egerton Terrace and Station Road. The zone would be self enforced through the introduction of 'pinch points', road narrowing and vehicle activated signage. Residents, businesses, Ward Councillors and Greatham Primary School had all been consulted on the plans, with 72 in favour and 77 against, primarily due to the introduction of 'pinch points'. For this reason the scheme would be implemented in two phases. The first would include the introduction of vehicle activated signage and road narrowing. The second phase would include the implementation of the 20 mph zone. 'Pinch points' would no longer be considered so further traffic calming would require further consideration and consultation.

The Portfolio Holder advised that a further letter objecting to the proposals had been received by him the previous evening. He indicated his support for phase 1 of the proposal but requested that extensive consultation be undertaken on phase 2 given the negative responses. Phase 1 should also be monitored closely. Ward Councillor Geoff Lilley commented that the problem for the objectors related to the pinch points and the aesthetic effect they would have on the Village, rather than the speed limit.

Decision

- I. That the implementation of phase 1 of the scheme be approved as detailed in the report.
- II. That extensive consultation on phase 2 of the scheme be undertaken and the results be reported back to a future Portfolio meeting.

37. Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 – Quarter 2 Monitoring Report *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

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 second quarter of the year.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report gave details of the actions contained in the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 and the outturns to the end of the second quarter of key performance indicators. Of 66 actions and 45 performance indicators only 6 actions were not expected to be achieved on target. A revision to the due dates for these actions had been forwarded for the Portfolio Holder's approval. All performance indicators were expected to be achieved on target.

The Portfolio Holder was happy to approve the revised completion dates, saying targets should be challenging but ultimately achievable.

Decision

- I. That the progress and achievements of key actions and indicators be noted
- II. That the change to the due date of one action be approved.

38. Ward Jackson Primary School Safety Scheme *(Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering))*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the proposals to implement traffic calming and a 20mph zone on Clark Street

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

Ward Jackson School had raised concerns with regards to a proposed Supermarket to be sited on the Clark Street / Burbank Street junction. It was

therefore proposed to implement a 20 mph zone on Clark Street in the vicinity of the school. This would be enforced through the use of traffic calming measures including 'pinch points' and humps. Parking restrictions would also be introduced around the junction and the existing zig zags outside the school extended with limited parking bays provided outside the Post Office for customers. The scheme would cost £25,000 with £10,000 to be provided through developer contributions and the rest coming from the Local Transport Plan. Ward Councillors, businesses and Ward Jackson School had been consulted and raised no objections as had the Police and Emergency Services.

The Portfolio Holder was happy to approve the proposals given the unanimous support from interested parties.

Decision

That the implementation of the scheme be approved as detailed in the report.

39. Dog Control Orders – North Sands, Hartlepool *(Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services))*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval to commence the process of introducing a Dog Control Order at North Sands, Hartlepool.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods provided details of an issue relating to the application to develop the former Steetley site on the Headland. Natural England had objected to the application because of concerns over the potential increase in disturbance to water birds on the adjacent North Sands. As mitigation to this it was proposed that a Dog Control Order be introduced on the North Sands. Covering March to September, the order would specify that dogs should be kept on leads at all times in the specified area during these months. The penalty for committing an offence would be a maximum fine of £1,000 with a fixed penalty of £80 offered in place of prosecution.

Regulations required that the Council consult any other primary or secondary authority, or access authority, within the area in which the order is being made. A notice must also be published in a local newspaper circulating in the area inviting representations. At the end

of the consultation period representations would be considered and any objections brought to the Portfolio Holder for final decision on the proposal. Should there be no objections the order would come into force and the Portfolio Holder asked to note this.

The Portfolio Holder thanked officers for their work with Natural England on this matter.

Decision

That the necessary steps be taken to introduce a Dog Control Order, specifically an 'on leads' order, on the North Sands area of Hartlepool, as detailed in the report.

40. Pride in Hartlepool Proposals *(Assistant Director (Procurement and Asset Management))*

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

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

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

- Owton Rossmere Resource Centre – a contribution of £800 towards the cost of developing the front and rear gardens of the centre into a growing area
- Barnard Grove Primary School – a contribution of £1,000 to construct an ecologically friendly gardening area.
- Countryside Warden Team – a contribution of £880 toward the cost of a bio-diversity project for school grounds. The Pride in Hartlepool Officer noted that although the Countryside Wardens were part of Hartlepool Borough Council the Pride in Hartlepool criteria did not exclude internal applications so long as the project was over and above their usual duties.

The Portfolio Holder indicated support for the proposals. He requested that consideration be given to amending the current criteria which he felt were too stringent.

Decision

That the recommendations of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group be approved.

41. Integrated Transport Joint Tender (Ref 431) (Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering))

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek Portfolio Holder approval for the procurement of transport provision for Tall Ships Park & Ride Service, Dial a Ride Service and Officer Transportation.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The development of the Integrated Transport Service had allowed the opportunity to co-ordinate tender applications in order to ensure maximum benefits. As part of this process a full review of current provision would be carried out in order to achieve the best possible outcome. The Integrated Transport Unit (ITU) had identified a number of contracts that would be required in order to progress initiatives relating to the development of Dial a Ride, transport for officers and the Park and Ride Tall Ships Event. Transport arrangements for 800 additional scholars were also anticipated over a two year period from September 2010 to carry Dyke House pupils to the former Brierton site. A joint tender process would therefore be required to secure new contracts. This would be carried out in accordance with the Harmonised Corporate Procurement Framework.

The Portfolio Holder expressed his support for the proposals, saying he looked forward to any future savings this would bring.

Decision

That the joint procurement process be approved.

The meeting concluded at 9.25am

PETER DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 30th November 2009