

REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

27 July 2012

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond (Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Denise Ogden, Assistant Director, Neighbourhood Services
Alistair Smith, Assistant Director, Transport and Engineering
Peter Frost, Traffic Team Leader
David Wilson, Engineering Consultancy Manager
David Cosgrove, Principal Democratic Services Officer

10. Blakelock Gardens Parking Controls *(Assistant Director (Transport and Engineering))*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the introduction of double yellow lines and a limited waiting parking bay, in the section of Blakelock Gardens (to the east of the puffin crossing), as set out on the submitted plan.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Transport and Engineering outlined the background to the issues surrounding the installation of the puffin crossing on Blakelock Gardens. The Assistant Director referred to the objections that had been received in relation to the proposals and tabled a further representation at the meeting.

A number of residents were in attendance at the meeting and raised their concerns at the proposed parking restrictions. Residents were concerned at the consequent problems caused by parked vehicles and the crossing on a road now used as a bus route.

In light of the concerns raised, the Mayor indicated that he would defer this matter and would look to meeting the residents on site to discuss their concerns.

Decision

That the report be deferred pending further discussions with the local residents.

11. Coast Protection Works – Update *(Assistant Director (Transport and Engineering))*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To note progress made on the implementation of coastal schemes for the Town Wall and Seaton Carew and approve capital works to be carried out.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director updated the Portfolio Holder on progress made with implementation of the two coastal schemes at the Town Wall and Seaton Carew. The Mayor welcomed the report and congratulated the officers who had worked hard to gain the external finance for the works.

Decision

1. that the progress made on the two schemes be noted;
2. that the capital works encompassing the toe protection and groynes refurbishment to the Town Wall be approved;
3. That the capital works for the construction of the new seawall in Seaton Carew be approved; and
4. that a further report be presented once the detailed design of the set-back wall was complete.

12. Easington Road / Throston Grange Lane Roundabout Highway Improvement Scheme *(Assistant Director (Transport and Engineering))*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the highway improvement scheme at Easington Road/ Throston Grange Lane roundabout.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Transport and Engineering outlined the scheme, which involved the re-modelling of Throston Grange Lane/ Easington Road roundabout and its approaches. The current roundabout was an odd shape, and prohibits two vehicles travelling around it side by side at certain points, due to the restricted width. The re-modelling scheme will enable this to take place, which will give increased capacity on all approaches, leading to much

greater benefits to the Stagecoach Service 1 corridor, Arriva services which link to Durham and the collieries, and the Go North East X35 service. The scheme would also include improvements to the radii at the entrance to the Holdforth Road approach, and pedestrian island enhancements at Throston Grange Lane.

Decision

That the highway improvement scheme as reported be approved.

13. Interim Changes to Local Authority Enforcement Powers: Household Waste Collections *(Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services))*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of interim changes to Local Authority enforcement powers associated with domestic household waste collections. To seek approval to set the level of fixed penalty associated with the interim changes to Section 46 EPA.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Neighbourhood Services reported that the Government considered that the powers available to Local Authorities under Section 46 of the EPA were inappropriate for dealing with what it viewed as 'relatively trivial matters', and that the penalties were disproportionate and unnecessary. Accordingly, in 2011, it published its 'Review of Waste Policy in England', which included proposals to amend the penalties Local Authorities may apply to householders who present their waste for collection incorrectly. The review proposed to remove the prospect of criminal sanctions and replace these with civil sanctions; it also proposed to reduce the range of the level of fixed penalty applying in relation to section 46 EPA from £75 - £110 to £60 to £80; the default amount for the fixed penalty would be £60 and minimum early payment amount would be £40.

Until the Government gave notice of further changes to Section 46 EPA, Hartlepool Borough Council would continue to use the powers available under this section to combat the problems caused by residents who fail to adhere to rules associated with domestic household waste. This would include the issuing of fixed penalties where appropriate, along with the prospect of criminal sanctions. Where fixed penalty notices were issued, these would be of the default level of £60 with the provision of an early discount settlement of £40.

Decision

That the interim changes to Section 46 EPA be noted and that the level of fixed penalty as detailed above be approved.

14. Seaton Carew Park Master Plan *(Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services))*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to inform Portfolio Holder of the consultation and work undertaken in relation to the Seaton Carew Park master plan, seek approval for the plan developed in partnership with the local community and get approval for officers to progress with the proposals.

The report details the development process of the master plan, information around the consultation and the main proposals for the future development of the park.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Neighbourhood Services reported on the background to the development of the Seaton Carew Master Plan and the proposals for the park which complemented the wider plans. A master plan for the park was submitted with the report setting out the overall vision for the park.

The Mayor welcomed the proposals and asked if funding was intended to come through developer contributions gained through the wider Seaton Carew master plan. The Assistant Director indicated that planning officers were aware of the proposals and would, where possible, work with developers to bring forward the scheme.

Decision

1. That the master plan, that had resulted from extensive local community consultation, be approved as a template for the future development of Seaton Carew Park.
2. That officers be authorised to progress with the phased implementation of the scheme, including the investigation of a business case to incorporate a range of community services within the building, subject to appropriate external funding being identified, and any relevant permissions, statutory notifications or similar being obtained as required.

15. Collaborative Working with Stockton Borough Council on the Vela Group Cleaning Tender Process *(Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services))*

Type of decision

None – the report was for the Portfolio Holder's information only.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of Facilities Management recent collaborative working exercise with Stockton Borough Council in relation to the tender for

provision of cleaning services to the Vela Group Organisation.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Neighbourhood Services was pleased to report that a joint tender bid by Stockton and Hartlepool Borough Councils facilities management for the provision of cleaning services to the Vela Group had been successful. The Contract would commence on 1st August 2012 for a period of three years with a potential two further one-year tranches.

The Mayor welcomed the report and congratulated the staff involved in developing the successful bid.

Decision

That the report be noted.

The meeting concluded at 10.30 a.m.

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 1 AUGUST 2012