

CULTURE, LEISURE AND TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

DECISION RECORD

15th August 2006

Present:

Councillor Victor Tumilty (Culture, Leisure and Transportation Portfolio Holder)

Also Present:

Councillor G Morris was in attendance and was allowed to speak on item 31 below, Mountston Close Alleygate.

Councillor P Laffey was in attendance and was allowed to speak on item 32 below, Serpentine Road Footpath Closure Petition.

Officers: John Mennear, Assistant Director (Community Services)
Alastair Smith, Head of Technical Services
Mike Blair, Transportation and Traffic Manager
Carol Davis, Principal Service Development Officer
Pat Watson, Democratic Services Officer
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

30. Outdoor Activities – Development and Staffing (*Director of Adult and Community Services*)

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To update the Portfolio holder on the ongoing development of Outdoor Activities within the Sport and Recreation Service.

To seek approval for the establishment of a new post of Assistant Outdoor Activities Co-ordinator initially on a two-year fixed term contract that will enable the expansion and further development of the service.

Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder

The report indicated that the Outdoor Activities Officer post and development programme had originally been created and funded in 1998 via the Owton Rossmere Partnership. Such had been the success of the 5 year programme that mainstream funding was secured via the 2003/2004 budgetary process to allow it to continue and expand on

delivery across Hartlepool.

Since that time, the provision of Outdoor Activities had expanded significantly and offered a highly rated level of service heralded as a model of best practice. It is operated under licence from the Adventurous Activity Licensing Authority and has the provider-ship within Tees Valley for Mountain Leader Training Board courses as well as National Navigation Silver Awards. In 2005/06, nearly 4,500 individuals had taken part in activities and 58 people were successfully trained in gaining National Governing Body Awards allowing them to instruct in various activities.

The Portfolio Holder was advised that the service is currently operated and managed by only one Officer supported by freelance instructors and more staffing resource is required to allow for the appropriate support of what had become a rapidly expanding service. The report proposed the creation of a new Assistant post to assist the work of this Officer, initially on a two-year fixed term contract. This would not require additional financial support from the Authority as it could be supported and sustained through activity income generation.

Decision – The Portfolio Holder:

- (a) approved the establishment of an assistant Outdoor Activities Co-ordinator post for an initial period of two years.
- (b) authorised the Director of Adult and Community Services to establish this as a permanent post should it prove to be financially viable at the end of the two year period.

31. Mountston Close Alleygate (*Head of Technical Services*)

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To provide the Portfolio Holder with an update following the public meeting held on 26th July 2006.

Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder

The report detailed the background and history in relation to the alleygate, the recent public meeting and resultant issues for the Portfolio Holder's consideration. The financial implications were also reported.

Decision – The Portfolio Holder agreed that:

- (a) the existing gate remains in place and that the legal order facilitating this be made permanent;
- (b) Officers continue to work closely with the residents affected by the anti-social activities in the Saddleston Close area to try to achieve

- a mutually agreeable solution to their problems;
- (c) Keys to be made available to eligible residents, in accordance with the legal order, to be obtainable under normal Council procedure for issue of alleygate keys.

32. Serpentine Road Footpath Closure - Petition *(Head of Technical Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To advise the Portfolio Holder of the receipt of a petition against the closure of the above footpath that had been agreed in principal at a previous Portfolio meeting.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report detailed a brief history of the situation and a petition that had been received. The Portfolio Holder was also advised, verbally, and given copies of a petition from residents in Ryehill Gardens and two letters from residents of Greenbank Court and Elmwood Place.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder noted receipt of the petitions and letters against the possible closure of the footpath on Serpentine Road that runs between Wooler Road and St Bega's Glade.

33. Objection to the Erection of Alleygates to the rear of Murray Street/Laburnum Street/Grosvenor Street Back Streets *(Head of Technical Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek a decision from the Portfolio Holder on the erection of alleygates to the above location, taking into account objections received during the consultation process.

Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder

The report detailed the history of the situation and summarised and quantified responses to the consultation exercise undertaken with residents directly affected.

Appendix 1 to the report was a plan indicating the preferred locations of the two remaining gates as identified at the recent public meeting. The Portfolio Holder was advised that this location would allow vehicles to turn at the top of Laburnum Street and permit unrestricted access to refuse vehicles. Although it excludes three properties from Sheriff Street these can be offered additional security works to their rear walls to compensate. The gates would be part of the overall scheme which is funded by New Deal for Communities.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder gave approval for the erection of the two remaining alleygates in the locations identified in Appendix 1.

34. School Travel Plan Education and Enforcement Programme (School Gate Parking) *(Head of Technical Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To request approval to the implementation of an education and enforcement programme, in schools which have an authorised school travel plan, to address inconsiderate school gate parking.

Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder

The report detailed information on the proposed programme of education and enforcement. A programme, to include all of the relevant schools, was attached to the report as Appendix 1 and the School Travel Plans Action Plan was attached as Appendix 2.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder gave approval to the delivery of an education and enforcement programme at schools which have an authorised school travel plan.

35. Adoption of Highways – Hartlepool Marina *(Head of Technical Services)*

Type of decision

For information

Purpose of report

To advise on discussions with the Developer and Stakeholders in respect of the proposed adoption of the highways in Hartlepool Marina.

Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder

The report contained a history of negotiations with the landowners and stakeholders, financial implications and future maintenance implications of adopting the highways.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder noted the report.

36. Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 – 1st Quarter Monitoring Report (*Director of Neighbourhood Services*)

Type of decision

For information

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 in the first quarter of the year.

Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder

The report detailed the progress against the actions contained in the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 and the first quarter of key performance indicators.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder noted the report.

37. Tendering of Supported Bus Services 2006/07 (*Head of Technical Services*)

Type of decision

For information

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder about the tendering of new Borough Council supported bus contracts in the Summer of 2007 and the process leading up to that event.

Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder

The report provided an outline of the tendering process and the issues involved.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder noted the report.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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