

# **NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

15 December 2014

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

**Present:**

Councillor: Peter Jackson (In the Chair)

Councillors: Jim Ainslie, Allan Barclay, Steve Gibbon, Marjorie James and Brenda Loynes

Officers: Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Alastair Smith, Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods  
Mike Blair, Technical Services Manager  
Alyson Carr, Head of Finance (Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)  
Phil Hepburn, Parking Services Team Leader  
Steve Hilton, Public Relations Officer  
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

## **44. Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Keith Dawkins.

## **45. Declarations of Interest**

None.

## **46. Minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2014**

Received.

## **47. Proposed Residential Parking Scheme – Elizabeth Way, Seaton Carew** *(Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods)*

### **Type of decision**

Non-key

### **Purpose of report**

To report on the outcome of a consultation with residents regarding proposals to introduce a residents only permit parking scheme on a section of Elizabeth Way, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Assistant Director reported that following requests from a number of residents living on Elizabeth Way, consultation had taken place regarding the possibility of creating a residents only controlled parking scheme on a section of Elizabeth Way. The 17 properties most directly affected by the parking issues had been consulted along with Ward Councillors. Responses had been received from nine properties, eight of which favoured the proposal with one response opposing the scheme.

With regard to paragraph 4.5 of the report which indicated that the existing bus stop would prevent parking bays from being marked on the carriageway, the Assistant Director advised that this would not be an issue as Stagecoach had confirmed since the time of writing the report that the bus stop was no longer in service.

The creation of a residents only permit parking scheme would require legal orders to be formally advertised and the advertising cost was estimated at £200 and would be met from the Parking Services operational budget. The Committee was referred to the financial, legal and highways considerations of the proposal, as set out in the report.

The Chair referred Members to a consultation response from a Seaton Ward Councillor, Councillor Kelly Atkinson, who was in support of the scheme, a copy of which was circulated at the meeting.

Whilst in support of the scheme, a Member raised some concerns that additional parking bays in this location would reduce the width of the road and potentially create access problems for large vehicles. It was suggested that the scheme should include yellow lines to restrict parking on the opposite side of the road to alleviate this problem.

Another Member, who was against the proposal, expressed a view that

having observed the area, the parking bays were unnecessary and highlighted potential issues around enforcement.

In the discussion that followed the Assistant Director responded to queries raised in relation to enforcement and consultation. Following further debate, the majority of Members supported the scheme with the addition of yellow lines.

### **Decision**

- (i) That the proposed resident's only parking scheme outside 47-69 Elizabeth Way be approved.
- (ii) That the proposed scheme include yellow lines to restrict parking on the opposite side of the road.
- (iii) That the Head of Legal Services be requested to advertise the necessary legal orders for consideration.

## **48. Street Lighting Column Replacement Programme** (Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods)

### **Type of decision**

For information

### **Purpose of report**

To outline the strategy to replace existing street lighting columns using savings from the current LED Replacement Programme.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The report provided background information in relation to the decision to upgrade the street lighting stock to LED lanterns and the savings that would be achieved as a result. Details of the age profile of existing street lighting columns was provided including the current replacement policy and an update on the LED replacement programme. An estimate of costs to replace all columns over 30 years was set out in the report. It was noted that the scheme was being delivered in house and it was estimated that the LED installation programme would be delivered at a cost of £3.8m in total. This was a reduction of £1.2m on the original estimate of £5m.

Members welcomed the scheme and were pleased to note the efficiencies that had been achieved as a result of the decision to deliver the scheme in house. The Committee took the opportunity to thank the team for their hard

work in delivering this scheme.

### **Decision**

That the project to replace all street lighting columns over 30 years, as outlined in Section 6 of the report, be noted.

## **49. Strategic Financial Management Report as at 30 September 2014** *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods and Chief Finance Officer)*

### **Type of decision**

For information

### **Purpose of report**

To inform Members of the 2014/15 Forecast General Fund Outturn, 2014/15 Capital Programme Monitoring and provide details for the specific budget areas that this Committee is responsible for.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Head of Finance, Regeneration and Neighbourhoods presented the report which provided the background and financial reporting arrangements for 2014/15 as well as the General Fund budget outturn information in relation to the Neighbourhood Services Department.

As recently reported to the Finance and Policy Committee, Members were advised that there would be an overall underspend in the current year. The net forecast uncommitted budget underspend at the year end was between £1.457m and £1.542m.

Details of the overall budget position for the Regeneration and Neighbourhood Services Department was summarised in a table included in the report as well as the reasons for the forecast outturn. Further details of specific budget areas was set out at Appendix A. Members were provided with details of recommended reserves together with planned capital expenditure, as set out in the report.

In response to a request for clarification regarding the future budget proposals in relation to sustainable transport and concessionary fares, it was reported that negotiations were currently ongoing with bus operators, of which Stockton was the Lead Authority on behalf of Tees Valley, the outcome of which would be reported to this Committee in due course.

The Committee was pleased to note the favourable outturn and thanked officers for their careful management of budgets.

**Decision**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**50. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent**

The Chairman ruled that the following items of business should be considered by the Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B) (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 in order that the matter could be dealt with without delay.

**51. Any Other Business – LED Street Lights**

The Chair reported receipt of a letter received by the Leader of the Council, a copy of which was circulated to all Members in relation to LED street lights. Officers had been requested to deal with the issues raised and provide the Committee with a response.

**Decision**

That the information given be noted.

**52. Any Other Business – New Depot**

The Chair advised that both himself and the Vice Chair had recently visited the new depot, the benefits of which were outlined. Arrangements would be made for all Members of this Committee to visit the site.

**Decision**

That a site visit to the new depot be arranged for all Members of the Neighbourhood Services Committee.

**53. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

It was reported that the next meeting would be held on Monday 19 January 2015 at 9.30 am.

The meeting concluded at 10.05 am

**P J DEVLIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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