

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

3 JULY 2017

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Dave Hunter (In the Chair)

Councillors: Marjorie James, Brenda Loynes and Carl Richardson.

Also Present: Councillor Jim Lindridge.

Officers: Tony Hanson, Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services
Peter Frost, Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader
Philip Hepburn, Parking Services Manager
Steve Hilton, Public Relations Officer
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

7. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Sandra Belcher and Trisha Lawton.

8. Declarations of Interest

None.

9. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 June, 2017

Confirmed.

10. Local Transport Plan 2016/17 – Out-turn and 2017/18 Programme (*Assistant Director (Environment and Neighbourhood Services)*)

Type of decision

Non-key decision.

Purpose of report

To inform the Neighbourhood Services Committee of the progress made under the Local Transport Plan delivery programme during 2016/17, and to identify potential schemes for 2017/18.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services reported that the third Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2011-2026, sets out how a safe and sustainable transport system can be delivered within Hartlepool. The strategy is not limited to the five year timescale of previous LTP's but is designed to look towards 2026 and evolve over this period. This extended timescale ensures that the LTP is aligned with regional strategies and local development frameworks.

The Local Transport Plan funding has enabled the Council to undertake a significant number of projects in 2016/17 to help maintain and improve both our strategic and local road network. The Assistant Director particularly highlighted the schemes delivered in 2016/17 which were detailed briefly within the report and in detail in the appendix to the report which also set out the programme for future works. For year 2017/2018 the allocation for highway maintenance from the Local Transport Plan was £1,053,000, and the five year programme had been prepared assuming a similar level being allocated year on year. There were also allocations of £99,000 from the Government's Pot-hole Fund, and £98,000 from the Incentive Fund, giving a total of £1,250,000. This had been approved by the Neighbourhood Services Committee, at the meeting in March, 2017.

Members questioned the liaison undertaken with utility companies as residents often complained that after a road had been resurfaced, one of the utility companies came back a few weeks later to dig it back up. The Assistant Director stated that the Council met regularly with utility company representatives and capital programme works were shared to avoid such instances. There would, however, always be the situation where utility repair works were needed in emergency situations.

A Member raised the implementation of dropped kerbs in the 'K Block' area as one elderly resident who used a mobility scooter had found that she was unable to travel anywhere on the estate or wider due to the lack of dropped kerbs. Some had since been implemented but they still restricted the resident's ability to travel. The member considered that it may be useful to have a survey of where dropped kerbs were still required and where they had already been implemented. It was agreed that officers would look at this issue going forward and consider the use of dropped kerbs where appropriate.

A Member queried when the works in Elwick Village to the bridge were to be undertaken. The Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader indicated that the works had been already completed to ensure the safety of

the bridge.

A Member queried the implementation of vehicle activated signs on Hart Lane and the junction works at York Road / Park Road and Jesmond Road / Chester Road. The Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader reported that the vehicle activated signs in Hart Lane would be in the vicinity of Sacred Heart Primary School following discussions with the school. The junction works at York Road / Park Road had been completed and the Jesmond Road / Chester Road works had been programmed. Both sites required repairs and maintenance to traffic control systems.

The Chair questioned the repair of potholes and the expenditure allocated to the budget as he understood that not all was simple pothole repairs. The Assistant Director indicated that in some instances where there were a number of potholes in a stretch of road, it was often more cost effective to resurface that stretch of road than do the holes individually.

Decision

1. That the works and schemes delivered during 2016/2017 under the Local Transport Plan be noted.
2. That the proposed schemes for 2017/2018 as reported be approved in line with the five year Highway Maintenance Programme (2017/18 to 2021/22), was approved at the Neighbourhood Services Committee meeting on 20 March, 2017.

11. Quarter 4 – Council Overview of Performance and Risk 2016/17 (*Assistant Director (Environment and Neighbourhood Services)*)

Type of decision

For information.

Purpose of report

To inform Neighbourhood Services Committee of the progress made against the relevant areas of the 2016/17 Council Plan. The report also provided the Committee with an update on Allotments as agreed by this committee on the 26 July 2016.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services reported on the overall progress against actions, performance indicators and risks

that were relevant to the Neighbourhood Services Committee were identified in the performance report at appendix 1 to the report. The department also provided an update on allotments which was submitted as appendix 2 to the report.

In relation to the allotments update, a Member recalled the major issue earlier in the year regarding allotment rents asked if the allotment holders were now satisfied with the current situation. In discussion, Members commented that there were a number of issues surrounding allotments and particular sites that would need to come before Members. The Chair commented that the last meeting he had attended with allotment holders had been positive. The Assistant Director commented that there was a general understanding of the Council's financial situation among allotment holders and a need to move forward rather than re-visiting the past. The Assistant Director acknowledged there was a need for a further report to the Committee on a series of allotment issues and that would be forthcoming.

Members referred to the proposed visit to the Burn Road Recycling Centre and asked if a date had set yet. The Assistant Director indicated that there were some works currently ongoing within the site and it was intended to arrange a visit for Members once they were completed but he would to expediting the visit at the earliest opportunity.

Decision

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a further report be submitted to a future meeting on issues relating to allotments and allotment sites within the town.
3. That a Member visit to the Burn Road Recycling Centre be organised at the earliest opportunity.

12. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

A Member raised the following issues under any other business –

Refurbishment of pathways in the Mowbray Road area;
The implementation of yellow lines on Coronation Drive; and
The charges implemented at the Burn Road Recycling Centre.

In relation to footpath works, the Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader reported that a number of footpaths around the Mowbray Road area were to be resurfaced in the school holidays. It was acknowledged that there were other areas also in need to repair/resurfacing and these had been listed.

The double yellow lines along Coronation Drive had been implemented as

part of the Seaton Carew car parking charges decision and were there to protect from vehicles crossing onto the grassed area, to prevent overspill parking from Seaton Carew due to the charges and to ensure the traffic flow along Coronation Drive. It was highlighted that there was still a free element of parking in Seaton Carew.

In relation to the charges at the Recycling Centre, officers were monitoring if there was any consequential increase in fly tipping.

The Committee noted that the meeting of the Committee scheduled for Monday 24 July at 3.00 pm had been cancelled.

The meeting concluded at 2.30 pm

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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