

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

12 September 2018

The meeting commenced at 4.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Stephen Akers-Belcher (In the Chair)

Councillors: Sandra Belcher, Tom Cassidy, Marjorie James, Brenda Loynes and Tony Richardson

Also Present: Councillor John Tennant
Edwin Jeffries, Chair of Hartlepool Joint Trade Unions

Officers: Tony Hanson, Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services
Peter Frost, Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader
Steven Abbey, Project Manager, Transport and Infrastructure
Steve Hilton, Public Relations Officer
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

23. Apologies for Absence

None

24. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Loynes declared a personal interest in Minute 27. Councillor James declared a personal interest in Minute 26. Councillor S Akers-Belcher highlighted that he had been involved with residents regarding the Kipling Road traffic calming scheme (Minute 29).

25. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2018

Received

26. Tees Valley Joint Waste Management Strategy (*Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*)

Type of decision

Key Decision test (ii) applies – Forward Plan Ref No RN19/18

Purpose of report

This report provided a draft Tees Valley Joint Waste Management Strategy for Members to consider prior to consultation commencing. The Strategy following Members approval will be published on each of the Council's website prior to 5th October 2018. (**Appendix 1**).

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services presented the report which included background information to the existing waste treatment solution under contract with Suez (formerly SITA), as part of a joint procurement between the four local authorities, until 2020. The current contract with Suez for waste disposal had been extended to 2025.

In order to plan for the future and place the Tees Valley in the strongest position, the Tees Valley Chief Executives had agreed a strategic outline business case to progress options for post 2025. A number of outcomes for the programme of work had been agreed, details of which were included in the report.

Members were advised of the key stages in the options appraisal process. Details of the options considered were provided, as set out in the report. The preferred option selected was:-

- the adoption of prevention, reuse and recycling initiatives;
- the introduction of high recycling performance collections including separate food waste collections; and
- a new energy recovery facility with the ability to utilise the heat produced, through the development of Combined Heat and Power (CHP) facility.

The Joint Waste Management Strategy provided a framework for action in Tees Valley. Following the adoption of the JWMS, each of the Tees Valley Councils would develop an individual action plan to tailor the delivery of the preferred option to complement their current services and reflect their specific local circumstances and operations. With regard to consultation, it was proposed that the draft JWMS would be published on each of the Council's websites prior to 5 October for 8 weeks and comments would be collated and fed back to Local Partnerships and Local Authorities to

consider.

The Chair commented on his involvement in earlier discussions in relation to the strategy, during his time as Vice-Chair of this Committee, when the importance of pursuing income generation opportunities for local authorities had been emphasised and was disappointed to note that this issue had not been reflected in the report that had been prepared regionally.

Reference was made to the charitable arms within Suez and concerns were expressed regarding national restrictions on access to funding resulting in minimal benefit to the communities of Hartlepool and the Cleveland conurbations. Members were keen to see such benefits being made available to Local Authorities in the future.

In response to a query raised regarding the options to utilise recyclable plastics as an alternative to tarmac, the Assistant Director indicated that the Council was currently working jointly with Stockton to explore this opportunity on a particular project using Government funding.

Decision

- (i) The Committee endorsed the Joint Waste Management Strategy to enable the public consultation to proceed.
- (ii) That the comments of Members be noted and be included in feedback to the consultation in terms of pursuing income generation opportunities for local authorities and options around plastics as well as the issues raised in relation to access to funding.

27. Highway Improvement Programme (*Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services*)

Type of decision

Key decision tests (i) and (ii) apply – Forward Plan Ref No RN21/18

Purpose of report

To seek approval for an additional programme of highway works, comprising carriageway, footpath and verge schemes.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services reported on the background to the approval of Council, on 21 June 2018, to invest £2.5m in highways works and authority granted to the Neighbourhood

Services Committee to approve the detailed schemes. Schemes had been highlighted for investigation from the Council's annual asset surveys, highway inspections and complaints received from members of the public and Ward Members.

The programme of works was attached at Appendix 1 and was anticipated to be completed over the next 18 months.

The Assistant Director highlighted that the proposed programme of works were very much different from the day to day repairs and maintenance work to roads and pathways which would continue.

In the discussion that followed, the Chair took the opportunity to thank the team who had been involved in writing the report and commented that this was an ideal opportunity to make improvements in residential neighbourhoods and to address some of the worst areas across the Borough. Reference was made to a scrutiny investigation that had been undertaken a number of years ago, when there had been limited opportunities to address some of the recommendations arising from the investigation at that time. The Chair was pleased to note that given the Council's commitment a number of the recommendations would be achieved as part of this scheme. Emphasis was placed upon the importance of maintaining quality in relation to the works and that this be closely monitored.

The Chair also asked that the team explore opportunities with other departments to reuse the highways planings removed during this resurfacing project.

Decision

- (i) That the proposed Highway Maintenance Programme, as shown at Appendix 1, be approved.
- (ii) That opportunities be explored with other departments in relation to the options available to reuse highways planings.

28. Murray Street Area – Proposed 20 MPH Speed Limit (Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services)

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the introduction of a 20mph speed limit in the Murray

Street area.

Issue(s) for consideration

It was reported that following requests from residents and Ward Members, consultation had been undertaken to determine the level of support for the proposals to implement a 20mph speed limit on Murray Street and the surrounding residential streets, mainly to the east, to reduce speeds and improve road safety in the area. This would complement the area to the west of Murray Street, which had been subject to a 20mph limit for a number of years, details of which were appended to the report.

With regard to the results of the consultation, of the 500 letters that had been sent out to all residents in the area, along with Ward Members, 93 responses had been received, 89 in favour of the proposals and 4 against.

It was estimated that the scheme would cost approximately £5,000 and would be funded from existing allocations within the Council's Local Transport Plan.

Decision

That the proposed 20mph speed limit in the Murray Street area be approved.

29. Kipling Road Traffic Calming Scheme *(Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the introduction of safety measures in Kipling Road.

Issue(s) for consideration

It was reported that following concerns expressed by residents and Ward Members for some time for safety improvements on Kipling Road, primarily due to traffic seeming to use the road to avoid the existing traffic calming measures on Masfield Road at times at excessive speed, consultation had taken place with all residents in the area, along with Ward Members to seek their views on the proposal to introduce a scheme which consisted of a series of speed humps, as set out in Appendix 1. The road was already

subject to a 20mph speed limit following a previous consultation exercise and in line with its location close to a primary school.

With regard to the results of the consultation, of the 100 letters that had been sent out, 37 responses had been received, 32 in favour of the proposals and 5 against.

It was estimated that the scheme would cost approximately £30,000 and would be funded from existing allocations within the Council's Local Transport Plan.

Decision

That the proposed safety scheme in Kipling Road be approved.

30. Date of Next Meeting

The Chair reported that the next meeting would be held on 10 October 2018 at 4.00 pm.

The meeting concluded at 4.20 pm

H MARTIN

INTERIM CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 24 SEPTEMBER 2018