

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES - 25 JUNE 2014

Present: Councillors Page (Chair), D.L. Absolom, Ayub, Davies, Duveen, Hacker, Hopper, Jones, Terry and Whitham.

Also in attendance: Councillors D Edwards and Gavin.

Apologies: Councillor Willis.

1. FORMER TRANSPORT USERS' FORUM - CONSULTATIVE ITEM

Presentation - Reading Station Re-development/Cow Lane Viaduct

Shaun Winfield, Senior Project Engineer gave a presentation on the Reading Station re-development, and the current situation regarding the Cow Lane viaduct works.

Resolved - That Shaun Winfield be thanked for his presentation.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of 13 March 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

A Question on the following matter was submitted, and answered by the Chair:

Questioner	Subject
Cllr Duveen	Parking Fines on Boxing Day

(The full text of the question and reply was made available on the Reading Borough Council website).

4. PETITIONS

(a) Petition to Reduce the Operational Times of the Town Centre Access Restriction

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of a petition asking the Council to reduce the operational times of the current Town Centre access restriction (currently 7.00am-11.00am and 4.00pm-7.00pm).

The petition, containing 228 signatures, read as follows:

"We, the undersigned urge Reading Borough Council to reduce the hours during which we are unable to drive into Reading Town Centre and park. Denying us access for 7 hours a day, in combination with the difficulties of working out where we can and cannot drive, has caused many disabled people in particular, to do their shopping elsewhere. Reading must have lost a great deal of trade because of this.

We ask that the morning restriction should end at 9.30am and that the afternoon/evening restriction should end at 6.30pm."

The report stated that the issues raised within the petition were to be fully investigated and a future report submitted to the Sub-Committee for consideration.

Resolved:

- (1) That the report be noted;
 - (2) That the issue be investigated and a future report be submitted to the Sub-Committee for consideration;
 - (3) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.
- (b) Petition for an investigation into Residents' Parking Hours of Operation for East Newtown

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of a petition from some residents of Liverpool Road requesting longer visitor hours in the residents parking area of East Newtown.

The petition, containing 44 signatures, together with 13 names on an electronic petition, read as follows:

"We the undersigned would like to see visitor's hours in the new section of permit parking in East Newtown changed from 10am-4pm to 8am-8pm. This would give us more flexibility on when people can visit, meaning less need for us to use our visitors permits".

The report stated that the issues raised within the petition were to be fully investigated and a future report submitted to the Sub-Committee for consideration.

At the invitation of the Chair, lead petitioner Dermot Johnson addressed the Sub-Committee.

Resolved:

- (1) That the report be noted;
 - (2) That the issue be investigated and a future report be submitted to the Sub-Committee for consideration;
 - (3) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.
- (c) Petitions for Action Against Parking on Pavements on Lower Bulmershe Road and Hamilton Road

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of two petitions requesting action against vehicles parking on the pavements within Hamilton Road and the lower section of Bulmershe Road.

The petitions, containing 33 signatures in total, read as follows:

"Parking on the pavement in Hamilton Road and Lower Bulmershe Road makes it difficult and dangerous for people on foot to walk along it. Please can the council investigate what measures can be taken to stop pavement parking which forces people with buggies, wheelchairs and other vulnerable residents into the road".

The report stated that the issues raised within the petitions were to be fully investigated and a future report submitted to the Sub-Committee for consideration.

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At the invitation of the Chair, lead petitioner Peter Smith addressed the Sub-Committee.

Resolved:

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the issue be investigated and a future report be submitted to the Sub-Committee for consideration;
- (3) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

5. WENSLEY ROAD AREA PARKING SURVEY - RESPONSE

Further to Minute 97 of the meeting of 13 March 2014, the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on a response to the parking survey regarding parking issues within Wensley Road.

The report stated that an on-site meeting had been held, involving Alok Sharma MP, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport, the Head of Transportation and Streetcare and residents within Wensley Road, and contained details of various options discussed.

At the invitation of the Chair, Mrs D Fudge and Mr Turner addressed the Sub-Committee.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

6. PETITION UPDATE - DOUBLE PARKING ON WOKINGHAM ROAD

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report updating the Sub-Committee on the investigation carried out by officers following the submission of a petition to Council on 25 March 2014 (Minute 61 refers).

The petition read as follows:

"Petition for action against dangerous double parking on the Wokingham Road' asked that the Council 'investigate what options can be pursued to keep this stretch of the road safe for all users."

The report explained what the Council's powers were (by the way of national legislation) and what the Council, as the local highway authority, could change to manage the parking more effectively in this area. Appendix 1 contained details of the exemptions to enforcement of double parking as defined by national legislation.

The report stated that the Council's only opportunity, as highway authority, to reduce instances of double parking was to review the waiting restrictions within the area and create space for deliveries. All of the lay-by space created for parking was dedicated to short-term 30 minute parking, with no return within 30 minutes, Monday to Friday, while weekends were free to park all day. There was no delivery provision within the parking bays at all and consequently deliveries took place by double parking. There were a number of possibilities in re-organising the parking provision at this location, although any change from the current limited waiting was not likely to be popular with businesses. However, in the absence of any other civil enforcement opportunities it was recommended that a review be carried out of the use of the parking bays at this location as part of the next six-monthly waiting restriction review.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That officers carry out a review of the parking bays within this area of Wokingham Road, as a part of the next six-monthly waiting restriction review;
- (3) That a copy of the report be sent to the Chair of the Redlands & University Area NAG.

7. FOOTWAY AND VERGE PARKING BAN UPDATE - SOUTHCOTE

Further to Minute 103 of the meeting of 13 March 2014, the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the results of a second informal consultation on the proposed experimental footway and verge parking ban in the Southcote area.

The report included in paragraph 4.9 a table containing a breakdown of the responses from a total of 940 properties in Ashampstead Road, Brunel Road, Circuit lane, Frilsham Road, Gainsborough Road, Southcote Lane and Virginia Way. A total of 241 responses had been received (26%), of which 168 (70%) were supportive of the proposed scheme. The majority of those who were not in support had raised concerns about the lack of alternative locations to park if the restriction was introduced. However, the restriction would only apply to the footways and verges, and parking would continue to be permitted in the roads. Therefore, on the basis that the majority of residents were in support of a footway and verge parking ban, it was recommended that the scheme be introduced on an experimental basis for a maximum of 18 months.

At the invitation of the Chair, Councillor D Edwards addressed the Sub-Committee.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That, based on the positive results of the two informal consultations, the scheme be approved and in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/Lead Councillor Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport and Ward Councillors, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make an Experimental footway and verge parking ban Traffic Regulation Order in Southcote in the streets listed in paragraph 4.9 of the report in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996;
- (3) That any objections received to the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order be reported to the Sub-Committee at the appropriate time;
- (4) That the Head of Transportation and Streetcare be authorised to modify or suspend provisions in the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order, and that the Order include a provision for this;
- (5) That the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order be approved for a period of up to 18 months;

- (6) That officers liaise with the Ward Councillors with a view to ensuring that the signage for the scheme was sufficiently durable.

8. OBJECTIONS TO ADVERTISED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report, attached to which were appendices containing details of objections and comments received to statutory consultations carried out since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee, in relation to the following schemes:

- (a) New Road
- (b) The Mount
- (c) College Road/Culver Road
- (d) Town Centre Pay & Display - Fobney Street, Hosier Street and Kenavon Drive
- (e) 20mph Zone in parts of Redlands and Park Wards

An additional objection, received in relation to the scheme for Town Centre Pay & Display, was tabled at the meeting.

At the invitation of the Chair, Councillor Gavin addressed the Sub-Committee on the scheme for The Mount, and Helen Fogelman addressed the Sub-Committee on the scheme for College Road/Culver Road.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the schemes for New Road (Drawing No. TMSC0614/1), The Mount (Drawing No TMSC0614/2), Town Centre Pay & Display (Drawings Nos NM/P&D/14/Fobney, NM/P&D/14/Hosier and NM/P&D/14/Kenavon) and the 20mph Zone (Drawing attached at Appendix 5B) be implemented as advertised;
- (3) That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make the appropriate Traffic Regulation Orders for the schemes and no public inquiry be held into the proposals;
- (4) That the objectors be informed of the decisions;
- (5) That, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport and Ward Councillors, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to advertise a proposal to incorporate the other parking bays in Redlands Road and Upper Redlands Road into the Residents' Parking zone in New Road (referred to in (1) above) and, subject to no objections being received, to implement the proposal;
- (6) That, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport and Ward Councillors, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to carry out further statutory consultation on the scheme for residents' parking in College Road/Culver Road, on the basis of shared use operational hours of 8.00am to 8.00pm;

(Note: In accordance with Paragraph 7.4.4 of the Member Code of Conduct, Councillor Hopper declared a pecuniary interest in the above Item insofar as it related to College Road/Culver Road, as he was a resident of Culver Road. Councillor Hopper addressed the Sub-Committee on the matter and then left the meeting and took no part in the Sub-Committee's discussion).

9. BI-ANNUAL WAITING RESTRICTION REVIEW - STATUTORY CONSULTATION

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report seeking approval to carry out statutory consultation on a number of requests which had been received for changes to waiting/parking restrictions.

Appendix 1 to the report contained a summary of the requests together with the officers' recommendations.

It was pointed out at the meeting that the scheme for Woodcote Road (opposite St. Peter's Avenue) had been removed from the current programme at the Sub-Committee's meeting on 13 March 2014 (Minute 104(12) refers).

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That, subject to (3) below, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport and Ward Councillors, be authorised to carry out statutory consultations and advertise the proposals in relation to the parts of the following roads as listed in Appendix 1 in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996:

Eaton Place
Fobney Street/Bridge Street
Chatham Street
Queen's Road
Nelson Road/St John's Road
Barnsdale Road/Ennerdale Road
Blagdon Road and Torrington Road
Home Farm Close
Basingstoke Road
Coniston Drive
Wealden Way/Midwinter Close
Norcot Road (no waiting at any time)
Knowle Close
Tazewell Court/Caroline Court
Berkeley Avenue service road
Western Road
Tintern Crescent
Honey End Lane
Norcot Road (residents' parking)
Heath Road
Harlech Avenue
Avebury Square/Upper Redlands Road

Eldon Square
Eldon Terrace
Lancaster Close
Granby Gardens
Ashdene Gardens
Haywood Way
Southcote Lane
Granville Road/Frogmore Way/Gainsborough Road
Berrylands Road/Newlands Avenue/Peppard Road
Highmoor Road/Albert Road
Dovecote Road
Chagford Road
Copenhagen Close
Gillette Way
Longship Way
Whitley Wood Lane (no waiting at any time)
Whitley Wood Road (near Northumberland Avenue junction)

- (3) That, with regard to the scheme for Harrow Court, the proposed “no waiting at any time” at the mouth of the junction as shown on Drawing No. NM/AWRR/2014A/M17 be advertised, but no further action be taken regarding the length fronting the posts as shown on that Drawing;
- (4) That, subject to no objections being received, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make a Traffic Regulation Order implementing the measures;
- (5) That any objections received following the statutory consultation be reported to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;
- (6) That the Head of Transportation and Streetcare, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport, be authorised to make minor changes to the proposals;
- (7) That no public inquiry be held into the above proposals;
- (8) That consideration of the requests relating to the Staverton Road area, Milman Road, Geoffreyson Road and Grove Road be deferred to enable further investigation to take place;
- (9) That the Little John’s Lane area and Ardler Road area schemes be included in the Resident Permit review, Phase 2, commencing in September 2014;
- (10) That the following action be taken in relation to the roads listed below:
 - Wokingham Road - Consideration of a discretionary disabled bay;
 - Charndon Close - Housing officers to be advised to erect a street name plate, as a private street with resident access only;
 - Blackwater Close - Consideration of an access protection marking or Keep Clear;
 - Northumberland Avenue - Road marking to be re-freshed;

- Lower Elmstone Drive - Bus Stop Clearway markings to be introduced;
- Surley Row - Second Keep Clear marking to be introduced;
- Whitley Wood Road (lay-by opposite Engineer's Court) - Bus Stop Clearway markings to be introduced;
- Armour Hill - Residents to be advised on Access Protection marking application, should they wish to do apply for this;
- Garston Close - Residents to be advised on Access Protection marking application, should they wish to do apply for this;
- Whitley Wood Lane (request from Affinity Housing) - Businesses to be advised on Access Protection marking application, should they wish to apply for this;

(11) That the Sub-Committee's decision of 13 March 2014 to take no further action be taken regarding the request relating to Woodcote Road, opposite St. Peter's Avenue, be noted;

(12) That no further action be taken regarding the requests relating to Edenhall Close, Boston Avenue, Carmelite Drive, Buckingham Drive, Newcastle Road and Hardwick Road.

10. 88 YORK ROAD - TRANSPORT ISSUES FOLLOWING PLANNING PERMISSION FOR NEW DWELLING

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report stating that planning permission had been granted on 8 April 2014 for the demolition of an existing storage building at 88 York Road and the erection of a 3 bedroom dwelling.

The report stated that the proposed dwelling had no off-street parking and as a result the existing vehicular access to the site was to be abandoned with the footway returned to a full face and level kerb. Following the abandonment of the vehicular access there was the possibility of increasing the length of the residents parking bays along York Road to increase the number of spaces in an area that was already oversubscribed.

It was therefore proposed that the two Residents Parking Bays located either side of 88 York Road were extended at the north eastern end by 5m and 2m respectively to help alleviate existing parking pressures in the vicinity of the site. These changes would result in two additional on-street park places being created.

A Site Plan was attached at Appendix 1.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport and Ward Councillors, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to carry out statutory consultation on a Traffic Regulation Order to implement extensions to the existing Residents' Only parking bays along York Road and, subject to no objections being received, the Head of Transportation and Streetcare implement the scheme.

11. DEE PARK REGENERATION - INFORMAL CONSULTATION ON TRAFFIC CALMING AND WAITING RESTRICTIONS

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report stating that the Dee Park Estate was currently being transformed as part of a major regeneration scheme, which had obtained planning permission in December 2009.

A major part of the regeneration had been the transformation of the highway network to a home zone environment, and to complete this process Traffic Regulation Orders were required for traffic calming Measures, traffic movement and waiting restrictions. However, before the statutory process was undertaken, it was proposed that an informal consultation be undertaken with all the residents on the estate to seek their views on the proposals and amend them where necessary. This report detailed the proposals and sought approval for the consultation.

A site plan of the estate was included in Appendix 1 and the proposed consultation leaflet was included in Appendix 2.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted and, subject to (2) below, approval be given to the Head of Transportation and Streetcare to undertake an informal consultation with residents on the highway proposals for Dee Park Estate;
- (2) That the second paragraph of the section on "Other Measures Proposed" in Appendix 2 be amended to read:

"Parking spaces are proposed outside the new shops along Spey Road but to ensure a turnover of spaces for customers it is proposed that parking is limited to a maximum period of two hours out of four hours between the hours of 8.00am and 6.00pm."
- (3) That a further report be submitted to the Sub-Committee detailing the results of the consultation.

12. VALPY STREET - ALTERATIONS TO BUS STANDS AND PARKING BAYS

Further to Minute 31 of the meeting of 12 September 2013, the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on a revised scheme to reconfigure the current bus stands and parking along Valpy Street so that the bus stands were no longer located outside the new active frontage to Minerva House.

The report stated that the advertisement of the measures reported at the Sub-Committee's previous meeting for amendments to the bus bays and parking, had resulted in objections being received and, following consultation with officers, the applicant had drawn up revised proposals as shown on drawings 28802/001/SK007A in Appendix 1.

These proposals would result in the bus stands being relocated to a single location on the northern kerb line of Valpy Street, directly oppose the current location. The existing "Pay and Display bays which were currently on the northern kerb line would be moved to the southern kerb line opposite.

The alterations would also provide an increase in the Permit parking bay on the northern kerb to 20m and as a result of the changes there would be no reduction in the current

level of provision for bus stops/lay over points, motorcycle parking, cycle parking, loading, pay and display parking and a possible extension of the permit parking bay.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the changes to the parking and bus stands in Valpy Street be approved;
- (3) That, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport and Ward Councillors, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to carry out statutory consultation in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 to advertise the proposal and subject to no objections being received, to implement the proposal;
- (4) That any objections received be reported to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

13. HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Further to Minute 112 of the meeting of 13 March 2014, the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the current position regarding additional pothole repairs.

The report stated that inspection of the Priority 1 to 6 roads had been completed. However where roads listed in Appendix 1 receive their scheduled safety inspection any further potholes meeting the criteria for repair under this improvement plan would be recorded and repaired. The number of potholes identified and repaired in each category was currently as follows:

PRIORITY	POTHOLES IDENTIFIED	POTHOLES REPAIRED
Priority 1	260	260
Priority 2	15	15
Priority 3	779	758
Priority 4	155	155
Priority 5	217	217
Priority 6	159	159

The roads included in each category were detailed in Appendix 1.

The Chair also reported at the meeting that the Council had been awarded a sum of £163,833 by central government for additional pothole repairs.

Resolved -

- (1) That the current position regarding pothole repairs be noted and officers be thanked for their work on this;
- (2) That the funding awarded by central government for additional pothole repairs be welcomed;

- (3) That a further progress report be presented to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee;

14. PARKING ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report informing the Sub-Committee of the ongoing procurement process in relation to the tendering for a contractor for Parking enforcement services.

At its meeting on 23 June 2014 (Minute 6 refers) the Policy Committee had authorised the Head of Transportation & Streetcare, in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport, and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to award the Parking Enforcement contract for an initial period of five years with an option to extend the term of the contract by a period or periods of not less than one year, but with such extension periods or periods totalling in aggregate not more than five years dependent upon performance, for a maximum period of 10 years, in accordance with the Contract Procedure Rules.

Resolved - That the progress made on the re-tendering of the Parking Enforcement contract and the Policy Committee's decision of 23 June 2014 be noted.

15. CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT TRAFFIC SIGNS REGULATIONS & GENERAL DIRECTIONS (TSRGD) 2015 BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report informing the Sub-Committee of a review of the Traffic Signs Regulations & General Directions (TSRGD) 2015 which was currently being undertaken by central government. A summary of the areas under consideration by central government in consultation with local highway authorities was attached at Appendix 1.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

16. READING STATION - HIGHWAY WORKS UPDATE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing a progress update on the Reading Station Redevelopment Project and the associated highway works. The report highlighted the key programme dates for future works associated with Reading Station.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

17. EASTERN AREA TRANSPORT STUDY UPDATE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report updating the Sub-Committee on progress with the implementation of the pedestrian and cycle schemes being delivered through the Eastern Area Transport Study.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

18. LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND UPDATE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report updating the Sub-Committee on progress with delivery of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) Small Package, for which £4.9m funding had been approved by the Department for

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Transport in July 2011 and the LSTF Large Partnership Package, for which £20.692m funding had been approved by the DfT in June 2012.

The report provided an update on each of the five delivery themes of the LSTF programme, with particular focus on projects that had reached milestones within the previous three months.

In particular, the Sub-Committee was asked to note the launch on 10 June 2014 of the Readybike scheme at 27 locations around the town.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

19. CYCLE FORUM MEETING NOTES

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report informing the Sub-Committee of the discussions and actions arising from the 3 April 2014 meeting of the Cycle Forum under the auspices of the approved Cycling Strategy. The Notes of the meeting were attached to the report.

Resolved - That the Notes of the Cycle Forum meeting held on 3 April 2014 be noted.

20. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved -

That, pursuant to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) members of the press and public be excluded during consideration of Item 21 below, as it was likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

21. APPLICATIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY PARKING PERMITS

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report giving details of the background to her decisions to refuse applications for Discretionary Parking Permits from a total of six applicants, who had subsequently appealed against these decisions.

Resolved -

(1) That with regard to application 1.0:

(a) the Civil Enforcement Manager be asked to check the fact that both flats in question appeared to be separately rated for Council Tax purposes and therefore eligible for residents' permits;

(b) should the applicant not be eligible, the applicant be issued with a temporary discretionary permit, pending further discussion at the Sub-Committee's next meeting;

(2) That with regard to application 1.2, a discretionary permit be issued, personal to the applicant and charged at the third permit fee;

(3) That with regard to application 1.4, up to 15 books of visitors' permits be issued;

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- (4) That with regard to application 1.5, a discretionary permit be issued, personal to the applicant;
- (5) That the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services' decisions to refuse applications 1.1 and 1.3 be upheld.

(The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 9.01pm).