

## TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES - 15 JUNE 2016

**Present:** Councillor Page (Chair).  
Councillors Debs Absolom, Davies, Duveen, Hacker, Hopper, Jones, McDonald, Terry, and White.

**Apologies:** Councillors Dennis.

### 1. FORMER TRANSPORT USERS' FORUM - CONSULTATIVE ITEM

#### (1) Questions

Question on the following matters were submitted, and answered by the Chair:

Questioner	Subject
Boyd Butler	LED Street Lighting
Tanja Rebel	LED Street Lighting
Helen Perkins	Albert Road/Highmoor Road
Helen Perkins	Albert Road/Highmoor Road
Helen Perkins	Albert Road/Highmoor Road
James Berrie	Extra Care Facility on Albert Road

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

#### (2) Presentation - Whiteknights Reservoir Traffic Management Arrangements

Sam Shean, Streetcare Services Manager, gave a presentation on plans for a project to construct a flood wall for the Whiteknights Reservoir adjacent to Whiteknights Road, Reading. The plans included alterations to the Council-owned embankment including regrading of the slope, installing a rock gambion retaining wall and widening the pedestrian footpath.

At the invitation of the Chair, members of the public asked Sam Shean questions on his presentation.

A copy of the presentation slides was made available on the Reading Borough Council website.

**Resolved - That Sam Shean be thanked for his presentation.**

### 2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of 10 March 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### 3. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no questions submitted in accordance with the Panel's Terms of Reference.

### 4. PETITIONS

#### (a) Petition for Permit Parking in St Stephens Close

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of a petition from residents of St Stephens Close, asking the Council to provide a shared use permit parking scheme.

The petition read as follows:

*'We, the undersigned, call upon Reading Borough Council via the traffic sub-committee to provide residents of St Stephens Close/Claydon Court of the Caversham ward area, with a parking scheme including for shared use resident permit/no waiting at any time access to St Stephens Close area, as identified in the attached plan below [Appendix 1 to the report]. This forms an extension to the scheme already implemented by proposal CA4046, approved on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016, for Cardinal Close residents' area.*

*This petition supports a proposal to extend this scheme defined on CA4046 to the St Stephens Cl/Claydon Ct residents developing an integrated area parking strategy consistent with Cardinal Close residential area*

*Keeps access road clear of parked vehicle and allows emergency access to the area*

*Alleviates transferred parking pressure caused by the newly implemented proposal CA4046*

*Alleviates future resident parking issues due to increasing area population density*

*Alleviates future resident parking issues due to planned St Martin's precinct retail changes and increased visitor movements*

*Supports residents access and egress needs to /from private land*

*Prevents long term parking by third parties*

*Prevents daily parking by commuters*

*Legalises the removal of vehicles parked on private land*

*Supports short term parking of third parties, for access to nearby facilities'.*

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the petition to introduce permit parking in St Stephens Close be considered as part of the 6-monthly Waiting Restriction Review programme and be reported back to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;
- (3) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

#### (b) Petition for Permit Parking in Melrose Avenue

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The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of a petition from residents in Melrose Avenue, asking the Council to produce and consult on a residents' parking scheme Melrose Avenue.

The petition read as follows:

*'The residents of Melrose Avenue are concerned about parking problems in our road. These problems include: parking by residents of Bridges and Wessex Halls; University staff parking, exacerbated by the University charging for parking; "park and ride" into Reading; and cars associated with the significant number of HMOs in the area (whether registered or not). We believe that residents' parking might be a solution to these problems. We would like the Council to produce a scheme for our road and consult on it'.*

At the invitation of the Chair, a resident of Belle Avenue addressed the Sub-Committee on behalf of the petitioners.

The Sub-Committee discussed the report and the representations received and agreed that Belle Avenue should be added to the 6-monthly Waiting Restrictions Review.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the petition to introduce permit parking in Melrose Avenue be considered as a part of the 6-monthly Waiting Restrictions Review programme and be reported back to a future meeting of the Sub Committee;
- (3) That Belle Avenue be added to the 6-monthly Waiting Restrictions Review programme;
- (3) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

(c) Petition for Permit Parking in Amherst Road

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of a petition asking the Council to investigate the issue of residents' parking in Amherst Road.

Then petition read:

*'I live on Amherst Road and agree that parking can be a problem. Parking congestion can mean that it is impossible to find a parking space in the evening and pavements are often blocked. We would like the council to investigate the issue of residents' parking in the road'.*

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the petition to investigate introduction of permit parking in Amherst road be considered as part of the 6-monthly Waiting Restrictions Review

programme and be reported back to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;

(3) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

(d) Petition for Permit Parking in Rowley Road

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of a petition from residents of Rowley Road asking the Council to introduce residential parking permits for Rowley Road.

The petition read as follows:

*'We the undersigned petition to Reading Borough Council to introduce residential parking permits for Rowley Road. Having been a resident of this road for many years it is becoming more apparent that residents struggle to park, leaving many of us as residents frustrated'.*

Resolved -

(1) That the report be noted;

(2) That the petition to introduce permit parking in Rowley Road be considered as part of the 6-monthly Waiting Restriction Review programme and be reported back to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;

(3) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly

(e) Petition for Review of Road Safety of Cemetery Junction

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of a petition asking the Council to commit to an urgent road safety review in the Cemetery Junction area.

The petition read as follows:

*'There have been three deaths on the roads at Cemetery Junction since 2010. Recently there has been an overturned car and an incident resulting in a boy sustaining serious leg injuries. We want Reading Borough Council to commit to an urgent road safety review of the Cemetery Junction area'.*

The report explained that the Council had a statutory duty, as highways authority, to improve road safety through the reduction of casualties and that this was achieved using accident statistics data supplied by Thames Valley Police.

At the invitation of the Chair, Councillor White addressed the Sub-Committee on behalf of the petitioners.

Resolved -

(1) That the report be noted;

- (2) That the petition to review the road safety at Cemetery Junction be considered as part of the Council's statutory duty to improve road safety and reduce casualties and be reported back to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;
- (3) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly

(f) Petition for Permit Parking in Harrow Court

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of a petition asking the Council to investigate the introduction of permit parking in Harrow Court.

The petition read as follows:

*'Harrow Court, Bath Road, Reading RG1 6JF is a small cul-de-sac leading to a development of 38 terraced houses with garages in blocks, built 47 years ago. The garages are too small for most modern cars and residents do not have their own drives, with the exception of 2 houses which have a short drive than can accommodate a medium size car. They have to park on the road or in the garage area. Parking has become increasingly difficult for residents who are now competing with commuters and shoppers who park in the road and our garage areas seven days a week.*

*We, the undersigned residents of Harrow Court, petition Reading Borough Council to investigate a Resident Parking Permits scheme for our road'.*

The report explained that the petition provided some context of the parking problems on Harrow Court, citing concerns about emergency access, vehicles parking on the footway, and limited parking spaces being available for residents, which was caused by persons living outside the street or commuting to other parts of the town.

At the invitation of the Chair, the petition organizer, Neil Seager, addressed the Sub-Committee.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the petition to investigate introduction of permit parking in Harrow Court be considered as part of the 6-monthly Waiting Restriction Review programme and be reported back to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;
- (3) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly

(g) Petition for Traffic Calming Measures on Northcourt Avenue

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on the receipt of two petitions asking the Council to introduce traffic calming measures in Northcourt Avenue.

The petition read as follows:

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*'We the undersigned are very concerned with the speed of traffic in Northcourt Avenue and are asking the Council to consider raising the carriageway to footway level to create priority for crossing pedestrians and encourage drivers to slow down to 20mph at the following locations:*

- 1. Cressingham Road - north arm*
- 2. Stansfield Close junction*
- 3. Ennerdale Road junction*
- 4. Wellington Avenue junction*
- 5. Sherfield and Benyon Halls access road junction*
- 6. Christchurch Road - south arm'*

The report explained that the lead petitioner stated the residents' initial request was to ask the Council to raise the carriageway to footway level at the junctions to encourage drivers to slow down and enable pedestrians and vulnerable users to cross the road more safely. It stated that in addition to the petition a letter had been received from the Northcourt Avenue Residents Association requesting the Council to install traffic calming on Northcourt Avenue and supporting the residents' petition.

The letter read as follows:

*'TRAFFIC CALMING PETITION in Northcourt Avenue, Church Ward*

*Northcourt Avenue Residents Association (NARA) wishes to request the Council to take physical measures to calm the traffic in Northcourt Avenue.*

*This request comes as a result of sustained growth in the volume and speed of vehicles following the measures to restrain traffic capacity on Reading's arterial A327 Shinfield Road.*

*Residents' recent observations suggest that thousands of vehicles are now using the Avenues every day, most of which travel in excess of the 30mph limit. This was recorded recently by data collected from cameras by Thames Valley police.*

*Our initial request is for the raising of the carriageway to footway level at the junctions. This will not only slow down drivers at locations where they should be paying attention anyway, but also - most importantly - facilitate pedestrians and vulnerable road users to cross safely without intimidation.*

*The matter was considered at length during the Annual General Meeting of the Northcourt Avenue Residents Association. The AGM was unanimous in requesting the Council to take the measures necessary to reduce the speed and volume of vehicles in the Avenue, which is, in fact, supposed to be a quiet suburban (unclassified) residential road.*

*Additionally, NARA supports the Residents in Northcourt Avenue and Wellington Avenue in their TRAFFIC CALMING Petition. The strength of feeling must be evident from the 162 signatures on the petition which is being submitted separately. NARA looks forward to your favourable consideration of what we consider to be a reasonable request.'*

Resolved -

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- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That Officers investigate the proposals in the petitions and present their recommendations to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;
- (3) That the lead petitioners be informed accordingly.

### 5. PETITION FOR REVIEW OF THE SAFETY & SIGNAGE OF THE ZEBRA CROSSING IN PROSPECT STREET, CAVERSHAM - UPDATE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report updating the Sub-Committee on a petition that had been submitted to the 10 March 2016 meeting (Minute 75 refers) asking the Council to review the safety of and signage of the zebra crossing in prospect Street, Caversham as a matter of urgency, including investigating an upgrade to a pelican crossing.

The report explained that the petition had highlighted a serious incident on 11 January 2016 in which a woman on the crossing had been knocked down by a lorry, sustaining life threatening injuries.

The report stated that as part of the Council's statutory duty, as highway authority, to improve road safety, officers considered work undertaken by Thames Valley Police in determining the causation factor(s) of accidents. In this case the police report had not suggested that the layout of the road or visibility of the zebra crossing had contributed in any way to the accident that had occurred on 11 January 2016 and that prior to this particular accident this zebra crossing had had a very good safety record without any reported casualties since the Council had become highway authority in 1998.

The report explained that the police investigation was yet to be concluded but that information shared with officers to date had suggested the causation factors were beyond the scope of any road or crossing improvement.

The report stated that there was a desire to pursue the lower 20mph speed limit across parts of Lower Caversham in particular and that the central Caversham area was a prime candidate for a 20mph limit improving the experience of those walking and cycling. As a part of the review of this zebra crossing in Prospect Street it was intended to engage with Caversham and District Residents Association (CADRA) on a reduction of the speed limit to 20mph. The report explained that a report on how the lower 20mph speed limit might be implemented and its impact in Caversham would be presented at a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

At the invitation of the Chair, the petition organiser, Ed Hogan, addressed the Sub-Committee.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That a further report be prepared for a future meeting of the Sub-Committee regarding the introduction of a 20mph speed limit in Prospect Street, Caversham and to report on the conclusion of the Thames Valley Police accident investigation.

**6. ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CASUALTIES IN READING BASINGSTOKE ROAD WITH BUCKLAND ROAD & HIGHMOOR ROAD JUNCTION WITH ALBERT ROAD**

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on road safety within Reading and informing the Sub-Committee of the on-going police investigations into the sad events that had resulted in fatalities at Basingstoke Road (Whitley) and Highmoor Road (Thames).

The report described the Council's duty as highways authority to take steps to both reduce and prevent collisions on the road network and to secure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic by maintaining and managing the road network. It outlined significant road safety projects undertaken in the Borough in recent years and explained the adverse impact on road safety measures of central government policy changes and funding reductions.

The report explained that the accidents in Basingstoke Road and Highmoor Road were being investigated by the police and that officers had been involved in site visits as a part of those investigations. Some details of what had happened at Basingstoke Road and Highmoor Road had been reported by the local media. The report conveyed the Council's heartfelt sympathies to the families and friends of the two people who been killed in the accidents.

The report explained that the Highway Authority had a duty to determine whether such accidents were related to defects in the highway and, if this was the case, to accept responsibility for any appropriate action.

The report explained that once the police investigations were complete into the circumstances of both these fatal accidents it would be appropriate for the Council to consider their findings.

The report stated that at the Sub-Committee's meeting on 15 January 2015 (Minute 68 refers) it had agreed to a change of priorities at the Highmoor Road/Albert Road junction following the review of the Traffic Sign Regulations & General Directions (TSRGD). As the revised TSRGD had recently been brought into force, the January 2015 decision could now be fulfilled. The report explained that changing the priorities would allow the Highmoor Road traffic to pass through the junction without stopping whilst the Albert Road traffic would have to give-way. As explained in the January 2015 report this option of all those considered at that time was the simplest and most cost effective to deliver. The report recommended that the January 2015 recommendation be implemented and the junction be kept under review.

The Sub-Committee noted that a petition had been received asking for road safety changes in respect of the Highmoor Road/Albert Road junction. At the invitation of the Chair, the petition organisers, Stuart Kemp and Jonathan Lee addressed the Sub-Committee.

At the invitation of the Chair, Mike Johnson, Paul Matthews of Caversham and District Residents Association (CADRA), and Councillor Ballsdon, on behalf of her constituents, addressed the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee discussed the report and representations received and agreed that officers should meet with representatives of CADRA/HARC to investigate the options for



the Highmoor Road/Albert road junction and report to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That officers meet with representatives of CADRA/HARC to investigate the options for the Highmoor Road/Albert Road junction and report back to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee with recommendations.

#### 7. PETITION FOR A ZEBRA CROSSING ON GOSBROOK ROAD - UPDATE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing the Sub-Committee with a summary of the results of a pedestrian/vehicle count (PV<sup>2</sup>) that had been conducted in response to a petition that had been submitted to the Sub-Committee on 14 January 2016, requesting a new zebra crossing on Gosbrook Road (Minute 57 refers).

The report explained that a pedestrian/vehicle count (PV<sup>2</sup>) had been conducted at the suspected pedestrian crossing desire line, located between the gated northern entrance to Christchurch Meadows and the footpaths that met at the south-east corner of the Westfield Road green area. The PV<sup>2</sup> count had confirmed that there was a significant pedestrian movement across Gosbrook Road in the vicinity of this suspected desire line and that the flows appeared to be tidal, with a higher southbound demand in the morning (7am to 9am) and a higher northbound flow in the afternoon (3pm to 7pm) during the week.

The report described the factors Officers had considered alongside the results of the PV<sup>2</sup> count. The report explained that having considered these factors, Officers recommended that the installation of a zebra crossing, positioned in alignment with the gated entrance to Christchurch Meadows and to the east of the access to Elizabeth House, would be suitable for the needs of pedestrians.

The report detailed the factors that would need to be considered before conducting detailed design work and costing on the scheme and proceeding to statutory consultation.

At the invitation of the Chair, the petition organizer, Ed Hogan, addressed the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee discussed the report and agreed that a further report on the design work and statutory consultation results be submitted to a future meeting prior to deciding whether to proceed with a Notice to install the crossing.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the proposal in paragraph 4.4 of the report be developed as a detailed design and be safety-audited, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee, the Lead Councillors for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport and Ward Councillors;
- (3) Subject to the results of resolution (2) above:

- (a) That, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport and Ward Councillors, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to carry out statutory consultation and advertise the alterations to the parking bays as detailed in paragraphs 4.5.4 and 4.5.5 of the report, in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996;
  - (b) That, subject to no objections being received, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make the Traffic Regulation Order;
  - (c) That any objections received following the statutory advertisement be reported to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;
- (4) That the results of resolution (2) and (3) above be reported to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee, prior to approving a Notice for installation of the crossing.
- (5) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

**8. PETITION FOR SAFE CROSSING PLACES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN ON ROTHERFIELD WAY - UPDATE**

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing the Sub-Committee with an update on the results of Officer investigation in response to a petition that had been submitted to the Sub-Committee on 14 January 2016 (Minute 57 refers), requesting the installation of a crossing place for school children on Rotherfield Way, near to the junction with Surley Row.

The report explained that officers had observed the junction to review the desire line for pedestrians crossing the road, the layout and topography of the junction and, having taken account of a number of factors, which were detailed in the report, officers considered that the installation of a zebra crossing would best serve the needs of crossing pedestrians.

The report described the factors that would need to be investigated and considered in preparing the detailed design for the scheme.

The Sub-Committee was advised that a representation had been received from a member of the public expressing concerns over the proposed zebra crossing and copies of the representation were made available at the meeting.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the proposal set out in paragraph 4.4 of the report be developed as a detailed design and be safety-audited;
- (3) That subject to the results of (2) above,
  - (a) The Head of Legal Services be authorised to carry out the statutory Notice procedures for the intention to establish a new pedestrian

crossing, in accordance with Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984;

- (b) The proposal set out in paragraph 4.4 of the report be implemented;
- (4) That if it was not possible to implement the proposal in paragraph 4.4, a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;
- (5) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

**9. CRESCENT ROAD AND EAST READING REQUESTS FOR RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING - UPDATE**

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing the Sub-Committee with an update on the request for residents permit parking in Crescent Road, as requested by residents in a petition received by the Sub-Committee at its meeting on 14 January 2016 (Minute 57 refers). The report also provided Officers' initial proposals to address concerns at rat-running traffic in Crescent Road, as requested by the Sub-Committee at its meeting on 10 March 2016 (Minute 78 refers).

The report explained that the Council had received petitions for the introduction of resident permit parking in Crescent Road, Bulmershe Road and Hamilton Road and a petition objecting to the introduction of resident permit parking in Hamilton Road. Following the previous meeting of the Sub-Committee, it had been recommended that these resident permit parking schemes be considered together as part of the next 6-monthly waiting restriction review. It was noted that other petitions for resident permit parking, considered earlier in the meeting would also be included in this review. The report recommended that implementation of any permit schemes within this area be conducted together as an area scheme, following the results of informal consultations and detailed design.

A plan, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, showed the existing, proposed and requested streets for resident permit parking.

The report provided proposals to address concerns about traffic volumes on Crescent Road. It explained that officers considered the installation of a one-way plug, preventing traffic entering Crescent road from Wokingham Road, would significantly reduce the volumes of traffic on Crescent Road. The report stated that as part of this solution, consideration could be given to reversing the one-way direction of a section of Grange Avenue, from its junction with Wokingham Road.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That Officers conduct an informal consultation for an area-wide resident permit parking proposal, for the area indicated in Appendix 1 of the report, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport and Ward Councillors;

- (3) That the proposals set out in report to address traffic volumes on Crescent Road be developed into a detailed design, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport and Ward Councillors;
- (4) That the lead petitioners be informed accordingly.

#### 10. RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEME - SCRUTINY REVIEW

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report inviting the Sub-Committee to re-establish the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group that had originally been set up in July 2012, to consider Residents Parking in the Borough.

The report included the terms of reference for the group which were:

“To review the performance and current and future arrangements for delivery of Parking Services with a focus on the services relating to residents parking schemes”

The report stated that the Task and Finish Group would need to decide the scope of the review, which would be reported to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee, along with an update on the Group's work to date.

The report of the original Task and Finish Group was attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

Resolved -

- (1) That a Task and Finish Group be established to consider Residents Parking in the Borough;
- (2) That the membership of the Task and Finish Group shall be Councillors Jones (Chair), Debs Absolom, Hacker, Hopper, Terry and White;
- (3) That the Task and Finish Group meet and agree a scope for the review and report back to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee with an update on their work.

#### 11. BI-ANNUAL WAITING RESTRICTION REVIEW - WRR2016A STATUTORY CONSULTATION

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report seeking approval for carrying out statutory consultation and implementation, subject to no objections being received, on requests for or changes to waiting/parking restrictions.

The report explained that requests for new or alterations to existing waiting restrictions were reviewed on a 6-monthly basis commencing in March and September each year. It stated that in accordance with the report to the Sub-Committee on 10 March 2016 (Minute 80 refers), consultation with Ward Councillors had been completed. Appendix 1 to the report provided a list of streets, officer recommendations and relevant proposed plans for the Bi-Annual Waiting restrictions review programme.

The Sub-Committee reviewed the programme and agreed that Dovecote Road should be removed from the list.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee/the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport and Ward Councillors, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to carry out statutory consultations and advertise the proposals listed in Appendix I to the report, excluding Dovecote Road, in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996;
- (3) That subject to no objections being received, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make the Traffic Regulation Order;
- (4) That any objections received following the statutory advertisement be reported to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;
- (5) That the Head of Transport, in consultation with the appropriate Lead Councillor be authorised to make minor changes to the proposals;
- (6) That no public enquiry be held into the proposals.

## 12. HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE POTHOLE REPAIR PLAN 2016/17

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report informing the Sub-Committee about the £60,000 share which had been made available to the Council from the £50m Pothole Action Fund for pothole repairs in the 2016-17 financial year, following an announcement in the Government's Autumn Statement 2015.

Appendix 1 to the report listed the roads in priority order based on the specified criteria to enable the plan to commence immediately. The report explained how the pothole repairs would be prioritised and stated that, in the event of other roads subsequently being identified or brought to the Council's attention and considered to be of a higher priority, the list would be reviewed to ensure that the worst roads were given highest priority.

Resolved -

- (1) That the £60,000 share from the £50 Million Pothole Action Fund allocated to the Council for pothole repairs in the current financial year, following the announcement in the government's Autumn Statement be noted;
- (2) That the Pothole Repair Plan proposal outlined in Section 4 of the report be approved;
- (3) That an update on progress be reported to future meetings of the Sub-Committee;
- (4) That expenditure of the £60,000 share of the Pothole Action Fund be approved.

**13. RESULTS OF STATUTORY CONSULTATIONS - HOSPITAL AND UNIVERSITY STUDY AND A33 MRT PHASE ONE**

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing the Sub-Committee with an update on the results of statutory consultations regarding the Hospital & University Study and the A33 MRT Phase One.

The report explained that following completion of the informal consultations in 2015, it had been agreed at the Traffic Management Sub-Committee in January 2016 (Minute 63 refers) to progress the formal Statutory Consultation on the Hospital and University proposals, and at the Traffic Management Sub-Committee in March 2016 (Minute 87 refers), it had been agreed to progress the formal Statutory Consultation on phase one of the A33 MRT proposals.

The report stated that the Statutory Consultations had commenced on 12 May 2016 for a period of 28 days. Notices had been placed on street informing of the consultation, alongside promotion via the Reading Borough Council website and social media platforms. The results of the consultation on the hospital and university study were presented in a document tabled at the meeting.

The Sub-Committee noted that an on-line petition had been organised regarding the impact of the Hospital and University proposals on staff, patients and visitors at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. At the invitation of the Chair, the petition organiser, Clare Gouldbourn Lay, addressed the Sub-Committee.

At the invitation of the Chair, Mr Sharp and Councillor David Absolom, on behalf of his constituents, addressed the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee was advised that no objections had been received in respect of the A33 MRT Phase One.

The Sub-Committee discussed the report and representations received and agreed a tabled Motion in the terms set out below to suspend implementation of the advertised proposals for the hospital and university area to allow a further report to be submitted to the next meeting.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the report and the results of the statutory consultations be noted;**
- (2) That the Sub-Committee, having considered the support/objections and comments received in response to the statutory consultation for changes to waiting restrictions as part of the hospital and university area study, agree to suspend any implementation of the advertised proposals to allow a further report to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee on 14 September 2016, which will include:**
  - (a) any further refinements to the proposals recently advertised;**
  - (b) a further set of proposals for changes to waiting restrictions, including the introduction of residents' parking schemes, to those residential streets in Redlands which currently lacked any parking restrictions;**

- (3) That it be noted that suspending the introduction of the proposals did not mean that they had been abandoned;
- (4) That with regard to 2(b) above, it be noted that any refinements made to the advertised proposals could only consist of reducing the restriction type - no new restrictions could be added;
- (5) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly;
- (6) That, where no objections were received in response to the South Reading MRT proposal, the scheme be implemented as advertised.

#### 14. SCHOOL EXPANSION AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT UPDATE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing the Sub-Committee with an update on the progress made towards encouraging sustainable travel to schools through the development of new Travel Plans for the primary schools that were currently expanding.

The report explained that further to Minute 83 of the meeting held on 10 March 2016, it was proposed to upgrade the pedestrian crossing across Caversham Road by York Road by the removal of the older style 'pelican' crossing and introduction of new technologies in a 'PUFFIN' crossing. The new crossing would include detectors that could monitor pedestrian activity within the roadway and extend the red time to vehicles where necessary to allow safe passage of pedestrians. The report explained that the new crossing could be used by groups of parents and children at EP Collier School and that this work and the introduction of the 20mph speed limit agreed at the previous meeting were expected to improve active and sustainable travel to the school with less reliance on car travel.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the use of Section 106 monies secured from the expansion of EP Collier Primary School to upgrade the pedestrian crossing across Caversham Road by York Road as set out within the report be agreed.

#### 15. CAR CLUBS

Further to Minute 85 of the meeting held on 10 March 2016, The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report informing the Sub-Committee about Car Clubs generally together with a summary of progress with development of Car Clubs in Reading.

Resolved - That the report be noted

#### 16. CAR PARK TARIFF CHANGES 2016

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report on proposals to change the "off-street" car parking orders as a result of a review of the tariffs.

The proposed Car Park Tariff Charges 2016 were set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

A comparison of car park charges was set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

Resolved -

- (1) That the proposed Car Park Tariffs set out within the report and in Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- (2) That the statutory requirements for changes to the Borough of Reading (Civil Enforcement Area) (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2012, Borough of Reading (Civil Enforcement Area) (Off Street Parking Places) (Amendment) Order and The Borough of Reading (Civil Enforcement Area) (Off Street Parking Places) (Civic Car Park "B") (Experimental) Order 2014 be authorised and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to advertise the proposals.

## 17. MAJOR TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS PROJECTS - UPDATE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing the Sub-Committee with an update on the current major transport and highways projects in Reading, namely:

### Reading Station Area Development

#### Cow Lane Bridges - Highway Works

The report explained that since the March 2016 meeting of the Sub-Committee, Network Rail had reviewed the overall project design to investigate potential areas for reduction in scope and associated cost reduction. The Council had been involved in the review to ensure the essential elements of the scheme were retained, (such as the new footway on the east side of the southern bridge). The Council remained reliant on Network Rail in confirming a programme of works, but was hopeful works would commence after Reading Festival 2016.

#### Cycle Parking on the North side of the Station

The report stated that the new cycle hub located on the north west corner of the Station Car Park had opened on Monday 23 May 2016. The hub had space to park 600 bicycles on a two tier cycle rack system and was covered by a series of shelters. To date, the hub had been very well used, and feedback by users had been positive.

### Thames Valley Berkshire Growth Deal Schemes

#### Green Park Station

The report stated that design work for the station was being progressed in partnership with Network Rail and Great Western Railway to ensure the station complied with the latest railway standards. An updated programme had been agreed between all project partners in line with the target opening date for the station of December 2018. Design work for the multi-modal interchange and surface level car park was being progressed in parallel with the station design work. The report stated that discussions were on-going between the Department for Transport and Great Western Railway regarding the availability of trains to serve the station, however the Berkshire Local Transport Body had agreed that the scheme should be progressed in line with the original programme.



### Reading West Station Upgrade

The report explained that the Council had been working with Great Western Railway and Network Rail to produce a Masterplan for significantly improved passenger facilities at Reading West Station. Delivery of the scheme was split into two distinct phases, with Network Rail due to implement Phase 1 as part of their wider programme of works for electrification of the line between Southcote Junction and Newbury. Phase 2, which would include significant improvements such as the station building on the Oxford Road, was currently unfunded. However officers were continuing to seek funding for the scheme from all available sources, including a bid to the Local Growth Fund which was due to be submitted to the Government in the summer.

### South Reading Mass Rapid Transit

The report stated that, as agreed at Policy Committee in April 2016 (Minute 102 refers), Phase 1A of the scheme was due to commence on site in mid-July 2016 for a period of 3 months. This initial phase of works would involve construction of a series of bus lanes between the A33 junction with Imperial Way and the existing bus priority provided through M4 Junction 11. The scheme would be achieved predominantly by utilising space in the central reservations and realigning existing lanes where required. The Sub-Committee noted that no comments had been received during the Statutory Consultation.

The report explained that options for future phases of the South MRT scheme were currently being investigated to provide further bus priority measures between Island Road and Reading town centre. Phases 3 and 4 of the scheme had been ranked as the highest priority transport scheme in Berkshire for future funding from the Local Growth Fund.

### Eastern Park and Ride

The report stated that work on the planning application for the Mass Rapid Transit scheme was being progressed with the objective of submitting the application towards the end of the year. It was proposed that a series of public drop-in sessions would be undertaken to gain feedback on the MRT scheme prior to the school summer holidays. This would enable feedback from the informal consultation to be incorporated into the scheme design prior to submission of the planning application. Preparation of the full scheme business cases for the P&R and MRT schemes was being progressed and both assessments were anticipated to be submitted to the Berkshire Local Transport Body in November to seek full financial approval for each scheme.

### National Cycle Network Route 422

The report explained that the scheme had been granted full funding approval from the Berkshire Local Transport Body in November 2015. Preferred option development had been undertaken and detailed design for the scheme was currently being undertaken, focused initially on the provision of a shared path on the northern side of the Bath Road between the Borough boundary and Berkeley Avenue. The report stated that a programme for delivery of the full scheme was being agreed between project partners, however it was anticipated that the works in Reading would be able to commence during the current financial year subject to detailed design work being completed.

### Third Thames Bridge

The report explained that a Third Thames Bridge over the River Thames was a longstanding element of Reading's transport strategy to improve travel options throughout the wider area. A group had been established to investigate the traffic implications and prepare an outline business case for the proposed bridge, led by Wokingham Borough Council and in partnership with Reading Borough Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Thames Valley Berkshire LEP and Oxfordshire LEP. The Wokingham Strategic Transport Model was currently being updated to enable the modelling and business case work to be undertaken, and a bid was being prepared to the Department for Transport to seek funding to undertake the next stage of the business case work for the scheme.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport, the Head of Transportation and Streetcare be authorised to undertake an informal public consultation on the proposed East Reading MRT scheme prior to the school summer holidays to support development of the planning application for the scheme.

#### **18. CYCLING STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2016/17**

The Director of Environment & Neighbourhood Services submitted a report setting the programme for Cycling Strategy implementation Plan 2016/17 and reviewing progress towards delivery of the strategy objectives during 2015/16.

The report explained that the delivery programme for 2016/17 had been developed by assessing the level of available funding alongside an assessment methodology to prioritise projects which met strategic objectives and delivered value for money.

The report stated that the opening of the pedestrian and cycle bridge had led to an increase in cycle use in the vicinity of the River Thames and Thames Path, which was legally classified as a footpath over which the public had a right of way by foot only. Increased cycle use had been highlighted through site visits along the Thames Path and ongoing dialogue with the Cycle Forum that led to the decision to carry out informal consultation seeking the views of key stakeholders regarding the possibility of permitting cycling along the Thames Path between Reading and Caversham Bridges. The report noted that the Council had initiated a process to convert the section of the Thames Path between Reading and Caversham Bridges to a cycle track in 2007, which had received over 150 objections and the Council had decided not to pursue the order further.

The report stated that it was now recommended that a statutory consultation be carried out to seek the views of landowners to identify further options for cycle use along the full section of the Thames path (Footpath 1) in Reading.

Appendix A to the report set out details of the delivery highlights achieved during 2015/16.

Appendix B to the report provided a location plan of serious cycle accidents 2013-2015

Appendix C to the report provided the Cycle Strategy Programme schemes for 2016/17

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the ongoing monitoring and progress made in delivering the cycling Strategy during 2015/16 as outlined in Appendix A and the location of serious accidents involving cyclists as set out in Appendix B be noted;
- (2) That the Cycling strategy delivery programme for 2016/17, as set out in Appendix C be approved;
- (3) That in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport and Ward Councillors, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to carry out a statutory consultation to identify options for cycle use along the Thames Path.

#### 19. CYCLE FORUM - MEETING NOTE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report informing the Sub-Committee of the discussions and actions arising from the 7 June 2016 meeting of the Cycle Forum under the auspices of the approved Cycling Strategy.

The notes of the Cycle Forum meeting of 7 June 2016 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Resolved - That the report 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 90 below, as it was likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 4 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 9 applicants, who had subsequently appealed against these decisions.

Resolved -

- (1) That applications 1.2 and 1.3 be referred to the Residents Parking Task and Finish Group for consideration;
- (2) That the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services' decision to refuse applications 1.0, 1.1, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7 and 1.8 be upheld.

(Exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2).

(The meeting started at 6.30 pm and finished at 10.30 pm).