

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 13 JANUARY 2022

Present: Councillor Ayub (Chair);
Councillors Barnett-Ward, Carnell, Ennis, Gittings, Hacker (Vice-Chair), Leng, Mitchell, Page, R Singh, Terry and Whitham

(Councillor Duveen was unable to attend in person, so attended and contributed remotely via Microsoft Teams, but did not vote on any of the items, in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972)

33. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of 11 November 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

34. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS

A question on the following matter was submitted, and answered by the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment Planning and Transport on behalf of the Chair:

Questioner	Subject
Councillor Whitham	Improving Kings Road Safety Record

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

35. WAITING RESTRICTION REVIEW - 2021B PROPOSALS FOR STATUTORY CONSULTATION

The Executive Director for Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report seeking the Sub-Committee's approval for Officers to undertake statutory consultation for recommended new/alterations to waiting restrictions, which would address the issues that had been raised in the initial list of requests. The initial list of requests had been agreed for investigation by the Sub-Committee at its meeting on 15 September 2021 (minute 17 refers). It was noted that the recommendations within the report had been shared with Ward Councillors, with an opportunity for them to comment.

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The recommendations for statutory consultation as part of the 2021B programme, officer recommendations and drawings to accompany the recommendations was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

At the invitation of the Chair, Sarah Britten-Jones attended the meeting and addressed the Sub-Committee in respect of The Mount, she also submitted parking data that had been collected between August 2021 and January 2022 and for the number of vehicles parked per zone that had been collected over four days between November and December 2021 on the hour over a 12 hour period.

At the invitation of the Chair, Steph Dewar, Chair of the Progress Theatre, also attended the meeting and addressed the Sub-Committee in respect of the Mount.

The Sub-Committee discussed the report and considered the list of requests, Councillor Page thanked Sarah Britten-Jones and Steph Dewar for attending the meeting and suggested that Sarah continued to keep the data that had been collected on parking up to date, up until the consultation period, he also asked that everyone in the area be encouraged to respond to the consultation.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;**
- (2) That the Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to undertake a statutory consultation in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996, for the proposals contained within in Appendix 1, attached to the report;**
- (3) That subject to no objections being received, the Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make the Traffic Regulation Order;**
- (4) That any objection(s) received following the statutory advertisement be submitted to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee;**
- (5) That no public inquiry be held into the proposals.**

36. ACTIVE TRAVEL FUND TRANCHE 2 - SHINFIELD ROAD - PROPOSALS FOR STATUTORY CONSULTATION

The Executive Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report seeking the Sub-Committee's approval for officers to carry out the necessary statutory consultations/notice processes to progress the Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 Shinfield Road scheme. A copy of the Active Travel Fund Tranche 2: Shinfield Road Detailed Designs was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

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The report explained that approval related specifically to the installation of a new signalised pedestrian crossing near the junction with Cressingham Road and the implementation of traffic restrictions in the form of double yellow lines along the entire length of the scheme (Christchurch Green to Shinfield Rise). The report also informed the Sub-Committee of the intention to make Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders where necessary to temporarily control vehicle or pedestrian activities throughout the construction phase of the scheme.

In November 2020 the Department for Transport had announced the award of £1.179m to Reading for the Active Travel Fund Tranche 2, this award had been on the basis of a detailed, high quality and ambitious bid that had been submitted by the Council resulting in Reading being awarded 100% of the indicative allocation available. A two stage engagement and consultation approach had been carried out for this scheme and an initial engagement exercise had run from 24 February to 23 April 2021; 928 responses had been received from residents, businesses and organisations. The outcome of this exercise had identified that the Shinfield Road scheme was the best supported and least opposed scheme. A further consultation on the scheme had been carried out between 26 October and 6 December 2021 and officers were currently analysing the responses that had been received and would update the final designs accordingly. The indicative timeline for the Tranche 2 programme was set out in the report.

The report explained that should objections be received to the scheme these would be submitted to a future meeting and if this was not the case the intention was that officers would progress the proposal to delivery.

At the invitation of the Chair, Peter Seymour, Thames Valley Regional Representative for the Motorcycling Action Group, attended the meeting and addressed the Sub-Committee in respect of the new signalised crossing.

The Sub-Committee discussed the report and Councillor Page reported that he had asked officers to arrange a meeting with representatives of the Motorcycling Action Group so that they could provide them with feedback from the recent meetings of the Cycle Forum and the Cleaner Air and Safer Transport Forum. Councillor Page also stated that the Council was under pressure from Government so there was a need to progress the statutory elements early.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;**
- (2) That the Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to undertake statutory consultation/notification processes for the proposed signalised pedestrian crossing designs and double yellow line restrictions on Shinfield Road in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996;**

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- (3) That the Strategic Transport Manager, in agreement with the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport, be able to make minor alterations to the agreed proposals;
- (4) That subject to no objections being received, the Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make the Traffic Regulation Order and proposed works will commence;
- (5) That should any objection(s) be received during the statutory consultation period, that these be reported to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee for consideration and decision regarding scheme delivery;
- (6) That no public inquiry be held into the proposals.

37. CYCLE FORUM NOTES - 18 NOVEMBER 2021

The Executive Director for Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report informing the Sub-Committee of the discussions and actions from the Cycle Forum held on 18 November 2021.

Councillor Page thanked Councillor Gittings for chairing the recent meetings of the Cycle Forum and the Cleaner Air and Safer Transport Forum, both of which had been particularly challenging.

Resolved - That the minutes from the Cycle Forum held on 18 November 2021 be noted.

38. 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 39 below, as it was likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

39. APPLICATIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY PARKING PERMITS

The Executive Director for Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report giving details of the background to the decisions to refuse applications for Discretionary Parking Permits from fourteen applicants, who had subsequently appealed against these decisions.

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Resolved -

- (1) That, with regard to applications 2, 4, 5, 7 and 13 a first discretionary permit be issued, personal to the applicants and charged at the first permit fee subject to the applicants submitting the required proofs;
- (2) That, with regard to application 1 a first discretionary permit be issued and two personal discretionary visitor books be issued;
- (3) That, with regard to application 8 a first discretionary permit be issued and one visitor book be issued subject to the applicant submitting all the required proofs;
- (4) That, with regard to application 9 a third discretionary permit be issued, personal to the applicant and charged at the third permit fee subject to the applicant submitting all the required proofs. If the second discretionary permit is returned this should be issued as an alternative;
- (5) That applications 11 and 14 be deferred to the next meeting to allow Officers to provide a report giving further information on the specified properties;
- (6) That the Executive Director for Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services' decision to refuse applications 3, 6, 10 and 12 be upheld.

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

(The meeting closed at 7.27 pm)