

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES - 16 SEPTEMBER 2020

Present: Councillor Debs Absolom (Vice-Chair in the Chair);
Councillors David Absolom, Barnett-Ward, Carnell, Duveen,
Ennis, Hacker, Page, Stanford-Beale and Whitham.

11. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of 2 July 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

12. QUESTIONS

Questions on the following matters were submitted, and answered by Councillor Page (the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport) on behalf of the Chair:

Questioner	Subject
Councillor Duveen	Recreation Road, Tilehurst
Councillor Whitham	More Low Traffic Neighbourhoods for Reading

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

13. WAITING RESTRICTION REVIEW - OBJECTIONS TO WAITING RESTRICTION REVIEW 2019B AND REQUESTS FOR WAITING RESTRICTION REVIEW 2020

The Executive Director for Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report informing the Sub-Committee of objections that had been received during statutory consultation that took place between 6 August 2020 and 27 August 2020 for the agreed proposals that had formed the 2019B programme. The objections, support and other comments that had been received during statutory consultation for the 2019B programme were attached to the report at Appendix 1. Those proposals that did not receive objections or other comments would be implemented as advertised. Members were asked to consider whether to implement, amend or reject the proposals.

In addition, the report provided a list of new requests for potential inclusion in the 2020A programme, as set out at Appendix 2. Members were asked to consider whether each request should, or should not, be considered in the next programme.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the following proposals made under the waiting restriction review 2019A, as set out in Appendix 1 attached to the report, be implemented as advertised:
 - Elm Park
 - Elmleigh Court
 - Amersham Road

- Christchurch Road
 - Elgar Road South - Allotment Access
 - Oak Tree Road
 - Rydal Avenue
 - Parkhouse Lane
 - Taff Way
 - Tuns Hill Cottage
 - Walnut Way
- (3) That the Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to seal the resultant Traffic Regulation Order and no public inquiry be held into the proposals;
- (4) That respondents to the statutory consultation be informed of the decision of the Sub-Committee accordingly, following publication of the agreed minutes of the meeting;
- (5) That having considered the requests made for waiting restriction changes, as set out in Appendix 2 attached to the report, the requests be investigated by officers as part of the 2020 review programme, subject to the following amendments:
- Gun Street (Abbey Ward) - Remove from the list pending further investigation by officers, in consultation with Ward Councillors, into the feasibility of the order under the Red Route scheme
 - Albert Road - Should be recorded under Thames Ward
 - Mowbray Drive - Should be recorded under Norcot Ward
- (6) That the officer recommendations, following investigation of the new requests for consideration in the 2020 programme, be shared with Ward Councillors, providing opportunity for their comments to be included in the next report to the Sub-Committee;
- (7) That should funding permit, a further report be submitted to the Sub-Committee requesting approval to conduct the Statutory Consultation on the recommended schemes for the 2020 programme.

14. REQUESTS FOR NEW TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The Executive Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report informing the Sub-Committee of requests for new traffic management measures that had been raised by members of the public, other organisations/representatives and Councillors. These were measures that would not typically be addressed in other programmes, where funding was yet to be identified. The list of requests (three in total) with initial officer comments and recommendations was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

The Sub-Committee discussed the report and agreed that the proposal to install a pedestrian crossing on Pell Street/Southampton Street should be removed from the list of requests.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;**
- (2) That the schemes set out in Appendix 1, attached to the report, be supported for further officer investigation, subject to the removal of the proposal to install a pedestrian crossing on Pell Street/Southampton Street.**

15. RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING UPDATE

Further to Minute 55 of the meeting held on 5 March 2020, the Executive Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing the Sub-Committee with an update on the list of requests for Resident Permit Parking (RPP), including the progress of developing schemes and any new requests that had been received. Attached to the report at Appendix 1 was an updated list of requests for Resident Permit Parking as at September 2020.

The report explained that since the last update report the RPP schemes in East Reading (Area 2) and additional elements in Redlands, for example Malvern Court, had been implemented. These schemes had gone live in early August 2020.

The report also explained that Officers would continue to work with Ward Councillors, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport and the Chair of the Traffic Management Sub-Committee to agree an initial area that should be considered alongside the original request, once a potential scheme became an active project.

The Sub-Committee discussed the report and agreed that the requests set out in Appendix 1 should be retained on the list and that requests 1 to 12 should be dealt with first. In respect of request 13 it was agreed that further work should be carried out by Ward Councillors.

Resolved -

- (1) That the report be noted;**
- (2) That the requests, as set out in Appendix 2 attached to the report, be retained subject to requests 1 to 12 being dealt with first and further work being carried out in respect of request 13 by Ward Councillors.**

16. RE-ALLOCATION OF ROAD SPACE - READING'S ACTIVE TRAVEL PROPOSALS

Further to Minute 4 of the previous meeting, the Executive Director for Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing the Sub-Committee with an update on the Council's Active Travel Programme.

The report explained that on 2 July 2020 the Department for Transport (DfT) had announced the outcome of the Council's Tranche 1 application. The award had been 75% (£221,240) of the indicative allocation and the DfT stated that the reduced amount was due to not all of the proposals relocating road space for walking and cycling. Officers challenged the reduction in funding on the basis that Reading Bridge, Gosbrook Road and Sidmouth Street had met the requirement. The DfT had indicated that councils should seek to recover any reduced funding through the Tranche 2 bid with a strong focus on further ambitious active travel proposals.

The report advised that the delivery of the Tranche 1 proposal was almost complete and set out in the report was a list of the temporary schemes that had been or were in the process of being delivered in September 2020.

The report explained that at the end of August 2020, the scheme in Gosbrook Road and Westfield Road had been introduced. However, in response to concerns that had been raised by the local community and the dangerous behaviour of a minority of motorists ignoring the one-way system, the scheme had been removed. Whilst there would be some costs associated with the delivery of the scheme, the majority of materials could be reused on other scheme.

Officers would commence the review process of each temporary Tranche 1 scheme in early 2021 which would be based on traffic data, user feedback and safety records. Reports would be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee and other Committees.

The report stated that the Council's Tranche 2 Active Travel bid to the DfT had been submitted on 7 August 2020. Due to the indicative funding allocated at £1.179m, the programme of improvements for pedestrians and cyclists had been made up of two 'core' schemes and three further supplementary schemes (subject to additional funding), in addition to a package of promotional activities. A list of the Council's full bid to Government was included in the report. More details on all the Tranche 2 schemes, as well as those delivered in Tranche 1, could be found on the dedicated Active Travel webpage:- www.reading.gov.uk/activetravel. Currently, the DfT had not confirmed when the second Tranche funding would be released, but officers would continue to press the DfT for this information.

Cris Butler, Strategic Transportation Programme Manager, informed the Sub-Committee that the Council was likely to be informed about the second Tranche in October 2020 and that officers would continue to lobby the DfT for information.

The Sub-Committee discussed the report and Councillor Barnett-Ward addressed the Sub-Committee on the Gosbrook Road and Westfield Road scheme.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

(Councillor Page declared an interest in relation to the segregated cycle lane on Bath Road/Castle Hill as he lived on Castle Hill)

17. 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 19 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.

18. APPLICATIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY PARKING PERMITS

The Executive Director for Economic Growth 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 21 applicants, who had subsequently appealed against these decisions.

Resolved -

- (1) That with regard to applications 1, 3 and 19, a first discretionary resident permit be issued, personal to the applicant;
- (2) That with regard to application 2, a second discretionary resident permit be issued, personal to the applicant;
- (3) That with regard to application 6, a second discretionary resident permit be issued personal to the applicant, subject to adequate proofs being provided;
- (4) That with regard to application 7, a first discretionary resident permit be refused on the grounds that the applicant did not reside in the zone;
- (5) That with regard to application 9, a first discretionary resident permit be issued personal to the applicant, and two free Discretionary Visitor Books be issued, subject to adequate proofs being provided;
- (6) That with regard to applications 10 and 16, a first discretionary resident permit be issued personal to each applicant, subject to adequate proofs being provided;
- (7) That with regard to application 11, a first discretionary resident permit be issued personal to the applicant, and two free Discretionary Visitor Books be issued;
- (8) That with regard to application 14, a first discretionary resident permit be issued, personal to the applicant subject to adequate proofs being provided and the applicant be advised by officers that they may be eligible for a Blue Badge under the Blue Badge Scheme and should be encouraged to make an application.
- (9) That with regard to application 18, for a reduction in charge to £40 for a third discretionary resident permit, the application be refused;
- (10) That with regard to application 20, one discretionary Visitor Book be issued on a one-off basis only;
- (11) That a decision in respect of application 21, be deferred until the next meeting and in the interim the current 10 temporary Permits be extended to cover this period. In addition, prior to the next meeting, officers carry out further investigations with the applicant in consultation with the Vice-Chair and the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport;

- (12) That the Executive Director for Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services' decision to refuse applications 4, 5, 8, 12, 13, 15 and 17 be upheld.

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

(The meeting started at 6.30 pm and finished at 7.58 pm).