

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE

Minutes of a virtual Meeting of the County Council Local Committee for Carlisle held on Tuesday, 5 January 2021 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT:

Mr C Weber (Chair)

Mr T Allison	Mrs EA Mallinson
Mr J Bell	Mr J Mallinson (Vice-Chair)
Mr RW Betton	Mr A McGuckin
Mrs C Bowditch	Mr NH Marriner
Ms D Earl	Mrs V Tarbitt
Mr GM Ellis	Mr R Watson
Mr W Graham	Mr SF Young
Dr K Lockney	

Also in Attendance:-

Mr K Crawley	-	Traffic Management Team Leader (East)
Mr A Graham	-	Traffic Management Technician
Mrs L Harker	-	Senior Democratic Services Officer
Mr K Melville	-	Area Highways and Transport Manager
Mr P Musgrave	-	Area Manager - Carlisle
Ms M Pearce	-	Community Services Manager (Carlisle)
Mr G Scott	-	Local Area Highways Network Manager

PART 1 – ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

57 ROLL CALL FOR MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

All of the above members and officers were present at the meeting.

58 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Dr S Haraldsen.

59 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Mr C Weber declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 8 – Area Planning Report (minute 64 refers) as he was a Trustee of Harraby Sports Board.

60 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED, that the press and public be not excluded from the meeting for any items of business on this occasion.

61 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- (1) There were no public questions or statements to be considered at this meeting.
- (2) Mr Forsyth presented a petition regarding an Additional Parking Bay on Broad Street, Carlisle and made the following statement:-

'The original space available has been reduced from 2018 by reducing the tree stump path and providing an additional dropped kerb of over 1m in length to the benefit of 134 and I feel this was done without consultation or a Traffic Regulation Order. It was documented at the time that the additional space was to be marked up as a parking space as the previous marking lines were present but this was not carried out at the same time. Therefore, I believe that any decisions relating to the available space should take this into consideration as prior to the dropped kerb this space was bigger.

As verified by residents the area has been used as a parking space for over 38 years and to my knowledge without any incursions ie fixed penalty notices, complaints etc and would suggest you investigate this and confirm. Additionally, the opposite parking areas across from the area of concern is in alignment with the requested one when taking into account the triangulation of the junction. In my opinion the images provided show there is significantly enough space in the area for an additional space to be created and access would not be restricted. It has been acknowledged by an Officer that the vehicles are not abiding directly with the Highway Code but this shows ample space is available, and additionally, that it is safe to pull out otherwise I would consider it would not be a driveway if it had not been approved.

The only other property on Warwick Road with access via Broad Street has a parking bay next to it and a tree, very similar circumstances to this, but with less space and there is still a parking bay available there. It has not received the benefit of an additional dropped kerb and neither does it encroach onto the adjacent properties and footpaths which the current new driveway with a new dropped kerb does.

I feel this would be of benefit to all residents after losing over 12 spaces, due to the changes which have been made on St Aidan's Road, over the last 18 months and I feel this should be reviewed.'

The local Member acknowledged the concerns raised and asked officers to work with residents on this matter'

The Chair gave the following response:-

Thank you for attending Carlisle Local Committee to present your petition in support of the proposed new parking bay on Broad Street. This matter will be considered by the Local Committee as part of the recommendations of the Highways Working Group later in the agenda and you are welcome to follow the meeting online. You will also be informed in writing of the decision of this committee meeting at a later date.

62 MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the Local Committee held on 9 November 2020 be confirmed as circulated.

63 CARLISLE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE SERVICE

Members considered a report by the Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services which provided an update on Library and Archives Services in the Carlisle area since March 2020 and how they had responded to customer demand despite the impact of COVID-19.

The report highlighted an increased digital offer, services for older adults and their continued support for young people through engagement and activities; together with the work undertaken by Carlisle Archive Centre through collaboration with local partners.

The Member Champion for Autism welcomed the report and asked whether support was available for vulnerable people including those with autism and learning disabilities. It was acknowledged there was a need to reach those people and agreed that further discussions would take place with the Community Services Manager.

The Committee expressed their appreciation regarding the range of services which the Library Service offered and it was agreed that a fact sheet containing all the information would be made available to members for dissemination to their constituents.

The Cabinet Member for Public Health and Community Services expressed her thanks and appreciation for the work which had been undertaken by officers during the pandemic and informed the Committee that the Service was determined to keep as many services as possible open during the current lockdown and would include IT access.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, thanked the Community Services Manager for an informative report.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

64 AREA PLANNING REPORT

Members received a report from the Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services which provided members with recommendations and matters to note relating to budget commitments, grant allocations from the recommendations of its Strategic Grants Panel and other relevant matters relating to area planning.

The Committee was informed that the County Council was working with Carlisle City Council and Active Cumbria to support Carlisle community based sports clubs and groups through a proposed hardship fund during this difficult period. It was explained that many groups had experienced extreme challenges in running regular activities as a result of restriction measures to manage the virus and this hardship fund was aimed at supporting those groups to survive through this challenging period.

Members noted that the hardship fund would be aimed at not for profit sporting organisations which had reducing financial resources resulting in hardship and possible closure. It was explained this would be a very limited small grant designed to prioritise groups that had demonstrated this funding would be used to maximise the continuation of the sports club and may include supporting matched funding or bridging a small gap in finances through temporarily reduced income. The Committee was informed that priority would be given to organisations that were at risk of closure as a result of the pandemic and who had been unable to receive Government grants.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the commitments made and the remaining balances within delegated budgets and the grants (as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report) be noted;
- (2) the following grants from Area Planning funding (as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report) be noted:-
 - (a) £5,000 to Restore, towards refurbishing a community space in Carlisle offering recycled goods and workshop space;
 - (b) £2,300 to Stanwix Bowling Club, towards repairing the club house roof;
- (3) the following grants from the 0-19 grants fund (as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report) be noted:-
 - (a) £400 to Orton Parish Council towards trees removal in children's play area;
 - (b) £1,500 to Harraby Sports Board towards a programme of activities;

- (4) £17,962 be decommitted from historic local member schemes funding and place this funding in the Area Planning Budget (referred to in paragraph 4.3 of the report);
- (5) £10,000 be committed from the Area Planning budget to establish a Sports Clubs Recovery Fund jointly with match funding from Carlisle City Council.

65 INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY PLAN WORKING GROUP

Members received the minutes of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan Working Group meeting held on 15 December 2020.

The local Member for Dalston and Burgh informed the Committee that details regarding the consultation for the Carlisle Local Plan for St Cuthbert's Garden Village had not been distributed to all constituents in the area, therefore, he proposed to request that the consultation period be extended.

A discussion took place regarding Carlisle Station and the local Member for Castle Division, supported by the Leader of the County Council, emphasised his concerns regarding the potential repurposing of the Turkish Baths building. Whilst it was agreed that a refurbishment and relaunch of the facility would be welcomed he did not agree that it should be repurposed. Members noted this was a matter for Carlisle City Council; the Leader of the City Council confirmed that, to date, no decision had been agreed regarding the future of the Turkish Baths but highlighted that the use of the facility would need to be taken into account. It was agreed that the Area Manager would investigate this matter further and report back to members at a briefing meeting scheduled for 19 January.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the minutes be noted;
- (2) the Area Manager investigate the repurpose of the Turkish Baths and report back to members on 19 January 2021.

66 2020/21 HIGHWAYS BUDGET/PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

Members considered a report from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which detailed the Highways Revenue, Devolved Capital and Non-Devolved Capital budget finance reports, combined with the highways programme progress information.

The local Member for Dalston and Burgh asked if it was possible to introduce a recognised procedure with parish councils for the reporting of blocked gullies. It was agreed the Local Area Highways Network Manager would provide a mechanism for parish councils to escalate issues to officers outside the Authority's HIMS system.

The Leader of the Council drew attention to requests received from constituents during the winter months for the provision of grit boxes in local areas and asked Carlisle Highways and Transport Working to consider this as a matter of urgency.

Members were informed there were a number of grit bins in the Carlisle area but officers highlighted the lack of available resources to deliver the salt. It was suggested that discussions take place with Carlisle City Council to discuss the possibility of support from them. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed with Carlisle City Council representatives at the next meeting of Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group.

The local Member for Botcherby raised concerns regarding the Durranhill Road and Victoria Road scheme and asked whether the amalgamation of the two roads would affect timescales. He also drew attention to drainage problems on Victoria Road which he understood were causing flooding to residents and asked for a commitment for this to be resolved.

The Local Area Highways Network Manager informed the Committee that the work on Durranhill Road and Victoria Road was more significant than was originally planned. He explained that in order to complete the works required the Highways and Transport Working Group would be advised to recommend that the Local Committee agreed a budget in 2021/22 to complete the works.

The Committee was informed that the Highways Service was aware of the drainage issues being raised by the local Member. Members were advised that all issues raised were prioritised and urgent matters were dealt with appropriately.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the following be noted:-
 - (a) the revenue and budget allocations for 2020/21 and the commitments and expenditure (as detailed in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the report);
 - (b) the programme progress information (as shown in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the report);
 - (c) the Highways Revenue budget has been split for use against various budget headings (referred to in Appendix 1 of the report);

- (d) the Devolved Capital and Additional Devolved Capital budgets have been split for use against various budget headings (detailed in Appendices 2 and 4 of the report);
 - (e) the highways programme is very busy with a lot of work in the coming months. This is also a busy time with the winter maintenance, therefore, anticipate some forced changes to the Programme;
 - (f) the aim remains to deliver the full programme of works within the financial year (end March 2021). Officers will continue to liaise with local members regarding any changes to work in their electoral division;
 - (g) two schemes from the Devolved Structural Carriageway Works Programme are postponed until 2021/22 (subject to Local Committee agreeing a budget for these works) due to funding limits, these are; Oakshaw Hill & Laws Easton and Friar Waingate Bridge;
 - (h) the non-devolved highways project, Eden Bridge footway, is being delayed due to the ongoing flood defence works at Hardwicke Circus. The funding for this project will slip into the 2021/22 and these works will be undertaken as early as possible;
- (2) the provision of grit boxes be considered at the next meeting of Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group.

67 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

Members considered a report from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which gave details of the meeting of the Highways and Transport Working Group held on 9 December 2020 and presented recommendations to the Local Committee for approval.

(1) Minutes

RESOLVED, that the minutes be noted.

(2) 2021/21 Highways Budget/Programme Progress Report

RESOLVED, that the following be noted:-

- (a) the revenue and budget allocations for 2020/21 and the commitments and expenditure (recorded in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the report to the Working Group);

- (b) the programme progress information (as shown in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the report to the Working Group);
- (c) the Highways Revenue budget has been split for use against various budget headings (as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report to the Working Group);
- (d) the devolved Capital and Additional devolved Capital budgets have been split for use against various budget headings (referred to in Appendices 2 and 4 of the report to Working Group);
- (e) the highways programme is very busy with a lot of work scheduled in the coming months and into the new year. This is also a busy time with winter maintenance, therefore, it is anticipated there may be some forced changes to the programme;
- (f) the aim remains to deliver the full programme of works within the financial year (end March 2021) and officers will continue to liaise with local members about any changes to work in their electoral division.

(3) Traffic Regulation Orders Review: Variation Order 58

RESOLVED, that

- (a) following consideration of the representations which have been received to the statutory consultation and advertisement of The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Carlisle Urban and Rural Area) (Consolidation and Minor Amendment of Traffic Regulations) (Order 2001) Variation (No. 58) Order 20>< (“the Order”), and, having taken into consideration the matters contained in section 122(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (more specifically referred to in paragraph 7.2 of the report):-
 - (i) Local Committee overrule the objections and agree that the restrictions be implemented as advertised in respect of the proposals for Rosegate, Aglionby;
 - (ii) Local Committee overrule the objection and agree that the restrictions be implemented as advertised in respect of the proposals for Broad Street, Carlisle;
 - (iii) Local Committee overrule the objections and agree that the restrictions be implemented as advertised in respect of proposals for Warwick Street, Carlisle;

- (b) as no representations to the following proposals have been received, the Working Group, having taken into consideration the matters contained in section 122(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (which are more specifically referred to in paragraph 7.2 of the report) recommend that Local Committee agree that the following remaining restrictions proposed under the Order referred to in paragraph 67(3)(a) above, be brought into operation as advertised, namely to:
- (i) introduce 'No Loading and Unloading At Any Time' restrictions on Bush Brow, Carlisle;
 - (ii) introduce a 'Prohibition of Motor Vehicles, Except for Access' restriction on Irthing Street/Short Street Back Lanes;
 - (iii) introduce 'No Waiting 4pm to 10am Monday to Saturday inclusive' in loading bay on Lowther Street, Carlisle;
 - (iv) introduce 'No Waiting At Any Time' restrictions on the junction of St Peters Close and Lowry Hill Road;
 - (v) introduce 'Restriction of Waiting at School "Keep Clear" markings, 8am-5pm Monday to Friday', outside Raughton Head School in Raughton Head;
 - (vi) introduce a 'Prohibition of all vehicles' on the access road to Tesco superstore Warwick Road, only at such times that there is a risk of flooding or the flood gates are being tested.

(4) Ruleholme Old Bridge – Introduction of Prohibition of All Traffic Traffic Regulation Order

RESOLVED, that

- (a) having considered the representations and objections received during the statutory advertisement and consultation; and
- (b) having taken into consideration the matters contained in section 122(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the 1984 Act") (more specifically referred to in paragraph 7.2 of the report); and

- (c) being satisfied that for preventing the likelihood of danger arising to persons or other traffic using the road specified in the Order that it is requisite that Section 3(1) of the 1984 Act (referred to in paragraph 7.3 of the report) should not apply;
- (d) the Local Committee agree that The County of Cumbria (U1301 Ruleholme Old Bridge, near Brampton) (Prohibition of All Traffic) Order 20>< (“the Order”) be brought into operation as advertised.

(5) Rosehill Parking Issues Affecting Durranshill and Surround Areas

The local Member for Botcherby reiterated the concerns he had raised at the meeting of the Working Group and asked for a commitment to the implementation of the lines. The Local Highways Network Manager confirmed that junction safety was being addressed and also highlighted the effects the current pandemic could have on the situation. It was felt the area might be less congested because of empty buildings due to lockdown and people working from home and it had, therefore, been agreed that the situation would be monitored in the future.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

(6) Carlisle Parking Review Update

RESOLVED, that Local Committee supports the Programmes (referred to in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report which is attached as Appendix 6).

68 MEMBER CHAMPION UPDATES

a Children in Care Council Champion

The Committee was informed that the Children and Young People Working Group (CYPWG) continued to meet regularly working on projects which met the priorities set out in the Carlisle Local Committee Area Plan and received an update on the following actions throughout 2020:

- raising positive mental health by improving mental wellbeing of children and young people;
- tackling childhood obesity by improving diet and promoting healthy weight initiatives;
- young carers to be recognised as a separate and specific group of carers with specific support needs to ensure that have the best opportunity to have the best start in life.

Members were informed there had been regular updates from Public Health, Active Cumbria and the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Community Services throughout the year.

The Committee noted the Working Group would continue to monitor projects funded by Local Committee and explore opportunities for future development related to the Area Plan priorities throughout 2021:

- review the priorities set in 2020 and take on board latest feedback from children and young people, particularly through the newly published 'Make Your Mark' Ballot;
- consider a report regarding a coordinated approach to School Holiday Activities;
- strengthen links between the Local Committee CYPWG and other groups such as the Carlisle Locality Children & Families Partnership and the Carlisle Healthy Weight Working Group.

b Autism Champion

Members received an update from Christine Bowditch who gave positive feedback about People First. She described their members as truly vocal in describing the issues which most concerned them.

The Committee noted that at the recent Autism and Learning Disability Board meeting which had highlighted the continuing difficulties in their lives including difficulties encountered when important health check consultations were undertaken by telephone, over-medication issues, late diagnosis for autism, lack of counselling, reasonable adjustments required by law not being made, lack of support for dental care, mental health problems and lack of support in hospital.

The Committee was informed that in response to some of the above matters, Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group had set up, as part of the National Scheme, the Learning Disabilities Mortality Review 'Stop People Dying Too Young'. It was explained that in North Cumbria people with a disability could die 15-20 years earlier than the rest of the population.

Members noted that support given in hospitals had been outlined and included hospital 'passports', relevant medical reviews, end of life care plans, sharing of records with permission and cancer screenings. Whilst this support was welcomed the review, however, found that in some cases clients or their families were not included in decision-making, mental capacity tests did not take place, lack of evidence that hospital 'passports' were always used by staff, judgements were sometimes made not to continue with cancer treatment and most disturbingly, a report that having a Learning Disability was given as a reason for non-resuscitation.

During the course of discussion the Committee raised serious concerns regarding the non-resuscitation of a person with a learning disability and it was suggested that reassurances that this did not happen should be investigated further outside the meeting. It was agreed that the Autism Champion would raise this matter further with the Autism and Learning Disability Board.

Members noted that families and adults continued to struggle to receive a diagnosis for autism with only 50 people a year being diagnosed. It was explained there was a long waiting list for diagnosis with, reportedly, some clinicians not taking the requests for diagnosis seriously.

It was felt that although the news this year had not been positive for autistic children, adults and their families some positive progress with able professionals working towards making life better for autistic people.

c Armed Forces Champion

Mrs Tarbitt informed the Committee that the Eden/Carlisle Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust continued to be active in its applications for Funding from some of the major Cumbrian Charities and it was hoped that when COVID restrictions were lifted there would be finance available to resume activities such as the Saturday Club.

Members noted that 2021 was the Centenary of the founding of The British Legion and work was in hand locally to mark this Anniversary and that contact with the Heathlands Project in Rockcliffe continued.

The Chair thanked members for their informative update.

69 LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE - FORWARD PLAN

The current Forward Plan of business for future meetings of the Local Committee was noted.

70 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED, that the next scheduled meeting will take place virtually on Monday 1 March 2021 at 10.00 am.

The Area Highways and Transport Manager informed members that Gareth Scott, Local Highways Network Manager would be leaving his position soon and thanked him for his commitment and dedication during his time in post. He explained that interviews for Gareth's replacement were imminent and members would be kept updated.

A number of members and the Chair, on behalf of the whole Committee, expressed thanks and appreciation to Gareth for the work he had undertaken and wished him well for the future.

The meeting ended at 11.25 am