

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE

Minutes of a Meeting of the County Council Local Committee for Carlisle held on Wednesday, 9 January 2019 at 10.00 am at Conference Room A/B, Cumbria House, Botchergate, Carlisle, CA1 1RD

PRESENT:

Mr C Weber (Chair)

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

Also in Attendance:-

Mr K Cosgrove	-	Highways Network Manager (Copeland)
Mr K Crawley	-	Traffic Management Team Leader (East)
Mr S Green	-	Parking Team Leader
Mrs L Harker	-	Senior Democratic Services Officer
Mr P Musgrave	-	Area Manager (Carlisle)
Ms V Percival	-	Senior Highways Network Technician
Mr G Scott	-	Highway Network Manager
Mr A Shields	-	Parking Manager

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

62 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Betton and Mr A McGuckin.

63 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Mrs C Bowditch declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 8 – Area Manager's Report (minute 69 refers) as she was Chair of Carlisle Mencap.

64 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.

65 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- (1) There were no public questions or statements to be considered at this meeting.
- (2) Mary Alston presented a petition regarding parking at Tarn End Hotel, Talkin.

The petitioners felt that the number of cars which parked on the narrow road in question caused a health and safety risk and also highlighted concerns regarding access for emergency vehicles. Ms Alston welcomed the matter being referred to the Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group and felt it was the Authority's responsibility to take action to alleviate this problem.

The Chair thanked Ms Alston for her petition and attendance at the meeting. He explained that whilst the County Council were not ultimately responsible this matter would be referred to the Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group with a request for them to make a recommendation to the next Local Committee meeting in March. The matter would also be referred to the local Casualty Reduction and Safer Highways Group for their consideration.

66 LOCAL COMMITTEE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members noted the Local Committee's revised Terms of Reference.

67 MINUTES

With reference to minute 55(3) – A595 Peter Lane to Thursby Roundabout – Existing National Speed Limit: Proposal to Reduce to 50 MPH Speed Limit it was noted that the reference to 'the budget allocation of £45,000 was required from **Carlisle Local Committee's budget**' should read '**Non Devolved Capital budget**'.

RESOLVED, that with the inclusion of the above amendment the minutes of the meeting of the Local Committee held on 13 November 2018 be confirmed as circulated and thereupon signed by the Chair.

68 WORKING TOGETHER

Members received a presentation on Working Together which informed them that the vision was for the Council to work with residents, businesses and communities to deliver the best services possible within the available resources. Work would be undertaken with partner organisations and communities to improve public services,

to help manage the ongoing challenges of budget reductions and rising demand for services. It was explained that well-established locality working arrangements would be built on to develop services and solutions with communities and help them to help themselves where they could; as well as recognising the unique community leadership role fulfilled by Elected Members.

Members noted that arrangements which were in existence varied greatly from one area to another, with very few clear written partnership agreements in place, therefore, more measures and support were required to ensure everyone was safe. It was explained that two clearly defined written partnership agreements would be developed the first would allow either parish/town councils to employ an authorised person to undertake agreed work on the highway which was considered medium risk previously known as the Annual Lengthsman Agreement and the second would enable communities to undertake volunteer activities which were considered low risk. It was emphasised that the Authority would provide support and supervision.

Members were informed it was anticipated the Agreements would be in place by the end of March 2019.

It was agreed that following further engagement a report would be presented to a future Local Committee meeting.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted and a further report be considered at a future meeting.

69 AREA MANAGER'S REPORT

The Local Committee considered a report by the Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services which provided members with recommendations for grants and asked to consider, note and approve recommendations in respect of budget commitments, grant allocations from the recommendations of its strategic Grants Panel and other relevant matters relating to area planning.

Members noted the recently established Infrastructure Planning Group and whilst they welcomed the work the Group had undertaken on the cycle network the local Member for Wetheral asked that routes east of the city also be considered.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the commitments made and the remaining balances within delegated budgets (as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report) be noted;
- (2) the following grants from the General Provision budget be noted:-
 - (a) £3,000 to Amy's Care towards funding a new minibus to support older people;

- (b) £2,000 to Mencap towards sensory equipment to support people with learning difficulties;
- (3) the minutes be received and the draft Terms of Reference for the Infrastructure Planning Group be approved (attached at Appendix 3 to the report).

70 2018/19 HIGHWAYS BUDGET/PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

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

The local Member for Yewdale asked for further information regarding the delay in the Orton Road resurfacing scheme and the Highways Network Manager agreed to investigate this matter and respond direct.

The local Member for Wetheral asked for further information regarding the single track working on Warwick Road, Carlisle and it was agreed the Highways Network Manager would update all members on the matter.

Members discussed the Additional Local Transport Capital budget for NPRN (referred to at Appendix 5 of the report) noting that due to the short timescale to allocate the funding, this could not have been brought to the Local Committee, as would usually happen. Whilst members appreciated the short timeline to spend the additional allocation they sought assurance that Carlisle Local Committee had received their full entitlement of the funding and that it had been allocated appropriately. The Highways Network Manager confirmed this had been delegated to the Acting Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Local Committee and agreed to circulate further details to members. It was explained that further details would also be made available at the next meeting of the Local Committee in March 2019. During the course of discussion it was agreed to remove the word 'non' from the NPRN budget heading (referred to at Appendix 5 of the report).

RESOLVED, that the following be noted:-

- (1) the revenue and capital budget allocations for 2018/19 and the commitments and expenditure (as detailed in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 of the report);
- (2) the programme progress information (referred to in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report);
- (3) the Highways Revenue budget has been split against various budget headings;

- (4) the additional Local Transport Capital budget allocations for 2018/19, the commitments, expenditure and the programme progress (referred to at Appendices 4 and 5 of the report).

71 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

The Local Committee considered a report by the Acting Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which gave details of the meeting of the Highways and Transport Working Group held on 4 December 2018.

(1) Minutes

RESOLVED, that the minutes be noted.

(2) 2018/19 Highways Budget/Programme Progress Report

RESOLVED, that the following be noted (all information is detailed in Appendix 2 of the report) :-

- (a) the revenue and capital budget allocations for 2018/19 and the commitments and expenditure;
- (b) the programme progress information;
- (c) the Highways Revenue budget has been split for use against various budget headings.

(3) A595 Peter Lane to Thursby Roundabout – Existing National Speed Limit: Proposal to Reduce to 50 mph Speed Limit

The local Member for Dalston and Burgh emphasised his disappointment at the recommendation of the Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group and raised his further concerns regarding the length of highway in question. He highlighted the campaigns which local residents' had undertaken and the number of accidents which had taken place which had not been reported, therefore, were not included in the statistics.

The Local Committee noted that the Highways and Transport Working Group had taken into consideration the resolution of Allerdale Local Committee not to proceed with the statutory advertisement and consultation of the proposed reduction of the speed limit to 50 mph between Nealhouse and Thursby Roundabout when making their recommendation. Members felt that Allerdale Local Committee had not provided a valid reason for the objection, therefore, it was agreed that the Chair and Vice-Chair of Carlisle Local Committee would have an informal meeting with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Allerdale Local Committee to discuss this matter further with a view to requesting that Allerdale Local Committee reconsider their decision.

It was noted that Mr J Bell and Dr S Haraldsen did not support the decision to consider this matter again.

RESOLVED,

- (a) not to proceed with the statutory advertisement and consultation on the proposed reduction of the speed limit to 50mph between Nealhouse and Peter Lane roundabout (detailed on the plan attached as Appendix 1 to the report), following the resolution of Allerdale Local Committee not to proceed with the statutory advertisement and consultation of the proposed reduction of the speed limit to 50 mph between Nealhouse and Thursby Roundabout;
- (b) that the Chair and Vice-Chair of Carlisle Local Committee meet informally with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Allerdale Local Committee to discuss this matter further with a view to requesting that Allerdale Local Committee reconsider their decision.

(4) Parking Issues on California Road

RESOLVED, that officers undertake a further dialogue with James Rennie School to look at measures that could be put in place to reduce on-street parking demand created by the school and report back to the next meeting of the Highways and Transport Working Group.

72 PARKING SERVICES UPDATE

Members received a positive report from the Acting Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which provided an update on the enforcement of on and selected off-street parking in the Carlisle Local Committee area.

The Local Committee were informed that in the Carlisle locality the Parking Services team, which also covered the Eden locality, would increase to 9 full-time Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) with effect from 4 February 2019.

Members were informed that the Team regularly received reports regarding inconsiderate parking outside schools which created potential safety issues for children and other road users. It was explained that CEOs had visited a number of areas across the locality to carry out enforcement and educational patrols in accordance with the School's Protocol developed at the Collision Reduction and Safer Highways Group (CRASH). The Local Committee noted that exercises had been well received by schools, parents and the wider community. The Team were also working in partnership with Orian, the school crossing service provider, to address parking issues in proximity to schools.

The Local Committee noted that the Team continued to issue Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) relating to the misuse of Blue Badges and report instances of abuse of the process to the Blue Badge Team. It was explained that the Parking Team Leader had been tasked with organising a number of multi-agency initiatives across the locality to deal with Blue Badge abuse.

Members held a detailed discussion regarding parking issues in the car park at the rear of Cumbria House. Concerns were raised regarding the lack of parking for elected members due to the number of staff and visitors using the facility. It was agreed that the Parking Manager would raise the concerns of the Committee with the Senior Manager – Property who was responsible for the car park and report back direct to members.

During the course of discussion concerns were raised regarding the issue of PCNs to vehicles which were parked to unload equipment for events in the city centre. It was explained that CEOs issued PCNs in accordance with the restrictions and if there were any mitigating circumstances the PCN recipient could follow the appeal process.

The Local Committee thanked the Parking Enforcement Team for their assistance at Rickerby Park in November for the Memorial Service.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

73 MEMBER CHAMPION UPDATES

a Armed Forces Champion

The Local Committee received a verbal update from Mrs V Tarbitt, Armed Forces Champion. She informed members that the Veterans Breakfast Club had been relaunched and would now take place at venues around the county in future.

b Children in Care Council Champion Update

Members received a verbal update from Mrs EA Mallinson, Children in Care Council Champion Update.

The Local Committee were informed that during the last few months of 2018 the Carlisle and Eden Children in Care Council (CiCC) had been working on supporting the recruitment of foster carers with much of the information being used on social media.

Members noted that over the summer a group had been involved in the development of the Authority's Children Looked After Strategy which was considered by Cabinet in December. It was explained that they were also involved in creating the CiCC film which was presented at the social work conference in November.

The Executive Director – People had attended the young people’s meeting in November where young people had raised issues regarding their Personal Education Plans, therefore, it had been agreed they would engage with the Virtual Head in early 2019 to investigate this further.

The Committee were informed that a number of young people had also worked with the arts organisations, Blue Jam, on a project in Carlisle which had been sponsored by the Goethe Institute. It was explained this was an international arts project which was looking at the theme of isolation and had brought members of the CiCC into contact with various other organisations, produced artwork, photography and poetry around isolation.

Members noted that the Care Leaver Forum would have themed bi-monthly themed sessions with a social session in between. It was explained that in October the session had discussed the Care Leavers Offer with a discussion on Housing in December with future themes including Keeping Safe and Mindfulness. Members had been actively involved in the production of the Care Leavers Offer which was presented to Cabinet in December by three representatives of the Group.

c Autism Champion

Members received an update from Mrs C Bowditch, Autism Champion.

The Local Committee noted that one of the central aims of the Group was to develop an awareness of the needs of autistic children and adults within the wider community to facilitate an attitude of acceptance and understanding towards autistic people in society to enable them to make as full as possible contribution within Carlisle and throughout the County. To this end the Champions Group were meeting on a regular basis to share ideas and experiences and this was beginning to prove to be a worthwhile and powerful group.

It was explained that initial contact had been made with outlets in The Lanes shopping centre regarding the implementation of an Autism Friendly environment with the intention to extend this throughout the City. Members noted that work continued with Carlisle Library to become Autism friendly.

The Committee were informed that plans were in place for an Autism Awareness Week in April which would be for all age groups and abilities.

The Chair thanked members for their updates.

74 LOCAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND LEADERSHIP MEETING

The Local Committee discussed the Borderlands Growth Deal and LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership) Industrial Action Strategy. Members were informed that initially LEPs had not been included in the Growth Deal but there had since been a decision by Government to involve them, therefore, at least one LEP Chair would be included. It was explained that Heads of Terms would be ready for signature by the end of January. The Leader of Council would be attending a meeting the following week and agreed to update members with any further information.

Members then discussed the High Street Fund and were informed that following the announcement in the budget on 29 October 2018 that £675m had been identified for the establishment of a new fund to support high streets Phase 1 of the process had been opened and local authorities were required to submit expressions of interest by 22 March 2019. It was explained that the Local Committee would need to engage with Carlisle City Council to jointly identify opportunities.

The Local Committee agreed that, due to the time constraints, this matter be initially discussed at the Infrastructure Planning Group with recommendations to the Local Committee meeting on 19 March 2019.

During the course of discussion members emphasised the need to investigate how smaller shopping precincts within individual Divisions could also be supported to encourage use by the public.

The Local Committee highlighted the Place Standard tool which had recently been used in area planning and it was suggested this could be used by parish councils too. Whilst members welcomed this suggestion the importance of engagement with the community was also highlighted.

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Leadership and Local Committee Chairs meeting held on 26 November 2018 be noted.

75 LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE - FORWARD PLAN

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

It was agreed that an item on the 'High Street Fund' would be added to the next meeting of the Local Committee.

76 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED, that the next scheduled meeting will take place on Tuesday 19 March 2019 at 10.00 am in Conference Room A/B, Cumbria House, Botchergate, Carlisle.

The meeting ended at 11.35 am