

CARLISLE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a Meeting of the Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group held on Tuesday, 3 December 2019 at 10.00 am at Cabinet Meeting Room, Cumbria House, Botchergate, Carlisle, CA1 1RD

PRESENT:

Mr R Watson (Chair)

Mr J Bell
Mr RW Betton
Mr N Christian
Mr LN Fisher

Mr S Higgs
Mr J Mallinson (Vice-Chair)
Mrs V Tarbitt
Mr C Weber

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 D Haughian	-	Programme Lead
Mr K Poole	-	City Engineer (Carlisle City Council)
Mr G Scott	-	Local Area Highways Network Manager

33 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence on this occasion.

34 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Working Group held on 10 October 2019 were confirmed as circulated.

35 CARLISLE STATION AND TRANSPORT AND MOVEMENT PLAN

Members received a presentation on the Carlisle Station and Transport and Movement Plan. The Working Group was informed that initial consultations had concluded in October 2019 and a consultation feedback report was being finalised with data indicating strong support for the project.

The Working Group was informed of the agreed objectives which included maximising the historic asset, encouraging investment, supporting passenger growth, growing the regional role of the station, creating a gateway and future proofing.

Officers explained the Carlisle Station Gateway and Citadels comprised three Outline Business Cases (OBCs) which were:

- Station Gateway (Borderlands)
- The Citadels (Borderlands)
- Caldew Riverside (Homes England)

plus the new Future Highway Streets Fund OBC. The need for an holistic approach was acknowledged, highlighting the interrelationships between all four OBCs.

Members discussed the aim of the Transport Movement Plan which was to provide context, strategic direction and connectivity requirements that would supplement the work on the Carlisle Station Gateway OBC, support the wider development of effective regeneration activity in the city centre and form part of the portfolio of evidence base documents that underpin the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

The Working Group received details of the spatial scope noting that the inner city centre would focus on the Station Gateway, the Citadels and Caldew Riverside and the outer city covered the High Street, Botchergate, and outer city centre shopping areas and other destinations.

In conclusion, members were informed that the next steps included a public consultation for late January 2020 to align with consultation on the Station, consultation feedback report in February 2020 with the draft OBC submitted to Government by the end of March/April 2020.

A detailed discussion took place regarding the Plan and members asked for clarification on the reference to a 'bus station/bus bays/transport interchange' at The Crescent/English Street, Carlisle. The Working Group its concerns regarding potential increased traffic congestion, air pollution and how this would impinge on traffic flow in the area if this came to fruition.

Officers confirmed the proposal was for a 'transport interchange' at The Crescent and whilst acknowledging the concerns raised by members emphasised this was only being explored at this stage and that a full impact assessment would be undertaken.

A discussion took place regarding air pollution in the City Centre and whilst it was acknowledged that the use of electric vehicles in the distant future would eliminate those issues raised their concerns regarding the immediate future. Members drew attention to other towns and cities around the country which encouraged large pedestrianised areas and asked whether this was being considered for Carlisle. Officers highlighted the challenges around this whilst acknowledging the importance of clean air in city centres and confirmed the Movement Plan would consider this.

During the course of discussion a member raised a concern regarding the lack of developed plans for the station project. Officers confirmed that at this stage of the process only objectives and timescales had been agreed and no further details were available but options would be shared with members in due course.

The Working Group emphasised its concerns at the proposed timescale for the Future High Street Fund business case submission and the lack of engagement with elected members, highlighting the need for collaboration between the City and County Councils and it was agreed that joint meetings would take place involving both elected members and officers. Whilst it was acknowledged the timeline was externally imposed it was agreed that discussions would take place between the two local councils and regular engagement with elected members would take place as the business case was developed.

36 2019/20 HIGHWAYS BUDGET/PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

The Working Group considered a report by 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.

Members were informed the Devolved Highways Capital budget was forecasting a £38,575 (1%) overspend due to the unforeseen works U1191 Cambeck Hill but officers anticipated this would be reduced or absorbed.

The local Member for Botcherby raised his concerns regarding the postponed Durranshill Viaduct scheme and requested a commitment that this work would be undertaken. Members were informed that the local Member had received correspondence direct regarding this matter but it was agreed officers would investigate this matter and provide an update at the Carlisle Local Committee meeting on 15 January 2020.

RECOMMENDED, that the following be noted:-

- (1) the revenue and capital budget allocations for 2019/20 and the commitments and expenditure (as detailed in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 of the report);
- (2) the programme progress information (shown in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 of the report);
- (3) the Highways Revenue budget has been split for use against various budget headings.

37 WALLHOLME BRIDGE - INTRODUCTION OF 7.5 TONNES MAXIMUM GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RESTRICTION

Members received a report from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which detailed the outcome of the statutory advertisement and consultation on the proposed reduction in weight limit on Wallholme Bridge. It was explained the proposed changes had been requested by Cumbria County Council Bridges Team following an assessment of the bridge.

RECOMMENDED, that Local Committee agrees that The County of Cumbria (U1051 Wallholme Bridge, near Low Row) (Prohibition of Heavy Commercial Vehicles over 7.5 Tonnes Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight) Order 20>< be brought into operation as advertised.

38 HYNAM BRIDGE - REDUCTION IN WEIGHT LIMIT FROM 26 TONNES MAXIMUM GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT TO 10 TONNES MAXIMUM GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT

The Working Group considered a report by the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which advised members of the outcome of the statutory advertisement and consultation on the proposed reduction in weight limit on Hynam Bridge. It was explained the proposed changes had been requested by Cumbria County Council Bridges Team following an assessment of the bridge.

During the course of discussion the local Member for Longtown asked for an update regarding the bridge in her Division. It was agreed the Highways Network Manager would include this information in his report to be considered by Carlisle Local Committee on 15 January 2020.

RECOMMENDED, that Local Committee agrees that The County of Cumbria (U1210 Hynam Bridge, near Castle Carrock) (Prohibition of Heavy Commercial Vehicles over 10 Tonnes Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight) Order 20>< be brought into operation as advertised.

39 PARKING ISSUES ON WINGATE ROAD AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Members considered a report by the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which advised of the ongoing parking issues that were being experienced on Wingate Road in Carlisle and provided details of inspections that had taken place over a period of approximately 12 months.

The Working Group was also given an outline of options for parking management on this road, and the implications for the rest of the surrounding area should they be introduced.

Members raised their concerns regarding vehicles parked on the nearby motorway bridge and it was explained the Authority had no enforcement powers as they were parked legally. The Working Group was informed that the CRASH Group had made the local Police aware of the vehicles on the bridge causing an obstruction by parking on the pavement and this had since reduced.

The local Member for Botcherby raised his concerns and those of local residents regarding the length of time this had been a parking issue, advising members he had raised his concerns at the initial planning stage. During the course of discussion he made reference to a Covenant for the development which stated 'parking should be provided for employees' and asked whether this was still valid. It was agreed further discussions would take place between City and County Council officers with a further report on the matter being considered at the next meeting of Carlisle Highways Working Group on 12 February 2020.

RECOMMENDED,

- (1) it be noted that Officers are to carry out further discussion with Carlisle City Council and local businesses and the car park owner, to seek measures that they can put in place to reduce on-street parking demand. This demand has been created by the removal of the free car park on Rosehill industrial estate which has since been replaced with a pay and display facility, and agree to delay any action to introduce on-street parking management measures on Wingate Road until these discussions have taken place;
- (2) a further report be considered at the next meeting of the Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group on 12 February 2020.

40 TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER - BROAD STREET REAR LANES, CARLISLE

The Working Group received a report from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which provided an update on the issue of parking in the rear lanes between Broad Street, Petheril Street and River Street in Carlisle. It advised members on further developments that had taken place following the decision of Local Committee on 9 July 2019 to introduce The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Carlisle Urban and Rural Area) (Consolidation and Minor Amendment of Traffic Regulations (Order 2001) Variation (No 56) Order 20>< IN PART, but to defer the decision on the introduction of the “No Waiting, 8 am–6 pm, Monday to Friday” proposals for Broad Street Play Area (Broad Street rear lane, Petheril Street rear lane and River Street rear lane).

RECOMMENDED, that Local Committee agrees that no further action be taken with regard to the introduction of the remaining part of The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Carlisle Urban and Rural Area) (Consolidation and Minor Amendment of Traffic Regulations (Order 2001) Variation (No 56) Order 20><, namely the introduction of the “No Waiting, 8 am–6 pm, Monday to Friday” proposals for Broad Street Play Area (Broad Street rear lane, Petteril Street rear lane and River Street rear lane) (as shown on the plan attached as Appendix 1 to the report), as any further consideration of changes to parking management can be considered as part of the Zone B Parking review due to be commenced in the next 18 months.

41 REVIEW OF FORWARD PLAN

It was noted:-

- (1) Scalegate Road (C1037), Carlisle – 30mph/40mph Speed Limit: Informal Consultation should read ‘Scalegate Road (C1037), - Carlisle **20mph/30mph** Speed Limit: Informal Consultation. It was agreed this item be removed from the Forward Plan until further notice.
- (2) Obstruction of Access to Household Driveways Guidance Note be removed from the Plan. The Highways Network Manager would provide a briefing note on this matter to all Carlisle Local Committee members prior to the next meeting of the Highways Working Group on 12 February 2020.
- (3) All references to the Traffic Regulation Order – Broad Street Rear Lanes, Carlisle be removed from the Plan as this matter had been concluded.
- (4) Add ‘2020/21 Proposed Budget’ to the Forward Plan for discussion at the next meeting of the Carlisle Highways Working Group on 12 February 2020.

42 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Working Group would take place on Wednesday 12 February 2020 at 10.00 am at Cumbria House, Botchergate, Carlisle.

The meeting ended at 11.10 am