

## **ALLERDALE HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Allerdale Highways Working Group held on Tuesday, 2 June 2020 at 10.30 am at Microsoft Teams

### **PRESENT:**

Mr AL Barry  
Mrs RC Hanson  
Mr A Kennon

Mr J Lister  
Mr AJ Markley (Vice-Chair)  
Ms C McCarron-Holmes

Also in Attendance:-

Mr D Hamilton	-	Democratic Services Officer
Mrs S Davis-Johnston	-	Traffic Management Team Leader (West)
Miss A Sykes	-	Highways Network Manager
Mr G Murray	-	Flood and Development Management
Mr G Innes	-	Lead Officer - Flood and Development Management
Mr K Little	-	County Councillor

### **31 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Mr A Bowness, Mr J Holiday, Mr H Graham.

### **32 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED** that, the minutes of the meeting which took place on 19 February 2020 were agreed as an accurate and complete record.

### **33 CALVERT WAY - DRAINAGE SOLUTION**

Members considered a presentation from the Lead Officer - Flood and Development Management which informed them of a proposed surface water scheme on Calvert Way / Brundholme Way, Keswick.

It was explained that the requested contribution from Allerdale Local Committee would help finance the drainage improvements to the public highway fronting the site where historic flooding occurred prior to the Atkinson Homes development, which had since exacerbated the issue. In turn, the scheme would also reduce the flood risk for three properties in Brundholme Gardens.

It is the view of the Flood and Development Management team that the developer should contribute for the works that relate to their site but it was explained to

members that the highways drainage had also proved to be inadequate and as a result Allerdale Local Committee is to be asked to contribute £64,840 towards the highway element of the scheme. There had been a tendering process which quoted a total cost of the scheme as £288,933. The proportion that relates to the highways is £84,840 and £20,000 of the funding for the highways element would come from DEFRA.

Members agreed to support the contribution request for £64,840.00. The Chair thanked the Lead Officer - Flood and Development Management for the presentation.

It was **RESOLVED** that, the Working Group recommends that Local Committee agree the proposed solution and contribution.

### **34 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT TEAM LEADER'S UPDATE**

The Traffic Management Team Leader presented a report to members with the purpose of providing an update on on-going projects.

The Cockermouth Traffic Regulation Order, which was agreed at the meeting of Allerdale Local Committee in September 2019, was now operational, however there was a small amount of related signage works yet to be carried out. These were halted at the end of the 2019/20 financial year due to the COVID19 pandemic, and would take place in the coming weeks as Operational teams resume work.

At their meeting in March 2020, Allerdale Local Committee agreed to implement a variety of changes to the Keswick Traffic Regulation Order. Members were informed that the Order was yet to be made operational due to issues that arose from the COVID19 pandemic which prevented the ability to comply with the Regulations, therefore no changes had yet been made on the network. The Traffic Management Team Leader stated that the same issues had delayed implementation of the changes to the Allerdale Speed Limits Order which were agreed by Allerdale Local Committee at their meeting in January 2020.

At the same meeting, Allerdale Local Committee agreed to advertise proposed changes to the speed limit on the A595 at Bothel, and two smaller changes to speed limits following private developments. The advertisement went ahead, however circumstances created due to the COVID19 pandemic meant that the necessary level of consultation and publicity was not achieved. Therefore, the process was to be repeated to ensure compliance with the regulations.

During the last weeks of 2019/20, officers undertook site assessments and discussions to create proposals for both North Allerdale and Workington Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) reviews. Proposals are yet to be circulated for initial consultations due to the situation regarding existing TRO progression and the COVID19 pandemic.

Members were then informed that officers had been allocated funding to undertake an Engineering Safety Study of Oxford Street / Murray Road, Workington. This route had been highlighted due to its collision history and the study was to inform recommendations to reduce collisions. Member were also informed that funding had been allocated to undertake highway improvements at Honister Pass and Dubwath to A591 to A66 route, as recommended following previous Engineering Safety Studies.

The Traffic Management Team Leader updated members on improvements to accessibility of the highway network which included providing appropriate crossing points, tactile paving and other works. Members asked that officers continue to push forward the projects to improve accessibility and look into the accessibility issues caused by A-boards outside shops.

The Local Member for Cockermouth North asked that the Traffic Management Team Leader looked into two issues; disability access at Highfields and the repainting of road markings in Cockermouth town centre.

The Local Member for Cockermouth South asked that the Traffic Management Team Leader look into resolving issues with gaining access to the Greenway in Cockermouth for road users.

It was **RESOLVED** that, the report be noted.

### **35 LOCAL AREA NETWORK MANAGER'S UPDATE**

Members considered a report from Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which provided an update on recent and proposed highway activities in Allerdale.

The Highways Network Manager informed members that highway works continued to be carried on the network. A Safe System of Work (SSOW) document is in place, which are additional procedures based on Public Health England (PHE) guidance. The procedures intend to ensure consistent measures on all CCC Highway construction sites in line with the Government's recommendations on social distancing and are aimed at protecting staff, their colleagues and the public.

The Highways Network Manager drew members' attention to the split of NPRN (Non Principle Road Network) funding which has been devolved to Local Committees. The split for Allerdale Local Committee as agreed by Cabinet as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) was £3,816,032.

However, the Highways Network Manager informed members that was an additional £17,976,000 which could now be allocated. It was explained that £1,241,000 was already forecast in the MTFP for Pot Hole Action Fund which would leave an additional £16,735,000. As part of the Council's preferred course of action, £9,625,400 this would be devolved to Local Committees as part of the Non-PRN funding. This would mean that Allerdale Local Committee would have an additional £1,977,057 for funding highways works. The Highways Network Manager explained that in light of the additional funding they would be looking to accelerate 2021

schemes into 2020. Members were advised that proposals would be brought to a future meeting of the Working Group. Further to this, members were informed of the Additional Challenge Fund, of the total, an estimated £542,000 could be used in Allerdale to fund a number of projects including the B5300 Coastal Works and may assist with the drainage works at Calvert Way discussed at minute 33.

Members heard that the Council had appointed a specialist Coastal Engineering Consultant to investigate coastal erosion issues along the B5300 and the Highways Network Manager provided an update on progress to date.

The Local Member for Cockermouth North sought assurance from officers that the County would work together with Connect Roads and the Environmental Agency to find a solution to flooding issues relating to land under the A595 bypass bridge. The Local Member was asked to contact the Highways Network Manager and the Flood and Development Team with further information.

Further updates were provided to members that stated that surface dressing was scheduled to commence at the end of June and that from 6<sup>th</sup> July, jet patching work was scheduled to begin in Allerdale.

A discussion took place regarding schemes to encourage people to cycle. The Highways Network Manager talked members through a list of proposals designed to meet the government criteria so as to access the funding.

It was **RESOLVED** that, the report be noted.

### **36 CRASH GROUP**

The Traffic Management Team Leader informed members that CRASH meetings had not taken place since February due to the COVID19 pandemic, however CCC Officers had been co-ordinating efforts with the CRASH group regularly over the last few months. The first virtual meeting was due to take place on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020 to discuss and continue dealing with local issues.

### **37 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Allerdale Highways Working Group will be held on 8 October 2020.

The meeting ended at 12.10pm