

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE

Minutes of a virtual Meeting of the County Council Local Committee for Carlisle held on Thursday, 16 July 2020 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT:

Mr C Weber (Chair)

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

Also in Attendance:-

Mrs L Harker	- Senior Democratic Services Officer
Mr D Haughian	- Programme Lead
Mr N McNulty	- Community Development Officer
Mr P Musgrave	- Area Manager - Carlisle
Mr G Scott	- Local Area Highways Network Manager

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

Councillors Mr J Mallinson and Mr SF Young paid their tributes to the late County Councillor Lawrence Fisher. Members then held a moments silence in respect of Mr Fisher.

1 ROLL CALL FOR MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

The above members and officers were present at the meeting.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED, that Mr C Weber be appointed Chair of the Local Committee for the ensuing year.

Mr Weber thereupon took the Chair.

3 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED, that Mr J Mallinson be appointed Vice-Chair of the Local Committee for the ensuing year.

4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Betton and Dr K Lockney.

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Mr N Marriner declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 – Carlisle Future High Street Fund Outline Business Case (minute 9 refers) as he was a property owner in the Historic Quarter.

6 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.

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public questions, statements or petitions to be considered at this meeting.

8 MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the Local Committee held on 11 March 2020 be confirmed as circulated.

9 CARLISLE FUTURE HIGH STREET FUND OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

The Committee received a report from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which updated members on the Carlisle Future High Street Fund Outline Business Case.

Members were informed that the Carlisle Future High Street Fund was a strategic regeneration project to revitalise Carlisle City Centre. It was explained the vision of the project was to create a distinctive, coherent and inclusive city centre that would improve the perception of the city, increase social value, and ultimately improve economic performance through greater resident and visitor footfall and demand. The strength of the historic and cultural offer already embedded within the city would be enhanced securing a vibrant legacy from the investment.

The Committee was informed that the primary strategic objectives were renewing Carlisle city centre as a place to live, work and visit, reactivating Carlisle's Historic Quarter, and catalysing Carlisle's night-time economy.

Members supported the scheme but a concern was raised regarding the cost involved for reimagining Market Square. Whilst officers agreed this was significant explained that compared to similar areas in other major cities this was a substantial public space. It was explained that through improving the infrastructure and public realm of the Square, it would become more attractive and include the removal of unnecessary street furniture, providing an enhanced nodal point to provide focus.

A discussion took place regarding the pedestrian enhancement of Devonshire Street and members suggested that this could be integrated with the other proposed schemes in the area such as Carlisle Station and the Citadel to provide a high quality pedestrian interchange. Officers confirmed they were working closely with partners to ensure this was feasible.

The Committee was informed that subject to Local Committee member support, Cumbria County Council would prepare a letter of support for the Project in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the relevant Portfolio Holder.

RESOLVED, that the Carlisle Future High Street Fund business case for submission to MHCLG be supported.

10 AREA PLANNING REPORT

The Committee 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.

Members were informed there was an expectation of demand for additional summer activities. The Committee was, therefore, asked to allocate a sum of £18,000 from the 0-19 funds for emergency summer activity projects with any unspent funds being returned to the budget.

During the course of discussion the local Member for Yewdale raised a concern regarding the grant of £3,500 to Film Cumbria and questioned whether this was value for money during the current pandemic. Officers noted the comments and explained the grant had already been agreed in accordance with the agreed policy.

The local Member for Dalston and Burgh raised a concern regarding the safety of children attending Burgh-by-Sands School due to parked vehicles and asked whether part of the School Crossing Patrol budget could be used to implement a scheme to address the problem. It was agreed this would be discussed further with the Area Manager.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the commitments made and the remaining balances within delegated budgets and notes the grants (as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report) be noted;
- (2) the grants made from Area Plan Budget (detailed in Appendix 2 of the report and summarised below) be noted:-
 - (a) £750 to Carlisle Music Society towards their 70th anniversary celebrations programme;
 - (b) £500 to Magpie Bowling Club towards the costs of a new lawnmower;
 - (c) £1,600 to Brampton and Beyond Community Trust on behalf of Brampton Area Action Group (BAAG) towards start-up costs, and associated administration for first 12 months;
 - (d) £3,500 to Film Cumbria towards the development of:-
 - (i) a film of stories from local businesses and how they've been affected by the virus outbreak and,
 - (ii) short mini films for businesses to use to promote themselves through re-opening;
 - (e) £3,500 to Carlisle Covid 19 Community Help Group towards the development of a film about the all community groups set up in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the people who accessed them;
- (3) £18,000 be allocated from the current 0-19 grants fund into the current Covid-19 grants fund for 'emergency summer activity' projects;
- (4) Dr S Haraldsen be nominated as the Conservative Group representative on the Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group;
- (5) the notes and action plan of the Children and Young Peoples Working Group be noted;
- (6) the emerging recovery structures relating to Covid-19 be noted.

11 INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PLAN WORKING GROUP

Members received the Notes of the meeting of the Infrastructure Working Group held on 25 June 2020.

The local Member for Wetheral asked for confirmation that the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan would include cycle routes east of Carlisle. It was agreed this would be discussed further under agenda item 13 – Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group (minute 13 refers).

The local Member for Belle Vue welcomed a second traffic free route over the Waverley Viaduct. It was explained a Footpath Order was required to be made by Carlisle City Council to enable this to take place and that investigations were still ongoing into this matter highlighting there was a commitment to undertake this.

A detailed discussion took place regarding this matter and the problems being incurred with regards to the Footpath Order. It was emphasised that Carlisle City Council had allocated funds for this project and continued to pursue the matter but suggested that the funds could transfer to the County Council to enable them to implement the Order. Members welcomed the City Council pursuing the matter and felt that as they had passed the resolution to undertake this it was incumbent upon them to continue. It was agreed a meeting would be scheduled with appropriate members and officers to discuss the matter further.

RESOLVED, that the notes be received.

12 2019/20 HIGHWAYS BUDGET OUT-TURN BUDGET REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which detailed the actual expenditure recorded against the Local Committee Highways Revenue and Devolved Highways Capital budgets for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 (as detailed in the appendices attached to the report).

RESOLVED, that the following be noted:-

- (1) the revenue and capital budget allocations for 2019/20 and the commitments and expenditure recorded;
- (2) the 2019/20 Revenue budget has an outturn underspend of £8,791;
- (3) the total 2019/20 Devolved Highways Capital Budget has an outturn underspend of £53,975;
- (4) the 2019/20 balances have now been determined. The under and over spends will be carried forward to the 2020/21 budgets.

13 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 17 June 2020 and presented recommendations to the Local Committee for approval.

(1) **Notes**

RESOLVED, that the minutes be noted.

(2) **Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Carlisle**

The local Member for Wetheral raised his concerns regarding the lack of commitment for cycle routes outside the city centre. Members supported the concerns raised highlighting the purpose of the Plan was to identify areas where travel had been requested and investigate how safe travel could be facilitated. The importance of engagement with third parties was highlighted to ensure schemes were prepared in readiness for Government funding.

The Local Area Highways Network Manager confirmed that the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan would include the whole of the Carlisle district including routes to the east of Carlisle.

RESOLVED, that £15,830 to allow the urgent development of a Carlisle LCWIP be approved.

(3) **Stockdalewath Proposed 30 mph Speed Limit – Responses to Statutory Consultation and Advertisement**

RESOLVED, that the objection is over-ruled and The County of Cumbria (C1018 and U1145 Stockdalewath) (30 mph Speed Limit) Order 20>< be brought into operation, as advertised.

(4) **Speed Limit Consolidation Order No 7 Variation No 2: Scalegate Road (C1037) 20 mph/30 mph Limit**

The Leader of the Council supported the proposals highlighting the importance of the safety of children for the opening of the School in September.

RESOLVED, that “The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Carlisle City & District) (Consolidation and Provision of Speed Limits) (No. 7) (Order 2017) Variation (No. 2) Order 20><”, be introduced as advertised, the effect of which will be:-

Scalegate Road (C1037)

- (a) to introduce a 20mph speed limit on Scalegate Road (C1037), from a point approx. 30m south of its junction with Oaklands Drive, extending for approx. 158m in a southerly direction; and
- (b) to introduce a 30mph speed limit on Scalegate Road (C1037) from a point approx. 188m south of its junction with Oaklands Drive, extending for approx 100m in a southerly direction.

(5) Traffic Regulation Order Variation No 57: Newman School Relocation – Associated No Waiting At Any Time and School Keep Clear Restrictions

RESOLVED, that “The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Carlisle Urban and Rural Area) (Consolidation and Minor Amendment of Traffic Regulations) (Order 2001) Variation (No. 57) Order 20><”, be introduced as advertised, the effect of which will be to introduce:-

Scalegate Road (C1037)

- (a) “No Waiting At Any Time” restrictions on parts of the C1037 (at the southern end of Scalegate Road, Carlisle (east and west sides); on Haydock Drive (north and south sides); and on the new access road into St John Newman School (north and south sides); and
- (b) Restriction of waiting at “SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR” markings, 8.00 am–5.00 pm, Monday to Friday on the west side of the C1037 (at southern end of Scalegate Road).

(6) 2020/21 Highways Budget/Programme Progress Report

RESOLVED, that the following be noted:-

- (a) the Highways Devolved (Additional) Capital budget programme allocations for 2020/2021 (as detailed in the appendices to the report), subject to confirmation of this indicative allocation be agreed and kept under review:

Identified Defects Planned Works Programme	£79,658
Structural Carriageway Works Programme	£750,000
Pre-surface Treatment Works Programme	£100,000
Footway Maintenance Works Programme	£330,000

Drainage Maintenance Works Programme	£300,000
Street Lighting Maintenance Works Programme	£75,000
Storm Resilience Work	£464,000

- (b) the indicative schemes under the proposed programme allocations (referred to in the appendices attached to the report) subject to confirmation of the budget and Local Committee agreeing the programme allocations;
- (c) the revenue and capital budget allocations for 2020/21 and the commitments and expenditure (detailed in the appendices attached to the report);
- (d) the programme progress information (shown in the appendices attached to the report);
- (e) the various
 - (i) Highways Revenue budget allocations and headings;
 - (ii) Highways Capital budget allocations and headings;
(which are shown in Appendix 6 of the report);
- (f) the following: -

there are no comments in the appendices to the Working Group report to bring to the attention of local members. Any significant comments, changes and/or amendments will be highlighted in subsequent and future reports to the Working Group.

14 2020/21 HIGHWAYS BUDGET/PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee received a report from the 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.

RESOLVED, that the following be noted:-

- (1) the revenue and budget allocations for 2020/21 and the commitments and expenditure (as outlined in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the report);

- (2) the programme progress information (detailed in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the report);
- (3) the Highways Revenue budget has been split for use against various budget headings (referred to in Appendix 1 of the report);
- (4) 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);
- (5) additional Capital allocations, devolved and non-devolved, are indicative only and subject to change. Schemes listed are those most likely to be delivered, based on this indicative allocation.

15 COVID 19 UPDATE

Members considered a report from the Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services which gave an overview of the work of the Carlisle Community Development Team and Carlisle Emergency Hub in responding to the needs in the community through the Covid 19 virus. It provided an overview of the work of the Emergency Hub in Carlisle along with details of case studies on how the hub worked, as well as how the community development teams continued work to support community groups.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

16 MEMBER CHAMPION UPDATES

a Children in Care Council Champion Update

Members received an update report from the Children in Care Council Champion.

The Committee was informed that a meeting of the Children and Young People Working Group held on 15 June had discussed the Carlisle Community Resilience Group and Recovery Group which had been set up to look at the position of help in the community by various community groups; an update on the new multi-agency Children and Families Partnership which ultimately fed into the Children's Trust Board and an update on the activities of officers within the Children's Services Team during the pandemic. Officers were thanked for their support and dedication during COVID 19.

Members were informed that during the move into the COVI-19 recovery phase work would be required to build on what had been learnt over the last few months. It was explained the local Carlisle Community Resilience Group and Recovery Group were looking forward to continued joint working with partners and would continue to put the child at the heart of decisions.

The Chair welcomed the update.

b Autism Champion

Members received an update from the Autism Champion. It was explained that the Cumbrian Autism Support Team, Carlisle Mencap had suspended their usual criteria during COVID 19 to offer support to additional families to include children who had not yet been diagnosed with Autism and had not previously contacted or self-referred to the Service.

It was highlighted that advisors were on duty each day to ensure that all calls for help could be answered and both the County Council and third sector organisations had worked very hard to support families. It was explained that a number of third sector organisations had continued to work to support the especially vulnerable and children of care workers. Thanks and appreciation were emphasised to the organisations and individuals who had worked tirelessly and under considerable stress to keep this vulnerable group safe.

During the course of discussion concerns regarding the long-term effects of the pandemic in terms of both physical and mental health were highlighted. It was agreed that members would be updated at future meeting sof the Committee.

The Chair welcomed the update.

17 LOCAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND LEADERSHIP MEETING

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Local Committee Chairs and Leadership meeting held on 2 March 2020 be noted.

18 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 additional item on the Town Deal would be considered at the September meeting of the Local Committee.

Members were informed a Special Meeting of the Carlisle Highways and Transport Working Group would take place during August at a date to be agreed.

19 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED, that the next scheduled meeting will take place on Monday 14 September 2020 at 10.00 am at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 11.10 am