

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR COPELAND

Minutes of a Meeting of the County Council Local Committee for Copeland held on Tuesday, 27 March 2018 at Cleator Moor Civic Hall and Masonic Centre at 11.15 am

PRESENT:

Mr K Hitchen (Chair)

Mr AWC Lamb

Mr GRPM Roberts

Mr DE Southward

Mr CP Turner

Mr CJ Whiteside

Mrs EL Williamson

Mr D Wilson (Vice-Chair)

Mr AW Wonnacott

Also in Attendance:-

Mr K Cosgrove

Mrs J Currie

Ms G Elliott

- Highways Network Manager (Copeland)

- Senior Democratic Services Officer

- Area Manager - Copeland

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

71 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were Mr M Barbour, Mr M Hawkins and Mr F Morgan.

72 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr GRPM Roberts declared a non pecuniary interest under the Members' Code of Conduct in Agenda Item No 9 – Bransty Row/North Shore Road Junction Improvements, as he is a Bransty Parish Councillor.

73 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, the press and public be not excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item of business on the agenda.

74 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions, petitions or statements to the committee on this occasion.

75 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED that, the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23 January 2018 be agreed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

76 2017/18 LOCAL COMMITTEE DEVOLVED BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - HIGHWAYS BUDGET

The Local Committee considered a report from the Corporate Director – Economy and Highways which presented the Highways Devolved Budget Finance report combined with the Highways Programme Progress report..

The Highways Network Manager reported that at this stage of the financial year the Devolved Highway Revenue budget was projecting a small overspend of £8,800, and the Devolved Highways Capital budget was projecting an overspend of £34,078

RESOLVED that,

- (1) Local Committee note the revenue and capital budget allocations for 2017-18 and the commitments and expenditure recorded in Appendices 1 & 2 of the report;
- (2) Local Committee note the Highways Devolved Revenue budget, attached as Appendix 1, is currently projecting an overspend of £8,800;
- (3) Local Committee note the Highways Devolved Capital Budget is currently projecting an overspend of approximately £34,078.

77 2018/19 LOCAL COMMITTEE DEVOLVED HIGHWAYS REVENUE BUDGET COPELAND

Members had before them a report from the Corporate Director – Economy and Highways which reminded them that the County Council’s Budget for 2018/19 was informed to Cabinet in February 2018 and set by Council during that month. Local Committees were allocated a devolved budget for highways and transport. This report sets out the proposed Highways and Transport Revenue Budget for the Copeland area.

The Highways Network Manager outlined the suggested devolved Local Committee devolved revenue budget allocation for 2018/19. The recommendations contained in this report were based upon a budget of £648,803 which equated to a £30,943 increase on 2017/18 revenue budget.

The recommended devolved highways revenue budget was set out in Appendix 1. It noted the current 2017/18 allocations and the proposed 2018/19 allocations based on the individual budget headings.

The Revenue budget included 'Find and Fix' reactive maintenance, gully cleansing, street lighting inspections and repairs. These were carried out by the Council's own staff. The budget also included verge maintenance and road markings and signage replacement.

The Network Manager said the proposed revenue programme for 2018/19 would ensure that the County Council was working towards improving the existing issues with the road network as well as protecting and improving the remainder of the Council's highway assets.

All members recognised the challenge the Council faced in relation to reductions in budget allocations from Government. Within the Borough the money needed to maintain and repair the roads far outweighed the resources available and all members had concerns about this.

The Highways Network Manager informed members that the Department for Transport had announced recently that additional funds would be made available to assist the County Council to repair 'pot holes'. Figures were yet to be confirmed but the expected additional funding available for Copeland Local Committees was circa £100,000. Members noted that this was in addition to that already allocated.

RESOLVED that,

- (1) the Local Committee approve the proposed allocation of the devolved Highways and Transport revenue budget for 2018/19 as follows:-

Better Highways	£177,508
Cleansing	£160,000
Non illuminated traffic signs and road markings	£35,000
Verge Maintenance	£50,000
Lighting and illuminated signs	£191,295
Traffic Signals	£20,000
Other (Cyclepath contribution)	£15,000
TOTAL	£648,803

78 COPELAND HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP - 23 FEBRUARY 2018

Copeland Local Committee considered a report from the Corporate Director – Economy and Highways, which gave details of the meeting of Copeland Highway Working Group held on 23 February 2018 and presented recommendations to the members for approval:-

(1) Minutes

One of the members requested, that for future minutes of the Highways Working Group, where consultations were mentioned, that links be included to the relevant documents. This was noted.

RESOLVED that, Copeland Local Committee note the minutes of the Highways Working Group and the recommendations contained within these.

(2) North Road, Egremont - Traffic Movements

Members were aware of the concerns that had been raised by businesses located on North Road, Egremont regarding its existing traffic management arrangements. At present, North Road was effectively divided into two halves by a kerbed island and traffic bollards.

The measures were introduced in 1993, following the construction of the A595 Egremont bypass. The main purpose of the improvements was to prevent vehicular access between the northern and southern sections of North Road, whilst maintaining pedestrian and cycle movements. These measures also prevent 'rat-running' by through-traffic using North Road and Egremont Main Street as a shortcut.

In 2016, Cumbria County Council officers agreed to undertake a consultation with all residents of North Road to determine the issues. The consultation suggested removing some of the bollards to allow traffic to move in one direction only, therefore implementing a One Way system. A total of 65 properties were contacted during the consultation, and 43 responses were received. 37 of the 43 responses were against the suggested changes, and 6 of 43 responses were in favour of the suggested changes.

Although local officers recognised the concerns raised, as the local Highway Authority members must be focussed on the flow and movement of traffic. Given the issues experienced on neighbouring routes in the area due to the inadequacy of the A595 during peak times, officers were not recommending any changes be implemented.

The Whitehaven Campus planning application had been discussed briefly at the Highways Working Group, but at the time no details were given. However, these had now been made available, and one of the members felt it should come back to the HWG as there were proposed changes to the start and finish times for the new school, which could have implications for the County Council. The Area Manager said the changes could affect the School Transport Service and felt the HWG should consider the implications. This was **AGREED**.

The Highway Network Manager reminded members of the need to notify the officers as soon as possible of any possible speed limit restrictions needed in their divisions. Members noted this request.

One of the members asked a question about Minute 118 with reference to the lack of parking enforcement being undertaken in Copeland. He wondered if there were any plans to improve this service. The Highways Network Manager and the Area Manager would raise this with the Parking Manager (**Action: KC/GE**).

RESOLVED that, Copeland Local Committee **AGREE** the **RECOMMENDATION** from the HWG that no further action be taken at this stage in relation to the removal of some of the traffic bollards on North Road, Egremont.

79 BRANSTY ROW/NORTH SHORE JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS

Mr GRPM Roberts declared a non pecuniary interest under the Members' Code of Conduct in this item, as he is a Bransty Parish Councillor.

Members had before them a report from the Corporate Director – Economy and Highways, which provided members of the Local Committee, with an overview of proposed highway improvements to improve the operation of the junction on Bransty Row/North Shore Road and enhance the pedestrian environment to create cohesive development sites within the North Shore area of Whitehaven town centre.

Britain's Energy Coast (BEC) was the landowner of a number of development sites on Bransty Row and the lead partner was bringing forward the North Shore regeneration scheme, which included plans for managed work space, a 100+ bed hotel and a multi-story car park, and was fully supportive of the scheme. Copeland Borough Council part owned BEC (alongside Cumbria County Council and Allerdale Borough Council). The deliverability of the North Shore Development opportunities were marginal and required significant highway improvements to facilitate these developments.

Cumbria County Council secured £1.66m from the Department for Transport (DFT) through the National Productivity Investment Fund and £834k from BEC to undertake the necessary highway improvements at Bransty Row. The funding has been secured on the basis of reconfiguring the existing priority T-junction at Bransty Row/North Shore Road to improve the operation of the junction and enhance the pedestrian environment to create cohesive development sites. The funding provided by the Department for Transport requires the proposed changes to be designed and implemented on site within 2 years (2018/2019 and 2019/2020).

Numerous alternative junction arrangements had been considered including roundabouts, gyratory systems and priority junction arrangements. The alternative options do not accommodate the forecast traffic volumes or provide any pedestrian connectivity and amenity benefits.

Officers had explored options for enhancing the junction at Tangier Street/George Street and four options were modelled to determine the impact of proposals on traffic in the area:-

- Design Option 1 – Enhance the existing junction arrangement - Provides the greatest capacity at the junction.
- Design Option 2A – The installation of the mini roundabout gives traffic on George Street priority over Tangier Street, which will create queues on Tangier Street backing up towards the town centre.
- Design Option 2B – The installation of a mini roundabout and reversal of the one way systems on Tangier Street and Church Street addresses the

capacity issues on Tangier Street in Option 2A. However, George Street does not have the capacity to cope with the additional traffic

- Design Option 3 – The installation of a signalised junction at Tangier Street results with traffic queuing through Tangier Street signals when showing green light.

Officer recommendation was to proceed with Option 1 at Tangier Street/George Street, which would increase the junction capacity and support the deliverability of the North Shore Development Schemes. The other options would not deliver the required junction capacity and therefore do not meet the aims and objectives of the scheme business case and could not be delivered through the funds secured from BEC and DFT.

In order to successfully deliver the highway improvement, the location of the existing bus stops and taxi ranks on Bransty Row would need to be amended. An amendment to the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph was also being explored in consultation with the local area highways team and the police

Members accepted that due to the time constraints associated with the funding, it was imperative to make a start on the TRO review process. However, there were concerns raised about the location of the bus stop and the pedestrian crossing facilities available to access this.

Members noted that it was proposed that the informal consultation stage on the proposed amendments to the TRO's would begin week commencing 9th April, the outcomes of which would be reported to Highways Working Group, and then to Local Committee for determination.

RESOLVED that, the report be received and noted.

80 AREA MANAGER REPORT - COPELAND

The Local Committee considered a report from the Corporate Director – Health, Care and Community Services which provided Local Committee with an update on its agreed activity, current issues and an overview of the budget position.

Budget Update

The Area Manager asked members to note the delegated Communities budget for 2018/19 approved at Full Council on 15th February 2018 and was set out in Appendix 2. The delegated budget lines were streamlined to afford Local Committee the opportunity to determine specific allocations and priorities in accordance with their Area Plan.

Community and Strategic Grants

At the Community Grants Panel meeting on Tuesday 6 March 2018 members considered a number of grant applications to support local community activity.

Where grants exceeded £5,000 they required ratification by Local Committee. In summary Members recommended grants under the following categories which total:

- General Provision - £44,001
- 0-19 Universal Services - £73,109
- Community Waste Prevention Fund - £8,300
- University Access Fund - £4,890

The Area Manager took members through the list of recommendations contained within the report, and the grant allocations approved.

Local Members' Scheme

The Area Manager explained to new members of the committee that as part of the 2015-16 County Council budget settlement for Local Committee there was a revenue scheme financed over one year to be spent over two years.

The Copeland Local Members Scheme budget was fully spent by March 2017 however in November 2017 Local Committee agreed to recoup a sum of £868 from the Kells and Sandwith LMS budget originally committed to Mirehouse Residents Group for youth provision.

The Area Manager outlined details of two proposals for consideration with a summary assessment given by the Community Development Officer, having regard to technical or to other advice from colleagues in relevant directorates.

- Members are asked to support a revenue grant of £180 from the Kells & Sandwith LMS of Cllr Emma Williamson to St Peter's Church Hall to support 12 months room hire for the Pit Craic group.
- Members are asked to support a revenue grant of £688 from the Kells & Sandwith LMS of Cllr Emma Williamson to support community activities within the division.

Both of these were fully supported by members.

Money Advice Service

Copeland Local Committee had given annual support to Citizens Advice Copeland to provide debt and money advice. The delegated Communities budget for 2018/19 included an amount of £57,060 for this purpose and would focus in particular on;

- Providing support for individuals in debt to an extent where their home or liberty are at risk or those whose debts are seriously affecting the health and wellbeing of the individual or family.
- Put in place preventative activity that raises awareness of how to avoid debt; educates people about effective budgeting and money management; and support people to maximise their income.

Members supported this recommendation.

School Crossing Patrol

Members noted the details contained within the Service Level Agreement (SLA) held with Orion to deliver a school crossing patrol to nine schools at eleven sites across Copeland, and that St Bees Primary School crossing was paid for by the school up front for the academic year.

Members are asked to agree the 2018/19 SLA and with no members dissenting this was approved.

The Area Manager also updated on the following activity:-

Library Update
Waste Prevention Update
Archive Update
Public Health

With reference to Public Health paragraph 4.35 of the report highlighted the need to train more Champions for Alzheimers. It was proposed and **AGREED** that Mr K Hitchen would be appointed as the Copeland Local Committee Alzheimers Champion.

RESOLVED that,

- (1) Members note the budget update outlined in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) Members are asked to note the delegated Communities budget for 2018-19 in Appendix 2 which was approved at the Full Council meeting of 15th February 2018;
- (3) Members approve the grant recommendations as listed in paragraph 4.5 as follows:-
 - a) An allocation of £3,750 from Universal Services and £3,750 from General Provision to The Phoenix Youth Project towards developing Frizington Youth Centre into a community facility;
 - b) An allocation of £3,716 from Universal Services and £3,716 from General Provision to Rosehill Arts Trust Limited to extend their singing programme to schools and care homes;
 - c) An allocation of £1,200 from Universal Services to the North Copeland Youth Partnership towards outdoor activities;
 - d) An allocation of £3,028 from Universal Services to Cumbria Alcohol and Drug Advisory Service to support their work with children and young people from May until September;
 - e) An allocation of £580 from Universal Services to Inspira to run two programmes of In This Together in four Copeland secondary schools, also a change of use from a previous allocation of £7,500 from the 0-19 Grants budget to support this work;
 - f) An allocation of £3,000 from Universal Services to Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project to support Nurture Groups for young people;

- g) An allocation of £1,500 from Universal Services to support school based activities around the Tour of Britain;
 - h) An allocation of £26,335 from Universal Services to support the work and priorities of the Copeland Children and Young People's Partnership and to support emotional resilience projects for young people;
 - i) An allocation of £10,000 from Universal Services to meet the requirements of the 2018/19 Copeland School Crossing Patrol SLA;
 - j) An allocation of £10,000 from Universal Services to develop work around children's healthy weight initiatives;
 - k) An allocation of £2,000 from General Provision towards sensory impairment awareness work in Copeland;
 - l) An allocation of £5,000 from General Provision towards the roll out of Dementia friendly Communities in Copeland;
 - m) An allocation of £2,000 from General Provision towards the work of the Mid Copeland Dementia Friendly Group;
 - n) An allocation of £2,752 from General Provision to support Autism Friendly Awards for facilities in Copeland;
 - o) Allocations of £10,000 from General Provision and £10,000 from Universal Services for capacity building to develop community assets and hubs;
 - p) An allocation of £4,335 from General Provision to Mirehouse Community Centre towards developing Mirehouse Library building as a community café and hub;
 - q) An allocation of £4,788 from General Provision to Citizens Advice Copeland to employ an apprentice administrator based at the Millom office;
 - r) An allocation of £960 from General Provision to Sneckyeat Community Centre to support the relocation of the Hensingham Library Knit and Natter Group;
 - s) An allocation of £1,500 from General Provision to Whitehaven Community Trust Ltd to pilot a women's group at The Senhouse Centre;
 - t) An allocation of £1,100 to Cumbria Development Education Centre to bring the Hidden Stories exhibition to venues in Copeland;
 - u) An allocation of £2,100 from General Provision to the Eskdale Mill and Heritage Trust to support development of the facility;
 - v) An allocation of £4,890 from the University Access Fund to Whitehaven Academy to purchase laptops and tablets for sole use in the careers suite;
 - w) An allocation of £5,000 from the Community Waste Prevention Fund towards developing a bike library at Mirehouse;
 - x) An allocation of £3,300 from the Community Waste Prevention Fund to facilitate Plastic Free initiatives in Copeland.
- (4) Members approve the grant requests under the Local Members Scheme (LMS) as follows:-

- a) A revenue grant of £180 from the Kells and Sandwith Local Members Scheme to St Peter's Church Hall to support 12 months room hire for the pit Craic Group;
 - b) A revenue grant of £688 from the Kells and Sandwith Local Members Scheme to support the community activities within the division.
- (5) Members approve a grant of £57,060 to Citizens Advice Copeland for the 2018/19 Money Advice Service from the 2018/19 Local Committee budget;
 - (6) Members agree the 2018/19 School Crossing Patrol Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Orion as outlined in Appendix 5 and an additional allocation of £10,000 from the 0-19 Universal Services budget to meet the requirements of the SLA;
 - (7) Members appoint Mr K Hitchen as the Copeland Local Committee Alzheimer's Champion.

81 UPDATE ON LIBRARY BUILDINGS

Members considered a report from the Corporate Director – Health, Care and Community Services which advised members on the work done to date on the Library and Archive Community Hub project and on the 3 branch libraries that were identified as surplus to service requirements.

In December 2017 it was agreed that Mirehouse Library, Kells Library and Hensingham Library were surplus to the Library service requirements and would close. This was due to the limited usage of the facilities and their close proximity to the main Whitehaven Library and it was considered that the community could be better served by alternative provision being provided in these locations.

It was agreed that the Chair of Local Committee would work with the local Members and Community team to look at options to re-use these facilities.

At the same time the business plan for the new Library and Archive Community Services Hub identified that any income from the sale of these buildings would go to support the build costs.

Members and Officers met with a number of groups to identify opportunities and firm proposals had been received in relation to Kells Library building and Mirehouse Library building. Unfortunately interest in the Hensingham site was not able to materialise into a firm project.

Kells

The proposal for Kells library was with the Howgill Family Centre who proposed to create a hub of services which would include;

- Nursery child care from 2 years old, with sessions in the morning and afternoon

- Specific carer and toddler groups
- Utilising the PhunkyFoods programme to deliver healthy lifestyle sessions
- Parenting courses including Triple P – Positive Parenting Programme and the Solihull Approach
- Domestic Violence Recovery toolkit
- Telling Tales story sessions
- Scope for offering space to other service providers to host drop ins, advice and support

Howgill currently offered childcare provision from The Kabin based in the grounds of St Mary's School. The Kabin was no longer fit for purpose and had structural issues that were limiting its usable life.

Discussions had been around either a lease or sale of the building. Under a lease significant changes to the building would not be possible and they could not operate as a nursery until a sale or transfer was complete. Therefore the preferred option of the Howgill Family Centre was to purchase the building in order to undertake a complete and immediate refurbishment.

Mirehouse

The proposal for the Mirehouse Library was with the Mirehouse Community Centre Association who proposed to develop a Community Café and hub including;

- A daytime café promoting healthy eating and social interaction
- Evening café and youth zone run by young people under adult supervision

The daytime café would be operated as a social enterprise utilising FareShare produce and promoting healthy choices, in the long term there may be social support schemes and vocational training opportunities.

The evening café would be run by young people who had been involved in developing the concept and ideas including a 'milk bar'. Advice services currently available at Mirehouse Community Centre would also be available here.

The hub would promote Men in Sheds and Park Run and provide a venue for the County Council Community Learning and Skills courses and online training. In the long term, a community re-bike scheme and bike library had been proposed to link in with the cycle track and developing skills in cycle maintenance.

The preferred option of Mirehouse Community Centre Association was a 12 month lease to test their concept, then if successful move toward either a purchase or Community Asset Transfer of the building.

Hensingham

Following discussions with the Chair of Local Committee, local Member and the Community Team the proposal for Hensingham Library building to become an

Advice hub had not managed to progress and the building would now be put up for sale.

Members were delighted to hear the update on the Kells and Mirehouse libraries, and looked forward to seeing the buildings brought back into use.

RESOLVED that,

- (1) Members noted the sale of Kells Library to the Howgill Family Centre with a temporary lease in place should the sale not progress in a timely manner;
- (2) Members noted the 12 month lease to Mirehouse Community Centre Association at the end of which either a sale or Community Asset Transfer request will need to have been made;
- (3) Members noted the continuing development of the Library and Archive Hub;
- (4) Members noted that any income from the sale of these 3 buildings will support the Community Hub project which brings together the Library, Archives, Registrars and Community Learning onto one site.

82 LOCAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND LEADERSHIP MEETING

RESOLVED that, the minutes of the Local Committee Chairs and Leadership meeting held on 24 January 2018 were received and noted.

83 NOMINATIONS - LA GOVERNORS OF NURSERY, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

RESOLVED that, subject to their agreement the following go forward as nominations for LA Governors of nursery, primary and secondary education:-

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School	Mr Hugh Branney Croasdale Farm Ennerdale Cleator CA23 3AT
Park View Nursery School	Ms Geraldine Lancaster East View Church Walk Millom LA18 5BZ

84 CHILDREN'S CHAMPION UPDATE

The Committee received a brief update from the Children's Champion. Members would be receiving an invite in the near future to a play by the Youth Council in relation to litter. She encourages all members to attend.

The Children's Partnership had now been established and would be Chaired by the Children's Champion.

The Chair thanked the Champion for her update.

85 VERBAL UPDATE FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES/EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

Autism Champion

In the absence of the Autism Champion an updated had been circulated to members by email.

The Champion had found that social media had been an effective tool helping to spread the message that the Council was serious about making Copeland autism friendly. He had visited the Beacon Museum to talk to staff there about Autism and this had been well attended and the feedback afterwards was very encouraging and they were keen to make the beacon more welcoming to Autistic people.

Staff were congratulated for their support on Saturday at the opening of the new autism area at Millom library it was well received by the local community and the Champion was sure it would be a well-used facility.

Moving forward the Champion would continue to meet with interested groups and businesses around Copeland.

On 29 March the Autism Champion would be attending the Whitehaven Town Council meeting to explain his role and he hoped to visit all Copeland's Town and Parish Councils throughout the year.

Health and Wellbeing Champion

The Health and Wellbeing champion had been asked by Charlotte Thompson - Public Health Nurse Clinical Lead to update members on Public Health Nurse Practitioners who were specialist nurses based within each locality and were available to work with schools to identify and address health and wellbeing needs through a school review and bespoke delivery plan at no cost to the school.

This service was aimed at lifestyle improvement, through maintaining and promoting mental, emotional and physical wellbeing. key priorities included healthy weight, emotional health, digital wellbeing and risk taking behaviour, all of which impact on the health of the children in Cumbria

The team could offer free support and advice to address health and wellbeing needs identified from school reviews. This could include path-ways, school specific health data, pupil surveys, staff training, assemblies, website resources, group work, curriculum development, support with public health campaigns and signposting.

Ms Thompson had asked the Health and Wellbeing Champion to ask for members' help to promote this in secondary schools, where the take up was limited. Members noted the request.

The Chair thanked the Health and Wellbeing Champion for his update.

86 NUCLEAR ISSUES

The Portfolio Holder for Nuclear Issues updated members on the latest situation in relation to the geological disposal facilities.

The Area Manager asked for local member comments in respect to the 2 live BEIS consultations on the new government approach to a GDF that would be included in the report to cabinet. Members were asked to send any comments through by close of play today.

Brief updates were also given by the Copeland Local Committee representatives on the Low Lever Waste Repository Site Stakeholder Group and the Risk and High Level Waste Management Group.

87 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 15 May 2018 at Cleator Moor Civic Hall at 10.15am.

The meeting ended at 12.45 pm