

**BARROW HIGHWAYS ADVISORY SUB-GROUP**

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Barrow Highways Advisory Sub-Group held on Tuesday, 16 February 2021 at 10.15 am.

**PRESENT:**

Mr W McEwan (Chair)

Mrs A Burns	Mr S Nott
Mr F Cassidy (Vice-Chair)	Mr MH Worth
Mr D Gawne	Mr R Worthington
Mr KR Hamilton	

**Also in Attendance:-**

Mrs L Harker	- Senior Democratic Services Officer
Ms T Ingham	- Area Manager - Barrow
Mr K Tetchner	- Local Area Highways Network Manager
Mr T Wright	- Watch Manager, Service Delivery South

Steve Mason and Amy Gaskell, Project Managers from Highways England attended for agenda item 3 – A590 Cross-a-Moor Roundabout Construction (minute 76 refers).

**74 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies received on this occasion.

**75 MINUTES**

With reference to minute 70 – Summary of the Condition of Back Streets and Assessment Procedures in the Barrow Area the Local Area Highways Network Manager agreed to let the local Member for Roosecote know whether Marine Terrace, North and South Roads were adopted.

The minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Group held on 11 December 2020 were confirmed as circulated.

## **76 A590 CROSS-A-MOOR ROUNDABOUT CONSTRUCTION**

Members received a detailed presentation from Highways England regarding the A590 Cross-a-Moor Roundabout Construction.

The Sub-Group was informed the staggered junction at Cross-a-Moor would be upgraded to create a new four-arm roundabout and the works would include environmental improvements for the area consisting of a wetland amenity area and flood alleviation.

Members noted that the Scheme was to support the construction of 1063 houses as part of the South Lakeland District Council Local Plan. It was explained it was anticipated this would improve traffic flows in the area and provide safer journeys for users on the A590 and the adjoining local authority networks.

The Sub-Group was informed the scheme was due to begin in September 2021 and was expected to be completed by February/March 2022. Officers explained the general principal was to keep the A590 open at all times with temporary widening to allow two-way traffic flow at reduced speeds.

Members welcomed the A590 remaining open during works and asked for an undertaking that other works would not be carried out by utility companies during that period. Highways England officers confirmed that any planned works would have an embargo during the construction phase and only emergency works would be undertaken.

During the course of discussion a concern was raised regarding the issues which currently existed at the traffic lights at Cross-a-Moor and further potential dangers which could arise due to speeding traffic and tailbacks. Officers explained that a number of Road Safety Audits would be undertaken during the construction of the scheme and issues arising would be investigated further.

A discussion took place regarding the wetland area and members asked if there would be any provision for parking at this location. Officers confirmed that at present a car park was not included in the scheme but explained that on completion of the design advice would be sought from the County Council regarding the provision of such a facility.

The Sub-Group welcomed the environmental impacts of the scheme which were being assessed such as biodiversity, landscape, cultural heritage, air quality, noise, population and communities, human health, materials and waste and the water environment. During the course of discussion officers confirmed that the reptile map was used to conduct a reptile survey to record whether any reptile species were present within the development area or nearby and how they used the site.

Members welcomed the communication and engagement which had taken place and officers confirmed that once information had been disseminated to all the local authorities other stakeholders such as BAE, Stagecoach, Kimberley Clark and other large organisations in the area would be contacted.

The Chair, on behalf of the Sub-Group, thanked officers for their presentation and asked that members be kept informed of any further matters as necessary.

## **77 UPDATE FROM CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY**

This item was deferred.

## **78 WATER SUPPLY ON WALNEY ISLAND**

The local Member for Hindpool had drawn attention to an issue regarding the frequent loss of water supply for residents on Walney Island and had asked if a representative from United Utilities could attend the meeting to discuss the matter further. During the course of discussion the increased traffic on Ironworks Road was highlighted as a possible contribution to the issues.

Unfortunately, no representative from United Utilities was available to attend the meeting but provided the following written response:-

'I have spoken to my colleague in Water Network, and we do recognise that we have an issue with our water supply in the Walney Island area, and this is a high priority for us at United Utilities. We are currently in the process of arranging further investigation works to identify the right and most sustainable solution; once the solution has been identified through these investigations, capital investment is going to be sought in order to rectify the issues.

This capital investment has not yet been sought and approved, over the next few months we will be working towards submitting a Business Case to hopefully secure the investment. Once we have further information following the investigations and Business Case submission, we can attend the Barrow Highways Sub Group to provide a more thorough update.

My colleagues in water network will contact you further once updates are available.'

The local Member for Walney North reiterated the concerns raised and highlighted the need for United Utilities to investigate the matter further to prevent the issues affecting the 12,000 residents of Walney. During the course of discussion the local Member congratulated United Utilities for their response and provision of water tanks during a recent emergency in the area.

Members noted that the previous United Utilities representative for the Barrow area had been seconded to a different post and it was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to him for the work he had undertaken regarding the Back Streets in Barrow.

## **79 UPDATE FROM CUMBRIA FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

The Sub-Group received a verbal update from Tom Wright, Watch Manager, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service on training which they provided.

Members were informed that the Service provided Heart Start and Road Awareness training which was targeted at specific groups of people but was available to all community groups. Members were encouraged to contact officers with information regarding groups which they thought would benefit from training.

## **80 BARROW WORKS PROGRAMME 2020/21**

The Local Area Highways Network Manager presented the Barrow Works Programme 2020/21 and informed members that all the major surfacing schemes were complete.

The local Member for Roosecote confirmed that the issue which he had raised regarding the bridge on Manor Road was the River Bridge and not Railway Bridge. The Local Area Highways Network Manager explained that discussions were taking place regarding the responsible authority for the Bridge and an update would be provided in due course.

Mr S Nott, the Barrow Borough Council representative raised a concern regarding the speed road signs near Mill Brow, Dalton; he felt they were inadequate and asked if this could be investigated. The Local Area Highways Network Manager explained that a yearly central engineering safety study was undertaken which would include this area and would highlight any issues of concern which required further investigation.

The local Member for Hawcoat asked for an update on cycling repair stations and the Local Highways Area Network Manager confirmed they had been ordered but due to the current pandemic delivery had been delayed. It was agreed this would be investigated and the local Member would be contacted direct.

The local Member for Roosecote raised a concern regarding the disrepair of the pavement on Stainton Drive, Dalton and it was agreed this would be investigated further and an update would be made available direct.

The local members for Risedale and Hindpool raised their concerns regarding the traffic congestion issues being experienced due to the number of parked Uber Eats delivery vehicles in Barrow Town Centre and felt it was imperative that this was investigated as soon as possible. It was agreed that an initial meeting would be convened between the Police, Chair and Vice-Chair of Barrow Local Committee and the local Member for Hindpool to discuss this matter further.

During the course of discussion the local Member for Hindpool raised concerns regarding the general flow of traffic around Barrow Town Centre and, whilst acknowledging the substantial costs which would be involved, suggested that this should be investigated further in consultation with the Borough Council in due course.

The local Member for Walney North asked if a response could be sought from the Chief Constable about the concerns which had been raised with her regarding the enforcement of 20 mph speed limits.

The Chair, on behalf of members, congratulated the Local Area Highways Network Manager and his Team for delivering the Programme.

## **81 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- (1) The Sub-Group received the proposed draft Terms of Reference for Barrow Highways Advisory Sub-Group. Members agreed them and recommended they be considered at the next meeting of Barrow Local Committee as part of the Barrow Area Planning report.
- (2) The local Member for Roosecote asked:-
  - (a) for further information regarding the protocol for a zebra cross;
  - (b) for an update regarding flooding in three houses on South Row. The Local Area Highways Network Manager explained that a Highways Officer and representative from United Utilities were investigating the matter and he would report back direct.
- (3) The Local Area Highways Network Manager confirmed that dog fouling signs were the responsibility of Barrow Borough Council.
- (4) The Area Manager drew attention to a recent e-mail regarding the new HIMS system and encouraged members to test this and provide feedback as necessary.

## **82 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Sub-Group would be held virtually on Friday 9 April 2021 at 10.15 am.

The meeting ended at 11.35 am