

SOUTH LAKELAND HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a Meeting of the South Lakeland Highways and Transportation Working Group held on Thursday, 9 February 2023 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT:

Mr SB Collins (Chairman)

Mr J Bland
Mr N Cotton
Mr WJ Wearing
Mr GD Cook

Mrs S Evans
Ms J Filmore
Dr A Jarvis
Mr P Thornton

Also in Attendance:-

Mr P Hosking	-	Local Area Network Manager South Lakeland
Mrs H Karaaslan	-	Traffic Management Team Leader - South Lakeland
Mr A Farrar	-	Democratic Services Officer
Mr J Harte	-	Lead Officer - Flood and Development Management

42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Brook and Mr M Wilson.

43 MINUTES

Corrections:

Page 7, Venue, The meeting was held in Committee Room 1 in County Hall and not held virtually

Page 7, Minute 31, To include Mrs S Evans in the Apologies for Absence

Page 8, Minute 37, last paragraph, line 6. Replace “work undertaken at Rannet Moor” with “work undertaken at Rannoch Moor”.

RESOLVED that, subject to the corrections above, the minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2022 be confirmed as circulated.

44 ARNSIDE CYCLING

A report was considered from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure following the presentation of a petition from Arnside Parish Council regarding cyclists brought to 24 November 2022 to South Lakeland Local Committee.

The Local Area Network Manager South Lakeland talked members through the report.

A member remarked that Westmorland & Furness Council intended decisions such as this to be at the local level.

Other members commented that a decision could and should be made by the Working Group as Arnside Parish Council had appeared at the South Lakeland Local Committee to present their case. However, under the current constitution the Working Group are not a decision making body.

RESOLVED that, the Working Group recommend to Local Committee that tubes to be laid in Arnside during May or June for the purpose of data collection and that this is communicated to Arnside Parish Council.

45 REVIEW OF FOOTWAYS

A briefing note from the Highway Network Manager – South Lakeland had been produced at the request of the Highways and Transportation Working Group to provide Members with an overview of the footway management within the South Lakes area.

Members were guided through the briefing note which included

- Asset Information
- Inspections and Maintenance
- Other Processes and Service Procedures
- Active Travel
- Service Procedures to be Reviewed

A member thanked the Highway Network Manager – South Lakeland and hoped that it would prove useful for Westmorland & Furness Council. He also pointed out and that councils receive no funding for the maintenance of segregated cycleways.

A member commented on the work of Streetworks and asked for clarification on how statutory undertakers works were chosen for inspection.

The Highway Network Manager – South Lakeland noted that it was based upon past performance of the statutory undertaker and the contractor.

A discussion ensued about winter gritting and footpath cleansing and it was noted that both functions would be the responsibility of Westmorland & Furness Council.

The Chair remarked about vegetation growing and causing damage to the tarmac and what remedies were in place.

The Highway Network Manager – South Lakeland noted that urban weed spraying took place 3 times a year.

A member remarked that there was scope for Westmorland & Furness Council to improve the systems in place.

RESOLVED that, the position be noted.

46 CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

A briefing note from the Highway Network Manager – South Lakeland was considered which gave an update on the delivery of the 2022/23 Devolved and Non-Devolved Highways Capital Programme.

Members were guided through the briefing note which included the work which had been completed since the last meeting of the Working Group and on the work to be undertaken to the end of the financial year.

The Highways Network Manager – South Lakeland thanked the Working Group for their support over the years.

A discussion took place about the inspection of ash trees both on the Highways and those that impact the Highway. The Highways Network Manager confirmed that trees which could impact the highway on private land were also inspected and landowners notified about work which is needed for the safety of the highway. Any such work was done at the landowner's expense.

RESOLVED that, the position be noted.

47 FLOOD AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

A report was considered from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure regarding the 2022/23 Flood and Development Management Update. The report presented an overview of Flood and Development Management activities in the South Lakeland Area.

The Lead Officer - Flood and Development Management took members through the report in detail. Detailed updates were provided on current major and strategic planning applications and significant pre-applications.

A member noted the increased pressure that is expected on the Longpool roundabout due to the construction of a new store.

A member commented on Meathop Road and queried if the Environment Agency were involved to find a resolution.

The Lead Officer - Flood and Development Management remarked that the Environment Agency were involved but further communication was required.

A member asked for clarification queried the Flood Mitigation Scheme at Highgate, Kendal and commented that they hoped that the scheme would progress.

The Chair thanked the Lead Officer - Flood and Development Management for their report and all the information provided.

RESOLVED that,

- 1 The HTWG recommends that the Local Committee notes the details provided in appendix 1, 2 and 3 of the report.

48 ACTION LOG

Members went through the Action Log and removed items 1, 13, 26, 27, 28

RESOLVED that, the Action Log be amended by the Democratic Services Officer as appropriate

49 SEDGWICK, SUBMARINE BRIDGE

The Local Area Network Manager South Lakeland provided information about the drainage issues with Sedgwick Submarine Bridge and outlined the costs for resolution.

It was agreed by the Group that the Westmorland & Furness Portfolio Holder for Highways and Assets would assess and take a site visit.

50 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was the last meeting of the Working Group.

A member thanked the Chair for his hard work and his exceptional work as Chair.

The Chair paid tribute to the officers for their for all their hard work and thanked members for their contribution to the Working Group which had resulted in a greater concentration on Highways and how they had worked together constructively to provide a service to the public. He also thanked the Streetworks team as they have ensured there is far less damage to the Highways network.

The meeting ended at 12.40 pm