

Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford West Area Committee held on 16 September 2015 at City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 1800
Concluded 2000

PRESENT – Councillors

LABOUR	BRADFORD INDEPENDENT GROUP
Amran	Collector
Azam	
Duffy	
Dunbar	
Engel	
Shabir Hussain	
Mohammad Shabbir	
Shaheen	

Councillor Engel in the Chair

16. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

In the interest of transparency, Councillor Amran and Asad Shah (Committee Services Officer) in respect of the item relating to Minute 20, disclosed that they were both residents of Highfield Crescent.

17. MINUTES

Resolved -

That the minutes of the meetings held on 18 March and 15 April 2015 be signed as correct records.

ACTION: *City Solicitor*

18. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

19. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions submitted by the public.



20. ANNUAL UPDATE ON ROAD SAFETY IN BRADFORD WEST

The report of the Strategic Director Regeneration (**Document “G”**) updated members on the current casualty levels and trends in Bradford West and on the Road Safety education, training and publicity initiatives aimed at reducing these casualties.

Following the introduction of the report by the Principal Engineer, the Chair invited a representative from the Heaton Township Association to make representations. She highlighted that the association favoured the following inclusion onto Leylands Lane:

- To renew existing white lines and to add additional lines where deemed necessary;
- To map out the parking area for houses on the widest stretch of the road;
- The bus stop bay on the corner of Garden Lane required marking;
- To provide a refuge island at the junction of Garden Lane at the widest part of the road; and,
- To deliberate whether a Vehicle Activated Speed Sign should be installed due to a recently occurred accident.

She further confirmed that the Heaton Town Association was in preparation for an extensive road safety campaign in November for the people in the Heaton Village area. A number of schools would also be involved in the campaign.

The Committee commended the efforts of the association.

A question and answer session ensued:

- Why was there a lack of breakdown of road safety data within the report?
 - The essence of this report was based on road safety education activities, therefore an overall picture.
- In relation to cycling casualties, was this a result of increase in cyclists?
 - Due to awareness campaigns, the rate of casualties had decreased in comparison to the rising number of cyclists.
- Were there ongoing safety campaigns?
 - Yes, extensive work was ongoing in the Bradford West area including schools with a dedicated officer looking at cycling safety awareness work.
- Why had the schools in the Heaton area not participated in the training programme?
 - This was not known however all schools were offered activities once a year.

During discussion, the following comments were made:

- There were a number of junctions in the Bradford West area that were horrendous for every user;
- In addition to the increasing number of cyclists, car drivers were also on the increase and therefore resulting in the numbers of accidents rising; and,
- It was unusual why schools in the Heaton area had not taken up the offer of Road Safety Education Training and Publicity Programmes and may be this was due to the cost of Council services.

Resolved –

- (1) That the information in respect of casualty trends and Road Safety activities in Bradford West be noted.**
- (2) That the evidence based approach to determine Road Safety priorities continue to be supported.**



- (3) That the Bradford Road Safety Plan 2015 – 2018 attached as Appendix 5 to Document “G” be supported.
- (4) That future Annual Road Safety reports and Safer Roads reports include ward-specific casualty data.
- (5) That the report be referred to the Children’s Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee to discuss the issue of the limited schools engagement with the Road Safety team in Bradford West and across the district.
- (6) That the measures suggested by the Heaton Township Association be given consideration by the City Centre and Bradford West Traffic & Highways team and any feasible schemes prioritised as appropriate.
- (7) That Heaton Township Association be commended for its campaign towards the suggestion of road safety measures in the Heaton area, and that the efforts of volunteers involved be acknowledged.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Environment and Waste Management
ACTION: Strategic Director – Regeneration and Culture

21. LOCAL HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE – DEVOLUTION UPDATE & FUNCTION OVERVIEW

The report of the Strategic Director Regeneration (**Document “H”**) detailed how the service currently managed the Local Highway Maintenance (LHM) function and allocates resources.

It also updates the committee with regard to current operations being undertaken on the network and the indicative costs of works undertaken in the current financial year.

The Principal Engineer gave a synopsis of the report.

A question and answer session ensued:

- What were the reasons for issues on Keighley Road with a large overflow of water and gullies were not being addressed?
 - This was due to a surcharge downpour of rain but now fairly clean. In addition, issues were also caused due to a water sewage system and that water was going into basement of properties from Aireville Road, Bradford.
- How were gullies linked together as they were having detrimental impacts on flooding in the area?
 - Gullies were constructed during Victorian times and would entail an arduous task in identifying which gully was linked to a sewer.
- Following road resurfacing works, did contractors sweep away loose gravel?
 - Yes, returned after a number of weeks to sweep away gravel returned again if required.

The Committee made the following comments:

- Residents should be notified of commencement of works in order to alleviate their concerns;
- The numbers of residents complaining about unadopted roads and gullies was at a ever-increasing rise;
- The maintenance of gullies and lights was a costly process;
- It was important for officers to address the issue of gullies with Yorkshire water;



- Police Community Support Officers with Area Officers alongside Members undertook an action day in some parts of Bradford West which made some differences;
- Members needed to take responsibility and assist officers;
- There were times when some residents were not disposing their paint or similar waste correctly and instead pouring it down drains which were having effects on the gullies. Residents needed to be made aware of issues regarding such waste; and,
- There were also instances when loose gravel from road resurfacing works was ending up into gullies and causing blockages.

Resolved –

- (1) **That the current operational methods adopted for Local Highway Maintenance be noted.**
- (2) **That indicative costs to date for the 2015/16 financial year be noted.**
- (3) **That the list of current and proposed CAT3/4 works as shown in Appendices 5 and 6 as attached to Document “H” be approved.**
- (4) **That the Strategic Director, Regeneration presents a report to the Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee detailing the number of unadopted roads in the District. That the report also addresses issues around drainage, surfacing and lighting affecting these roads, with a view that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee makes an appropriate recommendation to the Executive regarding the development of an overall strategy that supports residents in dealing with these issues.**

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Environment and Waste Management

ACTION: Strategic Director – Regeneration and Culture

22. STREET CLEANSING – PROGRESS REPORT

The report of the Strategic Director Environment and Sport (**Document “I”**) provided a further update of Street Cleansing services in Bradford West in 2015 including the current financial and staffing information.

The Principal Engineer alongside the Bradford West Area Co-ordinator gave a presentation of the report.

The Committee stated that fly posting was of great concern in the Bradford West area. Even though fly posting was on mostly private properties, it was still visible to passers by and occasionally could be viewed as offensive.

A question and answer session ensued:

- What was the procedure in removing fly posting?
 - If requested of the Council, it would be removed for free.
- It seemed that fly tipping had risen over the course of the year, but the report suggested otherwise?
 - The diagram in the report was reflection of the whole District nevertheless it had not increased in the Bradford West area.
- Was there an opportunity for residents to be more involved?
 - Yes and this work was already being done with residents, schools and community groups.



- The old Black Swan pub on Thornton Road was no longer in operation and the car park was now a dumping site. What was the clearing away process of empty properties?
 - This process would gain the attention of the Enforcement Officer.
- Were there available resources for cleansing services in the Bradford West area?
 - Budgets had decreased in the current climate.

The following comments were made during the discussion:

- It was extremely important in the present climate that people be made aware through awareness campaigns of keeping their communities clean as the budget in the foreseeable future was on the decrease;
- Due to reduction level of funding, it was important that residents also get involved within their own communities;
- There may be capacity in working with schools that had healthy budgets; and,
- Graffiti was horrendous throughout the Bradford West area and should be escalated as an urgent concern.

Resolved –

That the contents of Document “I” be noted.

***OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Environment and Waste Management
LEAD: Strategic Director – Regeneration and Culture***

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Bradford West Area Committee.

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THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER

