

Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford South Area Committee held on Thursday, 24 November 2016 at City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 5.00 pm
Concluded 7.50 pm

Present – Councillors

LABOUR	THE QUEENSBURY WARD INDEPENDENTS
Dodds Peart Tait T Hussain Sharp Wainwright Warburton	L Cromie

Observer: Councillor Green (Minutes 35 and 36)

Apologies: Councillor Carmody

Councillor Wainwright in the Chair

31. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

1. The following declarations of interest were received In the interest of transparency:
 - (i) Councillor Dodds declared an interest in the item relating to Big Local (Minute 39) as she was a member of the Big Local Board.
 - (ii) Councillor Sharp declared an interest in the item relating to Community Building Grants (Minute 41) as she worked in the voluntary sector.
2. Councillor L Cromie declared a prejudicial interest in the item relating to Community Building Grants (Minute 41) as an organisation she was a member of was in receipt of a grant.

ACTION: *City Solicitor*



32. MINUTES

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2016 be signed as a correct record.

33. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

34. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by the public.

35. A641 HUDDERSFIELD ROAD/NETHERLANDS AVE JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT - TRO OBJECTIONS

The Strategic Director Regeneration submitted a report (**Document R**) which set out objections to a recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order for improvements to the junction of A641 Huddersfield Road/Netherlands Avenue.

The Principal Highways Engineer explained that this junction had been identified as a site for concern given the number of accidents recorded, and a casualty reduction scheme was now being proposed, which had resulted in a number of objections being received and these were detailed in the report.

In relation to the proposed measures, traffic signals had been considered but discounted on the grounds of cost and wider impact to a more favoured option of rationalising traffic manoeuvres and reducing the potential conflict for drivers.

A Member stated that he had concerns regarding the junction for a number of years, however traffic lights would be too prohibitive for drivers as well as costly and that the proposals offered the best solution at this present time.

A resident of Larch Hill was present and stated that she had lived in the area for many years and during this time there had been a number of changes on what was a very busy road. She highlighted that the proposals would result in Larch Hill being used as a rat run by drivers, which would have an adverse impact on the residents and create congestion at the roundabout, as well as the potential for more accidents.



In response the Highways Engineer stated that although there was a potential for drivers to access Larch Hill, he did not envisage there would be an increase in the volume of traffic using Larch Hill.

A Ward Councillor for the area was present at the meeting and stated that although he saw some benefits in the proposal in reducing the volume of traffic one way, there could be a corresponding increase in traffic using adjacent roads like Larch Hill, so he sympathised with the concerns expressed by the objectors. He added that there had been issues on Netherlands Avenue for a number of years and the proposals only offered a piecemeal solution to what required a more comprehensive solution. He suggested that officers carry out further traffic modelling to assess traffic movements prior to the implementation of the scheme.

The Highways Engineer confirmed that a traffic survey could be undertaken prior to the imposition of the scheme and it was therefore:

Resolved –

- (1) **That the objections be overruled and the Traffic Regulation Order for various mandatory and prohibited movements at the A641 Huddersfield Road/Netherlands Avenue junction be sealed and implemented as advertised and in conjunction with the layout modifications detailed on Plan No. TDG/THS/103352/TRO-1A attached as Appendix A to Document “R”.**
- (2) **That a traffic survey be undertaken prior to the implementation of the Huddersfield Road/Netherlands Avenue junction improvement scheme following consultation with ward councillors on the scope of the survey.**
- (3) **That the objectors be informed accordingly.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Environment and Waste Management

36. NETHERLANDS AVENUE, ROYDS/WIBSEY/WYKE - PETITION

The Strategic Director Regeneration submitted a report (**Document “S”**) which set out a petition requesting control measures to reduce the amount of vehicles passing through Netherlands Avenue, deter vehicles abusing the Access Only Order and reduce vehicle speeds and noise levels.

The Principal Highways Engineer alluded to the historic traffic issues and Traffic Regulation Orders affecting Netherlands Avenue and that although officers acknowledged that there was a lot of through traffic, and that the Access Only Order was regularly flouted, the average speed was in the low thirties and therefore no scheme was being suggested at the present time which would visibly reduce the issues being experienced by residents, barring a traffic calming scheme or a road closure, none of which had universal support in the area.



The lead petitioner was present at the meeting and stated that he was only made aware of the matter being discussed by this Area Committee quite late in the day and he had not had time to study the contents of the report. However in the 20 years he had lived on the area, there had been a number of accidents, many which had not been reported, so therefore the accident figures were not accurate. He also expressed concerns at the speeding traffic and that this could result in a serious injury or a fatality and therefore the issue of speeding traffic and volumes of traffic on Netherlands Avenue had to be addressed, with a traffic survey being undertaken to fully understand traffic volume as well as improved enforcement by the Police, regarding speed.

A former Ward Councillor was present and expressed his support for the petition and suggested that the funding should be found for traffic lights at the junctions and a method for controlling speed, particularly in the vicinity of the primary school.

In response the Highways Engineer acknowledged that not all collisions were reported to the Police, however a speed survey had been undertaken, which had not raised a concern about speeding traffic and that any speed enforcement was an issue for the Police, however where there were speeding concerns, the Council did flag these up with the Police through partnership meetings.

A Ward Councillor was also present and stated that many of the issues raised were historical, however the report had failed to identify and address some of the key issues affecting Netherlands Avenue. He expressed concerns that ward councillors in the area had not been fully consulted on the issues and although he appreciated that options had been looked at many years ago, that officers should now look at the issue afresh, including clarification of the traffic survey data, traffic speeds and consulting with ward councillors and residents on possible options.

Members agreed with the above suggestions and it was therefore:

Resolved –

- (1) That consideration of the petition be deferred to allow for further consultation to be undertaken with ward councillors and residents with a view to looking at all the options and clarification of traffic survey data.**
- (2) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration

Overview and Scrutiny Area: Environment and Waste Management



37. SOUTH BRADFORD FREIGHT PARKING ISSUES

The Strategic Director Regeneration submitted a report (**Document “Z”**) which identified the requirement for an outside sourced study using industry and academic expertise to properly understand the issues and identify a preferred parking facility option to tackle the problem in recognition of the well established issues relating to freight parking in South Bradford.

The Transport Planning Officer explained that in the context of the freight parking issues affecting different locations in Bradford South, that the proposed study would provide some clarity and suggest a way forward.

A Member in welcoming the approach, highlighted the issue with freight parking and its impact in the Bradford South area and that a lorry park would alleviate many of the concerns that had been expressed over the years.

The Transport Planning Officer acknowledged that it was important to come up with a comprehensive solution rather than offering something that was piecemeal and therefore the study would focus on all the key issues, including a secure location, which provided good facilities for the drivers.

Resolved –

- (1) That the report be noted and the proposal to undertaken a study to fully understand the issues and identify a preferred parking facility option to tackle the problem be supported.**
- (2) That a further report be presented to the Area Committee in 12 months time.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Environment and Waste Management

38. ROOK LANE - PETITION

The Strategic Director Regeneration submitted a report (**Document “T”**) which set out a petition from residents of Rook Lane requesting:

- i. Prohibiting access to the area for heavy goods vehicles of 7.5 tonne and above from the A650 Tong Street access point
- ii. Prohibiting access to all industrial and commercial premises off the A6177 Ring Road.
- iii. A prohibition of overnight heavy goods vehicle parking (except permitted areas for 1 hour maximum).

Permit parking for the residents and no waiting at any time restrictions to maintain



access for all through traffic.

The Principal Highways Engineer stated that Rook Lane was a wide road that connected the A650 to the A6177 and he suggested that the road could be looked at as part of the freight parking study.

Members in acknowledging the problems experienced by the residents of Rook Lane ascertained the options that could be explored. The Principal Highways Engineer explained that a number of measures could be looked at, including introducing a no waiting restriction, however it would be better to await the outcomes of the freight study.

The lead petitioner was present at the meeting and explained that the issue had to be addressed head on and not pushed away. He stated that the proposed lorry park would not help resolve the issues on Rook Lane, as many firms already had parking facilities, but drivers insisted on parking on the road, causing unnecessary problems for residents. He stressed that lorries turning up in the early hours of the morning or late at night, revving their engines and having their refrigeration units on were a particularly issue, resulting in him and other residents losing sleep. He added that he had approached the firm in question to express his concerns but they had failed to resolve the issues. In addition he had also contacted the firm's headquarters in Manchester who had expressed a willingness to assist. The lead petitioner circulated photographs showing the extent of the problems along with correspondences.

During the discussion Members empathised with the concerns raised by the lead petitioner and suggested that a survey could be undertaken as a way forward to get an idea of the extent of the problem and it was therefore:

Resolved –

- (1) **That an independent traffic survey be commissioned in order to fully understand the extent of HGV parking on Rook Lane.**
- (2) **That the petitioners be informed accordingly.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Environment and Waste Management

39. BIG LOCAL - SCHOLEMOOR AND LIDGET GREEN

The Strategic Director Environment and Sport submitted a report (**Document “U”**) which informed the Area Committee on progress to develop the GreenMoor Big Local Programme.

Representatives from the Big Local Board were present at the meeting and highlighted a number of projects that had been funded by the Board, including the Spencer Fields lighting project and the Well Being Café in Scholemoor and also



alluded to a number of projects that were in their infancy. It was stressed that the aim was to try and get the most value for money from the projects that were funded, with a view to securing match funding, and that all projects were thoroughly scrutinised by the board prior to the release of any monies.

Members welcomed the progress made by the Big Local Programme since its inception, and that the projects that had been funded so far, and commended the work of the board and ward councillors for their input.

Resolved –

- (1) That the Bradford South Area Committee welcomes the report and thanks all those involved in the Greenmoor Big Local project on the progress made.**
- (2) That a further report be presented to the Area Committee in 12 months time.**

ACTION: Bradford South Area Coordinator

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Corporate

40. COMMUNITY MANAGED LIBRARIES IN BRADFORD SOUTH

The Strategic Director Environment and Sport submitted a report (**Document “V”**) which gave an update on progress on moving three libraries in Bradford South, which included Great Horton, Holme Wood and Queensbury from direct Council staff management to Community Managed Libraries.

The Assistant Director Sport and Leisure acknowledged that in moving to community managed libraries a number of issues had been encountered around IT and data protection, which were in the process of being resolved. In addition the number of volunteers coming forward had been slow and efforts were on going to try and address this. It was also mentioned that the Executive had recently received a petition requesting that Holme Wood Library continues to operate under the old structure. The Assistant Director stressed that although the intention was to move to a community managed library model, all libraries would still be part of the Bradford Libraries network.

The Chair stated that in relation to the Holme Wood Library, although progress had been slow in moving to a community managed library model, there had now been some traction in the last few weeks and it was important to keep the momentum going in order to meet the April 2017 deadline.

In relation to a question on the progress of the Great Horton library to move to a community managed library, it was explained that there were ongoing discussions with St Johns Church with a view to undertaking a community asset transfer in due course, however a number of issues still had to be resolved.



Resolved –

That the report be noted and that officers be thanked for providing detailed responses to Members' questions.

ACTION: No Action

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Regeneration and Economy

41. THE ALLOCATION OF THE COMMUNITY BUILDING GRANTS (EXTENDED COMMUNITY CENTRE CORE COSTS)

The Strategic Director Environment and Sport submitted a report (**Document “W”**) which set out the Community Building Grants allocation process. Community Building Grants were for Voluntary and Community Sector organisations to support them in meeting their associated building related costs.

The Bradford South Area Coordinator explained the process and the options open to organisations affected and what help would be available to meet their costs, including community organisations moving to charitable status and obtaining relief on their business rates. He added that all the organisations affected had been informed and invited to a consultation event.

Resolved –

- (1) That the proposed allocation process for Community Building Grants be noted.**
- (2) That the Bradford South Area Coordinator be requested to organise meetings of the Area Committee's Grant Advisory Group to consider Community Building Grant applications for funding from groups within the Bradford South Area.**
- (4) That in the event of a conflict of interest relating to the Community Building Grants Application process, Councillor Dodds replaces Councillor L Cromie as a member of the Grants Advisory Group for the purposes of this process.**
- (3) That the Bradford South Area Coordinator brings a further report to a meeting within the 2016-17 municipal year with recommendations from the Grant Advisory Group on how to allocate the Community Building Grants funds available.**

ACTION: Bradford South Area Coordinator

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Corporate



42. **PROGRESS REPORT ON BRADFORD'S FAMILIES FIRST PROJECT PHASE 2 - OF THE NATIONAL TROUBLED FAMILIES PROGRAMME**

The Assistant Director Children's Social Care submitted a report (**Document "X"**) which outlined the multi agency work to deliver the Bradford's District wide Families First Programme which formed part of the National Troubled Families Programme.

Representatives from the Families First Programme were present at the meeting and gave an overview of the programme, highlighting the success of the programme and the activities being undertaken in Phase 2. To date 1416 families had been reached and payment by results claims had been made for 214 of these families. In addition in Phase 2 the intention was to deliver interventions to 5,990 families by March 2020 against locally agreed payment by results targets.

During the discussion Members commended the families first programme and how it had changed the lives of the families who had engaged with the programme.

In response to a question regarding referrals, it was pointed out that although a referral could be made or individuals could self refer, consent of the individual being referred was crucial and without this, no engagement work would take place with the family.

In response to a question regarding engagement, it was explained that where families were hesitant to engage, other routes/relationships would be explored to try and engage with the family.

Resolved–

- (1) That the report be noted.**
- (2) That the need for a continued assertive and intensive approach to reach, engage and improve outcomes for the agreed number of families be noted. A whole system approach will be required to reach and engage these families lead by the Targeted Early Help Service, other key Council teams and wider partners and commissioned services.**

ACTION: Assistant Director Children's Social Care

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Children's Services



43. **WARM HOMES HEALTHY PEOPLE PROGRAMME (WHHP)**

The Director of Public Health submitted a report (**Document “Y”**) which sought to raise awareness of the Warm Homes Health People programme which offered short term interventions during the winter months to support vulnerable households in the district and explored methods to sustain the programme beyond Public health funding.

It was explained that the programme was Bradford’s response to cold weather and assisting the vulnerable through a number of initiatives around active communities; connecting people; keeping warm and healthy heating.

In the current programme 9 organisations had been grant aided to deliver interventions including Age UK and in churches.

In response to a question regarding referrals it was pointed out that there was no emergency referral system, however any referrals were assessed on a triage basis, in order to assess the level of need and help. In addition people could also self refer and the help being offered would be publicised widely.

Resolved –

That option 2 as set out in Document “Y” be adopted and that the Area Committee and their support officers engage with Warm Homes Healthy People by raising awareness and positively identifying vulnerable households and encouraging referrals through to the programme.

ACTION: Director of Public Health

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Health and Social Care

44. **BRADFORD SOUTH WARD PLANS UPDATE**

The Bradford South Area Coordinator submitted a report (**Document “AA”**) which outlined the work of the Bradford South Area Co-ordinator’s Office in the period 1 April to 30 September 2016 to support Ward priorities within the Bradford South.

The Chair and Members of the Committee extended their thanks to the ward officers and the support team for the work they had undertaken.

Resolved –

That the work of the Bradford South Area Co-ordinator’s Office in the period 1 April to 30 September 2016 to support Ward priorities within the Bradford South Area Committee Action Plan 2014-17 be noted.

ACTION: NO ACTION

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Corporate



45. 2016/17 BRADFORD SOUTH YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CHEST GRANTS

The Strategic Director Environment and Sport submitted a report (**Document “AB”**) which detailed the Youth and Community Chest Grants awarded from applications received prior to the 31 August 2016 deadline.

Resolved–

- (1) That the wide range of applications from groups, organisations and individuals across Bradford South be noted and welcomed.**
- (2) That the Bradford South Area Co-ordinator’s Office continue to ensure the effective allocation of the Youth and Community Chest budget by providing appropriate advice and support to applicants.**

ACTION: Bradford South Area Coordinator

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Corporate

Chair

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

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

