

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment and Waste Management Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on Tuesday, 20 February 2018 in Committee Room 4 - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 5.30 pm
Concluded 6.30 pm

Present – Councillors

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT AND INDEPENDENT	GREEN
Senior	A Ahmed Berry Mohammed Watson	Stubbs	Love

Non-Voting Co-opted Member: Nicola Hoggart, Environment Agency

Observers: Councillors Ferriby and Ross-Shaw

Apologies: Councillor Kevin Warnes, Councillor Mike Gibbons and Julia Pearson

Councillor Love in the Chair

55. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures of interest in matters under consideration were received.

56. MINUTES

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2018 be signed as a correct record.

57. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

58. WEST YORKSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN (LTP3) REPORT

The report of the Strategic Director Place (**Document “AA”**) updated the Committee on the outcome of the delivery of the final year of the second implementation plan (April 2014-April 2017) of the Local Transport Plan and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority’s progress towards adoption of the replacement transport strategy for West Yorkshire.

Members were advised that the overarching approach to the transport strategy had changed from a technical approach to that of cross cutting themes. They were also advised how West Yorkshire Transport Plan Plus schemes would be delivered and that a further report on Forster Square Station would be presented to a future meeting.

Particular schemes were highlighted for Members’ information such as the improvements to the A650 at Tong which were earmarked for completion by 2021; the A650 at Hard Ings Road, which had now reached a stage which could see work starting in February 2019; the scheme at New Line which was currently in the objection period for any necessary compulsory purchase orders; the Bradford Shipley corridor improvement scheme which had moved to the development of the outline business case and would probably be split into phases as it was a very big scheme. The issue of air quality and clean air zones was also highlighted.

The Chair queried the issue of converting a section of road on the Bradford to Shipley Road corridor to a dual carriageway and was informed that it was necessary to deal with a stretch of that road where traffic merging was known to be very difficult.

A Member asked for an elaboration of the works proposed for Harrogate Road/New Line and was informed that it would involve junction widening and improvement and would be a major piece of engineering work. The Member went on to ask whether pedestrian facilities such as a puffin crossing could be examined as part of that work. She was advised that improved pedestrian facilities would be examined as part of works to link up the junctions but that puffin crossings did not allow for signals to work together.

The non-voting co-opted Member queried whether the funds allocated for alleviating flooding on Canal Road would be linked to the project for that area identified in this report and was advised that both projects would be considered together in order to achieve best outcomes.

A Member noted that the new railway station at Apperley Bridge was poorly



integrated with bus routes and queried whether there were plans to improve the situation. He was informed that the new station had been a resounding success, with an extension to the car park already necessary and plans for more trains to stop there than had originally been expected. The issue of buses calling there was definitely a future aspiration as was connectivity with Leeds Bradford airport.

A Member highlighted the need for traffic to flow efficiently across the District to address issues of air pollution as well as improving employment opportunities for Bradford residents. The Committee was informed about a new programme called SCOOT which would eventually connect all traffic signals across the District and would make signals more inclusive and improve traffic flow. The programme was a two year scheme starting in April 2018 with main corridors being linked first but eventually including all routes.

They were also advised that the strategy for Tong Street in particular would involve making the part of the route which was currently extremely congested into dual carriageway and creating a bus route which should significantly improve traffic flow on that route in and out of the City Centre.

Resolved –

(1) That Document “AA” be noted.

(2) That a further report on the development of the first five year implementation plan of the replacement Transport Strategy and its delivery be presented to a future meeting of this Committee.

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

59. ENERGY CONTRACTS PROCUREMENT

The Assistant Director Estates and Property presented a document (**Document “AB”**) which provided an explanation of the complaint method of procurement that the Council used to buy energy contracts.

The report also requested the view of the Committee on whether it was content that this method of procurement offered the best value to the Council. Members were advised that, due to the value of the contracts involved, a report must be presented to this Committee. They were also advised that the commerciality of the present contracts had been reviewed and had been found to be in line with other methods of procurement.

In response to Members’ questions, the Assistant Director advised that the Council had used Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation for its energy requirements for 25 years and currently received a substantial dividend for doing so. Use of YPO also permitted schools within the District to procure energy in a compliant way. He also advised that the new District Heat Network would not significantly alter the contracting arrangements and that using YPO meant the Council benefitted from economies of scale as that organisation worked with a number of Local Authorities. It also meant the Council complied with the requirement to



advertise for suppliers at a European level as YPO did that on the Council's behalf.

Resolved –

That the strategy of procuring energy through the YPO contract be noted and that the performance of the contract continue to be assessed against the market. That a review of this arrangement be put before this Committee should there be a degradation in the performance of the contract or in six years, whichever is sooner.

ACTION: Assistant Director Estates and Property

60. CIVIC QUARTER DISTRICT HEAT

The Interim Strategic Director Corporate Services presented a report (**Document "AC"**) which set out progress made towards achieving the Council's ambition to develop a City Centre based District Energy Network supplying low carbon heat and electricity on commercial terms to city centre civic buildings, other public sector buildings and commercial properties.

Members were advised that it had been a challenging year for the project as a result of difficulties locating a site for the necessary energy centre. As a result of those difficulties the process of applying for funding had also been adversely affected.

The Non-Voting Co-opted Member queried whether those difficulties meant that there was not now time to put together a bid for funding. She was informed that the scheme was fully developed and was only waiting for a hub site to be located.

Another Member queried the effect on air quality as a result of the scheme and was informed that there would be an overall improvement in the level of emissions and that any localised adverse effect would be no greater than that caused by a double decker bus.

Resolved –

- (1) That the progress made on the development of the scheme, its technical scope and current delivery timetable be noted.**
- (2) That a report on future progress be presented to this Committee at an appropriate time.**

ACTION: Interim Strategic Director Corporate Services



61. SINGLE PLASTICS USE SCRUTINY REVIEW

Previous Reference: Council, Minute 88(2017/18)

The Chair of the Committee presented a report (**Document “AD”**) which outlined the draft terms of reference for the scrutiny review into single plastics use across the District.

He noted that the subject was very much in the public eye at the moment and considered that developments affecting the review would continue to unfold.

Members suggested the following considerations to be taken into account as part of the review:

- The involvement of Bradford’s university, colleges and schools
- Promoting good practice on recycling among local businesses
- Looking into good practice elsewhere, including other local authorities
- Looking into the use of water fountains
- Ensuring all policies on recycling were synchronised to avoid future conflict
- Involving the Council’s Facilities Management Team as well as Parks and Landscapes

Resolved –

That the draft terms of reference be adopted.

ACTION: Overview and Scrutiny Lead

62. WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18

The report of the Chair of the Committee (**Document AE”**) presented for Members’ consideration the Committee’s work programme for 2017-18.

No resolution was passed in respect of this item.

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Environment and Waste Management Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

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

