

Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford West Area Committee held on Wednesday, 26 February 2020 in Committee Room 1 - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 6.00 pm
Concluded 6.45 pm

Present – Councillors

LABOUR
Ahmed
Akhtar
Amran
Engel
Kamran Hussain
Mohammed
Nazir
Thirkill

COUNCILLOR AMRAN IN THE CHAIR

45. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures of interest in matters under consideration were received.

46. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

47. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by the public.

48. SAFER ROADS DEVOLVED BUDGET - BRADFORD WEST

The report of the Strategic Director, Place (**Document “X”**) sought approval for programmes of Safer Roads schemes in the Bradford West constituency for 2020/21 and 2021/22.

Resolved –

- (1) That the Bradford West Area Committee approves the programmes of Casualty Reduction schemes for 2020/21 and 2021/22 listed in Appendix 1 subject to further assessment of the item in respect of Cockin Lane/Chat Hill/Low Lane and consideration of Green End/The Avenue as a possible substitute scheme.
- (2) That the Bradford West Area Committee approves the proposed programmes of Traffic Management Measures for 2020/21 and 2021/22 listed in Appendices 2 & 3 subject to the inclusion of 329 Thornton Road in the approved Traffic Regulation Order list.
- (3) That any Traffic Regulation Orders, or any legal procedures linked to the processing of traffic calming measures or pedestrian crossing facilities which are necessary to implement the chosen schemes be approved for processing and advertising subject to the scheme details being agreed with the Local Ward Members.
- (4) That any valid objections to the advertised Traffic Regulation Orders, traffic calming or pedestrian facilities be submitted to this Area Committee for consideration or in the event of there being no valid objections the Traffic Regulation Orders be sealed and implemented and the traffic calming or pedestrian facilities be implemented as advertised.

ACTION: Strategic Director, Place

49. NORTHERN POWER GRID- ESSENTIAL WORKS

Delegates from Northern Powergrid (NPG) attended the meeting to verbally update the committee on current and future essential work.

With the invitation of the Chair, the delegates gave a joint explanation of the anticipating essential works on the second phase of its £30 million investment to improve the reliability and resilience of the electricity network serving Bradford between now and the end of 2022. Phase 2 investment work would focus on replacing five of the major circuits that supplied electricity to approximately two thirds of Bradford's homes and businesses and would involve excavating in the roads, footpaths or grass verges so that new cables could be laid. This was to ensure that the local electricity network was capable of meeting the existing demand for power as well as any future increase in demand as the population grew and more households exchanging their vehicles for electric ones.

The first phase of the work that had begun in October 2019 was ongoing and was scheduled to run until winter 2020. It focused on upgrading two major underground electricity circuits that ran between NPG's Bradford West substation in Wilsden and its Girdlington substation near Four Lane Ends with more modern and sustainable alternatives.

The second phase of work, was intended to replace three electricity circuits that ran between Bradford West substation and a substation on Canal Road near the

city centre, was scheduled to start in July 2020. However, to reduce disruption, the first section of this phase of work, which involved a road closure, had been brought forward in agreement with Bradford Council so that it could be started while schools were still closed and traffic was light on the back of COVID-19 restrictions.

From 6am on Monday 4 May to 5pm on Friday 12 June, Lane Side (B6144) in Wilsden would be closed from the junction with Old Allen Road to the roundabout at the junction of Lane Side/Main Street/Low Wood/Wilsden Road. Although the road would be closed to general traffic, Northern Powergrid would provide 24-hour vehicle and pedestrian access for residents and businesses, making provision for deliveries and emergency access throughout. A signposted diversion will be in place for all other traffic, running from the B6144 through Wilsden Village, along Harden Lane, Wilsden Road and Long Lane (B6429), then through Cullingworth to the junction with the B6144.

Following the verbal synopsis, a question and answer session ensued:

- In regards to the first phase of works with the necessary road closures and traffic diversion, what had been the feedback from the public?
 - Despite the large scale of works due to the overall size of the project, only one complaint had been received. It was assumed that the low level of complaints was due to the amount of effective information being given to the public. In response to general enquiries and requests, a few amendments had been undertaken in order to reduce the level of disruption. In addition, works was being temporary terminated on specific holidays. This had been received on a positive note by the public;
- Councillors often received complaints regarding roads that had been dug up and left without essential repairs. Could assurances be given to good repairs?
 - There was a guarantee period and contractors would return to check as anything that may occur was likely to go wrong quickly. It's not something that happened but occurred down the line. There were some issues on Bell Deane Road, where it was typical temporary reinstatement, that's going to be replaced soon;
- In terms adopted streets and some adopted roads, would it be possible for contractors to tarmac some of the holes that might be causing issues for residents?
 - If names of streets were supplied then contractors could take a look and see what they will do; and,
- What response action is undertaken with callers who request NPG contractors to visit?
 - So every single person that asked that question will get a phone call and receive a personal visit. So we do follow up on every single call, and we collate all of that information. We've also got we've got some specific web pages on target website will continue to provide updates to those as well. So we'll be doing all the same things we've done on phase one.

The Chair closed the discussion by highlighting the need for the flow of communication remaining healthy with Councillors for their respective wards as it was paramount that ward members being updated of all development so that they

were able to convey the information to their constituents.

During closure, the Chair thanked the delegates for their time to attend the committee so that an insight to the current and future works.

No resolution was passed on this item.

Chair

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

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