

NORTH DEVON HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC ORDERS COMMITTEE

31 March 2017

Present:-

Devon County Council:-

Councillors J Yabsley (Chairman), F Biederman, C Chugg (Vice-Chair), A Davis, R Edgell, M Edmunds, B Greenslade and J Mathews

North Devon District Council

Councillors M Manuel and G Lane

Devon Association of Local Councils

Councillor David Chalmers

Attending in Accordance with Standing Order 25

Councillors Benbow (Bratton Fleming Parish Council), R Cann (North Devon District Council) and Gockman (Goodleigh Parish Council)

Apologies:-

Councillor J Chesters

* 39

Minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meetings held on 20 December 2016 and 24 November 2016 be signed correct records.

* 40

Matters of Urgency

(a) Biosphere Signage (Minute 16)

The Chairman had decided that the Committee should consider this item to apprise members of recent developments. The Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment reported that funding for new signs to indicate the boundary of the Biosphere had been agreed with the District Councils, and details of locations would be circulated to Members.

(b) Gully Cleaning and Flood Events

(An item taken under Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act 1972)

The Chairman had decided that the Committee should consider this item to apprise members of existing policy for early intervention during a flood event as a result of blocked gulleys. The Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste reported that if standing water remained for 24 hours or more, representing a safety issue, the gully would be cleaned as quickly as possible and if a persistent problem was reported the gully could be prioritised for more frequent attention over the programmed annual clearance.

* 41

Annual Local Waiting Restriction Programme

The Committee considered the report the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/17/31) on the development of an annual local programme for the HATOC area for the funding and delivery of waiting restriction schemes for 2017/18 and proposals for parking.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Yabsley, **SECONDED** by Councillor Edmunds and

RESOLVED

(a) that work on the annual waiting restrictions programme and the prioritisation process applied in 2016/17 be noted;

(b) that the proposals contained in Appendix 1 of Report HIW/17/31 relating be approved and implemented where recommended subject to the following:

(i) Highfield Road, Ilfracombe: within the next round of the annual waiting restrictions programme consideration be given to extend the new No Waiting at Any Time outside the bowling club, to include the current Disabled Bay;

(ii) Horne Road, Ilfracombe: defer pending a site visit by the Chairman and local County Councillor for consideration of relaxation of the proposed No Waiting At Any Time;

(iii) Hillsborough Road, Ilfracombe: defer pending a site visit by the Chairman and local County Councillor for consideration of relaxation of the proposed No Waiting At Any Time;

(c) that pending Cabinet consideration of the scope of works and funding, a further programme be developed for 2017/18.

* 42

Rising Bus Bollards on Greenbank Road and Gould Road Barnstaple

(Councillor Yabsley declared a personal interest in this matter by virtue of being a Director of the North Devon Homes Housing Association)

The Committee considered the Report of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment (PTE/17/18) on a proposal to remove bollards and associated Traffic Regulation Order to reduce the future ongoing maintenance cost and to create more flexible bus service routes and better emergency vehicle access. The local County Councillor referred to the need for give way lines at the Greenbank Road and Sowden Park junction as a result of the proposal.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Mathews, **SECONDED** by Councillor Greenslade and

RESOLVED

(a) that the automatic bus bollards on Gould Road and Greenbank Road, Barnstaple be removed and a revocation of the existing Traffic Regulation Order (document number 45393 reference IMR/B09373 ID 5328) be advertised to allow all traffic to use the currently bollarded sections in either direction;

(b) that a proposal for give way lines at the junction of Greenbank Road and Sowden Park and removal of signage be subject to a site visit by the Chairman and local County Councillor.

* 43

Traffic Calming, St Georges Road, Barnstaple

The Committee considered the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/17/32) on a proposal to manage traffic speeds in St Georges Road and promote safety for vulnerable road users by the introduction of a 20mph speed restriction supported by speed reducing traffic calming measures.

The Chief Officer reported that a review of current 20 mph speed limit policy was due to be carried out following national guidance expected later this year. The representative from the Devon Association of Local Councils also reported that he would raise issues relating to

enforcement of local speed restrictions by the police and through Community Speed Watch at their Association meeting later this year.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Greenslade, **SECONDED** by Councillor Beiderman and

RESOLVED

(a) that the scheme shown on the Consultation Plan included in Appendix I to Report (HIW/17/32) be approved for construction at an estimated cost of £41,656;

(b) that the associated Traffic Regulation Order and notices to introduce a 20mph Zone and road humps be approved and advertised;

(c) that following publication of National Guidance on speed limits Place Scrutiny Committee be requested to seek views of this Committee on the review of County Policy and any report to this Committee include reference to enforcement issues.

* **44 Closures of Goodleigh Road, Barnstaple for Utility Works**

(Councillors Benbow (Bratton Fleming Parish Council) and Gockman (Goodleigh Parish Council) attended in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and spoke to this item outlining the need for early consultation with Parish Councils and mitigation of all the impacts of any closure including access arrangements for emergency vehicles)

The Committee received the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/17/33) on two closures of Goodleigh Road to facilitate connection of utility services to a local development; the first over 4 days (4-7 July 2016) and the second over 14 days (22 October to 4 November 2016). A diversion route had been identified using roads of the same or higher standard entailing a re-route of about 20 miles. Goodleigh Road carried a 'C' classification and development of the outlying area over the years had seen increased traffic volumes regularly using it, predominantly as a commuter route to Barnstaple.

The Report outlined the role of the Local Traffic Authority in managing the highway and the process for diversions, signing, consultation, emergency services and local member involvement (all local members affected) in the context of the experiences with the Goodleigh Road closures and the lessons learned from the issues and problems which had been highlighted by residents and local members.

* **45 Barnstaple: Bideford and Barnstaple Transport Strategy**

(Councillor Biederman declared a personal interest in this matter by virtue of being a Member of North Devon District Council and Councillors Edmunds, Chugg and Greenslade each declared a personal interest by virtue of being members of the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

(Councillor R Cann (North Devon District Council) attended in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and spoke to this item outlining local concerns about the impact of current and proposed residential development on the highways network in and around Barnstaple)

The Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment presented the Barnstaple and Bideford Transport Strategy that had been developed in order to identify and evidence the transport infrastructure that was required to support new development being identified by the North Devon and Torridge Local Plan. The presentation covered: -

- the context for a Barnstaple and Bideford Transport Strategy focusing on the high levels of predicted growth concentrated on the two main market town areas of Barnstaple and Bideford on the A39 /A361 corridor
- links to the Devon Local Transport Plan (LTP3) transport priorities for the market and coastal towns and rural areas to: (i) assist in supporting existing and future development of the towns; (ii) work with the community to demonstrate a low carbon approach to travel; (iii) improve accessibility by developing core bus and rail services, (iv) make Devon 'the place to be naturally active' through investment in the leisure network; and (iv) develop an approach to parking policy which supports the vitality of town centres;
- the aims of the strategy to support growth through new development, by mitigating severe traffic impacts on the local highway network and supporting sustainable travel and public health
- the current travel to work patterns, the impact of future developments and links to A39/A361 corridor
- outline of planned and anticipated developments in and around Barnstaple and highway capacity and proposed associated junction improvements on the A39/A361 corridor.
- outline of the cycling and walking strategy for Barnstaple
- outline of the public transport strategy.

Members referred to the increasing highway network pressures as a result of current and projected residential development in and around Barnstaple, the need for the consideration by this Committee (Minute *38 of 20 December refers) of options available for improvements in respect of the Cedars Roundabout, as had been previously discussed by the Head of Service with the local members.

The Chairman was presented by Councillor Biederman (Fremington) with a petition containing approximately 80 signatures, seeking improvements at the Cedars Roundabout, Barnstaple in view of congestion at peak times in the area and impact on the residents and local road users.

Members also discussed issues relating to:

- the Pilton Bridge Junction and capacity issues
- the need for a Park and Ride/Change scheme near the North Devon hospital in view of the limited parking stock in Barnstaple and at Chivenor relating to the ongoing air quality issues in Braunton as a result of traffic congestion
- the timescale for network improvements which was largely developer-led
- the cumulative impact of development on the network which was reflected in current traffic modelling methodology used by the County Council and that the Council was feeding into the Local Plan which was being reviewed by the District Council.

[The Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment would be asked to respond direct to the organiser on the issues raised, within 15 days, in line with the Council's Petition Scheme].

* 46 **Petitions/Parking Policy Reviews**

There was no petition from a member of the public or the Council relating to the North Devon District.

* 47 **Dates of Meetings**

29 June and 30 October and 17 April 2018

The County Council calendar of meetings is available at:
<http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

***DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 12.30 pm