Heywood Township Committee

Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, 6 March 2012

Present: Councillor McCarthy (in the Chair); Councillors Beswick, Bruce, Susan Emmott, Lambert, Robinson, Rush and Wardle

Officers: C Eastwood (Executive Director), P Rowlinson (Service Director Planning and Regulation), D Kay and D Baker (Support for Learning), A Glover (Customer & Communities) S Hay, T Knight, M Hardman and C Denyer (Corporate Services)

Also in Attendance: D Nicholson (Director of Highways – Impact Partnership), John Taylor (Link4Life)

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Raymond Dutton

Declaration of Interests
168 There were no declarations of interest.

Open Forum
169 The following matters were raised under the Open Forum:-

a) The Chair thanked the Police, local businesses, officers and residents for their help and co-operation with regard to the English Defence League rally that had been held in Heywood the previous weekend.

The Chair introduced Chief Superintendent Annette Anderson as the new Divisional Commander for Rochdale Division. Chief Superintendent Annette Anderson addressed the Committee and expressed her wish to build new relationships with the community in order to make the town a safer place to live.

b) Traffic flow on Green Lane
In response to a question by Mr T Vose regarding concerns over the potential increase in traffic flow on Green Lane due to housing development the Director of Highways (Impact Partnership) advised that monies were available to address traffic issues at the end of Green Lane, and the timing of traffic lights between Green Lane and the Town Centre was being attended to.

c) Objections to the proposed double yellow lining of the junction of Wentworth Ave with Newhouse Road, Heywood.

Mr L Johnson referred to car parking issues on Newhouse Road connected to Siddal Moor Sports College. Reference was made to car parking facilities and to issues relating to restriction in the proposed traffic regulation order. Comments were also made by other local residents.

Decided: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 23.2, the Chair indicated that agenda item 8 “Proposed Waiting Restrictions – Newhouse Road, Heywood - objections received to the proposed Borough of Rochdale ((Civil Enforcement of Traffic Contraventions) (various Streets) (Heywood Township) Order 2008) (Amendment) (No. 21) Order” would take precedence over the rest of the agenda.
The Director of Highways introduced a report advising Members of objections received to the proposed Borough of Rochdale ((Civil Enforcement of Traffic Contraventions) (various Streets) (Heywood Township) Order 2008) (Amendment) (No. 21) Order.

The reasons for the recommendations is that to comply with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 the Authority must consider all objections submitted during the 28 day consultation period before making a Traffic Regulation Order and for the Committee to make a decision in respect of the objections received so that the scheme can be progressed and the new restrictions introduced or abandoned.

Alternatives considered: The alternative to the proposals laid out in this report is to continue with the current level of restriction on the highway by not introducing the proposed traffic regulation orders.

Members considered comments made in the Open Forum session and also noted that a planning application had been submitted which, if approved, would provide additional car parking facilities in the area.

DECIDED- That this matter be deferred pending determination of the submitted planning application.

OPEN FORUM

d) 20 mph Area - Heywood East
Mr Lomax advised of support for a 20 mph area in Heywood East that had been indicated by a resident survey undertaken by the Tenants and Residents Association. The support of the Committee to the proposal was sought.

DECIDED- That the Director of Highways report to the Heywood Township Delegated Sub-Committee advising on costs, Department of Transport regulations, and the initial view of the Police.

e) Bamford Road and Starkey St, Heywood
The Service Director Planning and Regulation responded to a question regarding the traffic flow and crossing facilities for pedestrians on Bamford Road and Starkey St, Heywood. The Committee noted that an improvement scheme for the junction had been proposed that would seek to address these issues. The Township Manager will write directly to Mrs Turner.

f) Speeding traffic on King Street, Heywood
The Committee considered the views of Mr L O’Rourke who voiced concerns regarding the speed of traffic on King St. The Director of Highways would review the current scheme.

g) Walkway through Corcoran Close, Heywood
In response to a question form Ms A Noble regarding dog fouling and fly tipping on the pathway through Corcoran Close, the Service Director Planning and Regulation undertook to investigate her concerns and determine responsibility for the area.

h) St Luke’s Church Clock.
Ms M Shackleton brought to the attention of the Committee that the Clock in St Luke’s Church Tower is no longer illuminated and cannot be read at night. Councillor Lambert undertook to pursue the issue.

i) 167 Bus Service
The Committee considered the views of Mr Belfield on the discontinuance of the 167 Bus service leaving areas of the township without a bus route to Heywood town centre and to Manchester. Further issues were raised regarding the 163 bus service. The Committee was advised that local bus matters had been raised with Transport for Greater Manchester.

MINUTES
172 The Minutes of the meeting of the Heywood Township Committee held on the 9th January 2012 were considered.

DECIDED- That (1) the minutes of the meeting of the Heywood Township Committee held on 9th January be approved as a correct record, subject to the recording of D Baker as an officer in attendance and Minute 162 to read “-----and Mr McSparran”

(2) Further to Minute 151(f) this Committee nominates Mr A Ryan to the Council as an Honorary Alderman in recognition of his service to the Heywood UDC

HEYWOOD TOWNSHIP PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE
173 DECIDED – That the minutes of the Heywood Township Planning Sub-Committee held on 17th January 2012 be approved as a correct record, subject to the deletion of reference to Councillor Wardle as being in the Chair.

QUALITY OF PLACE WORKING GROUP
174 DECIDED – That the minutes of the Quality of Place Group meeting held on 9th February be noted.

PEOPLE AND FAMILIES WORKING GROUP
175 DECIDED- That the minutes of the Peoples and Families Working Group Meeting held on 15th February 2012 be noted.

TOWNSHIP PLANS
176 The Head of Townships introduced a report detailing the Township Plan for consultation with members and partners as part of the 2014/15 vision work and development of the Corporate Plan.

Reasons for recommendation is that the Council is currently developing radical strategies and plans for 2014/15 when Council services will be delivered in the context of a number of challenges including further budget reductions. This has implications for the content and delivery of Township Plans 2012/15. In July 2011 members agreed to align this year’s timescale to enable the Township Plan to be developed as part of the Council’s 2014/15 visioning work and Corporate Plan. Each year each Township Plan is reviewed in readiness for the following year. This includes discussions with Elected Members and the relevant Service Directors and public agencies. Discussions between the various Township sub-groups follow. The Township Plan is then finalised so that Service Directors can start service planning for the following year in September.

Members were asked to:
1) Approve the Township plan for consultation with services and partners.
2) Agree to delegate any further amendments required to finalise the plan to the Head of Townships in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of this Committee.
3) Note that relevant Council services business plans will show how they will deliver the actions in the Township Plans.
4) Note that as agreed by Cabinet in March 2011 Township Chairs and Portfolio Holder will now approve relevant business plans to ensure local service delivery.

5) Note that in the event of service budgets or external funding not being available to deliver actions in their plan; they may have to allocate Township Funds.

Alternatives considered: There were no alternatives considered.

**DECIDED- That (1) the Township Plan for consultation with members and partners as part of the 2014/15 vision work and development of the Corporate Plan be approved.**

**SCHOOL GOVERNORS APPOINTMENTS**

177 The Service Director – Support for Learning outlined current Local Authority Governor vacancies and sought appointments.

Further to the submitted report the Service Director – Support for Learning advised that Mrs L Muir, appointed by the Committee on 9th January 2012 had withdrawn her application. This resulted in two vacancies still being outstanding.

**DECIDED- That the following appointments to School Governing Body vacancies be made as follows:**

- Holy Family RC & CE College – Mr B Davies
- Woodland Community Primary School – Councillor Lambert and Councillor Robinson

**ADDITIONAL RECEPTION CLASS PLACES**

178 The Service Director – Support for Learning presented a report detailing an assessment of the need for extra Reception Class places in Heywood Township from September 2012 to September 2015, and proposals for Planned Admission Numbers for September 2013 for both Primary and Secondary schools.

Members were asked to consider this report and give their views on:

1) The strategy for meeting the expected increased demand for Reception Class places from September 2012 onwards.

2) The proposed Planned Admission Numbers for primary and secondary schools for September 2013.

**DECIDED- that the assessment of the need for additional reception class places in Heywood Township 2012 to 2015, and planned admission numbers September 2013 as detailed in the report be noted.**

**SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE - SHOP FRONTS AND SECURITY SHUTTERS**

179 The Service Director for Planning and Regulation sought comments from the Sub-Committee on a proposal to produce Supplementary Planning Guidance in respect of shop front and security shutters. The Department for Communities and Local Government had written a letter to all local authority Chief Planning Officers stating that it was important to ensure a balance is struck between maximising property security and protecting the look and character of our high streets and that planning authorities should review their existing planning policies in this regard.

**DECIDED- That the report be noted.**

**SCOUT MOOR - UPDATE**

180 The Service Director for Planning and Regulation introduced a report providing an update on the proposed Scout Moor Wind Farm expansion and the
process for the application for development consent order to be made by the Developer to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

Members were asked to:

1) Note the commencement of the pre-application process for the submission of a development consent order for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) for the proposed expansion of Scout Moor Wind Farm;

2) Note the statutory and non-statutory role of the Local Planning Authority as a consultee as set out in the Planning Act 2008 in the process of applying for a development consent order, and the likely timescales involved;

3) Note that joint working is taking place with both Rossendale District Council and Lancashire County Council as joint host authorities;

4) Note the significant resource requirement and that, as the Local Planning Authority is not the determining body, no planning application fee will be payable to the Council in this case.

5) Note this is the first of a series of reports or presentations which Townships will receive throughout this process

DECIDED- That the report be noted
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