

MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Thursday, 3rd August 2017

PRESENT: Councillor West (in the Chair); Councillors Boriss, Neil Emmott, Susan Emmott, Joinson, Martin, Robinson, Rowbotham, Wardle and Peter Williams.

OFFICERS: A. Fallon (Director of Public Health), L. Mason, A. Webster, N. O'Neill (Neighbourhoods Directorate), D. Ripa (Economy Directorate), S. Smith and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Inspector K. Williams (Greater Manchester Police) and 12 members of the public.

APOLOGIES

13 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bell, Burke, Furlong, Smith and Donna Williams.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

14 There were no declarations of interests.

URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

15 There were no urgent items of business.

ITEMS FOR EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

16 There were no private items of business.

OPEN FORUM

17 The following matters were raised in the Township's Open Forum session:–

a. Environmental Issues in Middleton

The Township had received three written questions, in advance of the meeting from Mr Wolf relating to: 'Middleton in Bloom', road signs for Durnford Street, Middleton and issues relating to the general appearance of Durnford Street. The Chair advised that as Mr. Wolf was not in attendance at the meeting he would be forwarded full written answers to the questions that he had submitted.

b. Crime and Disorder in Middleton Township

Mr Brennan addressed the Township with regard to issues relating to crime and disorder in Middleton. Firstly he referred to a robbery that occurred at Mainway advising that he attempted to contact Greater Manchester Police, on 999, whilst the robbery was taking place but was advised to contact the 101 number instead. Secondly he referred to the levels of drug dealing that was taking place in the Township. Inspector Williams in replying to Mr Brennan, on

behalf of Greater Manchester Police undertook to investigate the circumstances surrounding Mr Brennan's report of the robbery at Mainway, especially with regard to the suggestion that he try the 101 police number instead of 999. Inspector Williams assured Mr Brennan and the Township Committee that the pursuance and prosecution of drug dealers was a priority for Greater Manchester Police and he advised the meeting of the measures available to the Police in the execution of these duties.

c. Travelers at Bowlee Park

Inspector Williams advised the Township Committee that a Notice had been served on the travellers, who were camped at Bowlee Park, to move on.

MINUTES

18 **DECIDED - That the Minutes of the meeting of Middleton Township Committee, held Wednesday, 28th June 2017, be approved as a correct record.**

OBJECTIONS TO TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER - MANCHESTER OLD ROAD, MIDDLETON

19 The Township Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which advised that following a road safety review on part of Manchester Old Road, Middleton an application was made to Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) to fund various improvement measures to reduce the occurrence and severity of accidents on this route. Funding was approved for the Council to introduce the scheme, which includes a number of proposed parking restrictions.

During the consultation period the Authority received eight objections and a petition against the proposal. Part of the proposal includes an extension to existing prohibition of waiting restrictions on the north side of Manchester Old Road, opposite the junction of Boothroyden Road, to assist HGV's turning at the junction. The focus of concern for residents who have objected is that these particular restrictions are not required as there are no HGVs now operating in this area. However, it is the view of officers that restrictions should be introduced to at least cover the area directly opposite the junction, to accord with guidance set out in the Highway Code.

The recommendations in the report were put forward as the Traffic Regulation Order was put being proposed as part of a road safety scheme along the route. The Traffic Regulation Order was promoted to remove parking along the lengths of roads concerned, which affect visibility, the movement of through traffic and access.

In discussing the proposals members of the Township's South Middleton Ward advised that they had visited the area in question and were opposed to the implementation of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order however they did support keeping the current road markings along the route with the exception of the central reservation area which it was felt should be removed.

Alternatives considered: The proposal to make a Traffic Regulation Order affecting parts of Manchester Old Road, Middleton, was developed as part of a package of road safety measures aimed at reducing the incidence and severity of injury accidents along this principal route. The works, including the cost of promoting and implementing the TRO, are being funded by TfGM. Local Ward Councillors have been consulted regarding the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders. Should the Township Committee decide not to introduce the restrictions proposed then the issues with parked vehicles, which were identified in the study, will not be addressed.

DECIDED – That the proposed Traffic Regulation Order be refused but that the existing road markings along the route be kept in place with the exception of the central reservation area which is to be removed.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes.

BUDGET 2018/19 TO 2020/21 GUIDELINES, TIMETABLE AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

20 The Township Committee considered a report of the Chief Finance Officer, for consultative purposes, which provided details of the budget guidelines, timetable and method of public engagement to be used in preparing the detailed 2018/19 budget and provisional budgets for 2019/20 and 2019/21.

The budget forecast was based on a number of assumptions, known levels of expenditure and anticipated levels of resources. Final confirmation of these assumptions would be received from the Council's Cabinet in November or December 2017. There were a number of areas of the Council's budget where risks to the projections contained in this report had been identified.

Members were advised that this report had been presented to all four of the Council's Township Committee and had earlier been considered by Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Cabinet.

DECIDED – that the Budget 2018/19 to 2020/21 Guidelines and Timetable report, be noted.

Eligible for Call – In: No.

TOWNSHIP PLANNING PANELS

21 The Township Committee considered a report of the Director of Economy which set out proposals for the determination of Township engagement with current and emerging Planning proposals and the priorities for the use of current or prospective S106 funds.

The report was presented to seek the views of Middleton's Councillors in relation to planning applications and S106 funds which impact on the Township in order to provide the benefit of the understanding of the local environment to inform Planning decisions.

Alternatives Considered - The alternative option was to retain existing arrangements. Officers had discounted this option as it would not realise the benefits of local knowledge the Townships could input into planning decisions.

DECIDED - That (1) matters relating to S106 funds which reside within the Township are to be considered by the Middleton Township Devolved Funding and Devolved Services Sub-Committee;

(2) a Middleton Township Planning Panel be established consisting of one Member from each ward, excluding any Members who have been appointed to the Planning and Licensing Committee, to act as a consultative body in relation to proposed and submitted planning applications;

(3) Members be appointed to the Middleton Township Planning Panel as follows: –

East Middleton Ward – Councillor Boriss

North Middleton Ward – Councillor Rowbotham

South Middleton Ward – Councillor Joinson

West Middleton Ward – Councillor Smith

Hopwood Hall Ward - Councillor Robinson

Eligible for Call – In: No.