

HEYWOOD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Monday 15th February 2021

PRESENT: Councillor Rush (Chair); Councillors Beswick, Dutton, Susan Emmott, Malcolm, McCarthy, O'Rourke, Robinson and Wardle

OFFICERS: P. Moore (Economy Directorate), A. Storey, N. McKendrey and G. Finch (Neighbourhoods Directorate) and A. James (Resources Directorate)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Blundell (Cabinet Member for a Thriving Economy), D. Grice and J. Higgins (Link4Life) and 8 members of the public.

15 **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

16 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct for Councillors and Voting Co-Opted Members, declarations of interest were made as follows:

Councillor Beswick and Councillor McCarthy declared personal and prejudicial interests in the Heywood Town Centre Masterplan Agenda Item as Directors of the Heywood Market Board as the market may be directly impacted financially by the adoption of the Masterplan.

Councillor Beswick and Councillor McCarthy were not part of the virtual meeting when the matter was being considered.

Councillor O'Rourke declared a personal interest in the Heywood Town Centre Masterplan Agenda Item.

17 **OPEN FORUM**

The following was considered under the Open Forum:

a) Heywood Clean Up Group

Mr M Bratby informed the Committee about the Heywood Clean Up Group who were working on environmental issues in the Township. Mr Bratby had also submitted a number of written questions that would be answered direct.

18 **MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Heywood Township Committee held on 9th November 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.

19 **LINK4LIFE**

The Deputy Chief Executive of Link4Life addressed the Committee updating Members on activities undertaken by Link4Life within the Township and committing to provide further updates at future meetings.

Resolved:

That the presentation on Link4Life be noted.

20 ADOPTION OF THE HEYWOOD TOWN CENTRE MASTERPLAN

The Township Committee considered the report relating to the Heywood Town Centre Masterplan. A town centre masterplan is an essential tool to guide development and build a case for investment in town centres. As such, the Council has committed to supporting the development of masterplans for each of the Boroughs town centres.

The Cabinet Member for a Thriving Economy has committed to working with Members in each Township on the preparation of masterplans, to help develop a vision and strategy that reflects the Member's aspirations for the area.

Alternatives considered:

Not to adopt the masterplan. The adoption of the masterplan is required to guide future development in line with the vision and objectives and to unlock future funding for the township. If the masterplan is not adopted, it will make it very difficult to bid for funding opportunities and would mean missed opportunities for funding and economic development.

In considering the submitted report, the Committee considered representations from a number of members of the public about the proposals, specifically the proposals relating to Heywood Market and concerns how the Masterplan may impact on the Market.

In response to the questions, the Cabinet Member for a Thriving Economy informed the Committee that the Masterplan was the initial vision and aspiration and that consultation would be undertaken as the Plan and proposals were developed. Also, if the Masterplan was adopted, bids for funding to support more detailed modelling and design work could be prepared when appropriate funding opportunities arose.

Resolved:

That the Heywood Town Centre Masterplan be approved for adoption by the Council.

Reasons for the recommendation:

The adoption of the masterplan will assist with guiding future developments in line with the vision and objectives outlined in the masterplan document and to support future funding bids to support regeneration priorities in the township.

21 OBJECTION TO TRAFFIC ORDER - BURY AND ROCHDALE OLD ROAD, ROCHDALE

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods regarding an objection that had been received for a proposed Traffic regulation Order at Bury and Rochdale Old Road. The proposal was to introduce some 'No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions' on part of Bury and

Rochdale Old Road (B6222), that had been advertised and one objection was received.

The section of road concerned was situated in two wards (Norden and North Heywood) and in therefore two different Townships – Heywood and Rochdale North.

Following earlier considerations of the proposals by the Rochdale North Township Delegated Sub Committee and by Heywood Township Committee, the matter was submitted for the Cabinet's consideration on 29th September 2020.

The Cabinet had resolved to withdraw the item from its agenda so that the matter could be further discussed by the appropriate Portfolio Holder and Heywood Township Members to attempt to address the concerns that the Heywood Township Committee had raised, when it that Committee had initially considered the proposed Traffic Regulation Order on 10th March 2020.

Following on from those discussions, the report was presented for the Committee's consideration to determine an outcome. Paragraph 6 of the report explained that if the Committee was unable to approve the proposed Traffic regulation Order, as presented, the matter would have to be referred to the Cabinet for determination.

In considering the report Members noted that the previous concerns expressed had not been fully addressed by the proposals presented.

Alternatives considered:

The restrictions proposed, which were outlined in the submitted report, were believed necessary to alleviate some identified parking problems affecting and obstructing traffic flow, pedestrians, and junction visibility along Bury and Rochdale Old Road. Scaling down the proposals or not implementing them in the opinion of Highways Officers would not address the issues raised.

Resolved:

That the Heywood Township Committee does not support the implementation of the Traffic Regulation Order as presented within the report and therefore the matter be referred to Cabinet for determination.

Reasons for the resolution:

The report was presented to enable the Sub-Committee to consider the objection received, to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order and to determine if the Order was to be implemented.