

ROCHDALE SOUTH TOWNSHIP DELEGATED SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Wednesday, 11 October 2023

PRESENT: Councillor P. Massey (Chair); Councillors Ali, Arshad, Gallagher, R. Massey, Mohammed, Sheerin, A. Smith and Sullivan.

OFFICERS: S. Aikman (Highways), P. Butterworth (Libraries), R. Hudson (Townships), A. Johnson (Committee Services), G. Proudman (Environmental Management) J. Smith (Libraries) and M. Taylor (Assistant Director – Place).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Anstee, Councillor Aiza Rashid and three members of the public in relation to their applications for funding.

14 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor S. Ahmed and Councillor Meredith.

15 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In relation to agenda item number 13 – Rochdale South Township Funds 2023/24 – Councillor M. Arshad declared a personal interest in the submitted funding application TC/25/23 ‘Chamber House Drive road humps’ as their home address was on a street adjacent to the proposed scheme.

16 **ITEMS FOR EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

There were no items for exclusion of press and public.

17 **URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

There were no urgent items of business received.

18 **MINUTES**

Matters arising:

- In relation to Minute 4b ‘Lighting Installation Request - Footpath at Gerard Street/Oldham Road, Rochdale’, an update was provided advising the Committee that a meeting had taken place and the service were looking into a resolution alongside Councillors Meredith and P. Massey.
- In relation to Minute 13, the Assistant Director (Place) with responsibility for Environmental Management was in attendance to advise members regarding the fee structure for Environmental Management Services.

The Sub-Committee was advised that a contingency fee was now added to costings to factor in increased fees and charges in most trades during the current economic climate. Members were assured that any surplus would be returned if the contingency fee was not required. It was also advised that in order to deliver outstanding township schemes additional officer posts had been introduced and the structure fees contributed to the implementation of the schemes.

The Chair requested that the fee structure continue to be monitored and assessed where any reductions could be made or further improvements made to bring in line with the fee structure changes other services had introduced.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Rochdale South Township Delegated Sub-Committee meeting held on the 12 July 2023 be approved as a correct record.

19 BALDERSTONE AND KIRKHOLT AREA FORUM

That the Minutes of the Balderstone and Kirkholt Area Forum held on 21 September 2023 be noted.

20 BAMFORD AREA FORUM

That the Minutes of the Bamford Area Forum held on 21 August 2023 be noted.

21 BRIMROD, MARLAND AND SUDDEN AREA FORUM

That the Minutes of the Brimrod, Marland and Sudden Area Forum held on 23 August 2023 be noted.

22 CASTLETON AREA FORUM

That the Minutes of the Castleton Area Forum held on 21 June 2023 and 11 September 2023 be noted.

23 KINGSWAY AREA FORUM

That the Minutes of the Kingsway Area Forum held on 5 September 2023 be noted.

24 MILKSTONE AND DEEPLISH AREA FORUM

That the Minutes of the Milkstone and Deeplish Area Forum held on 7 August 2023 be noted.

25 PROPOSED EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS - KNOLL STREET AREA, CASTLETON

The Township Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods that asked Members to consider a Proposed Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders in the Knoll Street Area, Castleton. The report sought approval from Members to implement the experimental scheme and to give authorisation to the Head of Highways to promote, advertise, and make the Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders necessary for one-way working, and parking amendments.

The report advised members that the Council had recently introduced Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) associated with the Manchester Road (and adjoining streets) traffic management scheme. The Council had received concerns from residents over an increase in local traffic volumes and associated operational safety conflicts from indiscriminate parking near junctions and from contravention of the new one-way arrangement.

The Experimental TROs sought to mitigate the effects of obstructive parking and any breach of the one-way restriction through the introduction a further package of complementary TRO measures. The individual Experimental TROs necessary for one-way working and parking amendment would be subject to a formal public consultation exercise for the required period of up to six months.

Councillor Sheerin informed the Committee of concerns regarding the implementation of the existing TRO in relation to areas of Keswick Street and the inconvenience this causes residents and the knock on effect to other local streets. It was noted that the additional Experimental TRO was only temporary and any adverse effects would be monitored and reviewed before a permanent decision would be made.

The Sub-Committee expressed concerns that the Highways Officer was not in attendance at the meeting to present the report and answer questions from members. An Officer from Highways and the Assistant Director (Place) were present in relation to other agenda items but were not briefed on this specific scheme. The Chair advised that Officers not in attendance was detrimental to the ability of members to accurately fulfil their role on the committee and that it was vitally important that Officers attend to present their reports.

Ward Councillors advised that the Highways Officer had liaised with ward members and local residents in preparing the report and they were in agreement for the proposal to be approved.

Alternatives considered:

That the Proposed Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders in the Knoll Street Area, Castleton not be implemented as proposed in the report. Alternative reduced extents of one-way working and/or prohibition of waiting restriction(s) would not offer the level of operational safety and capacity sought.

Resolved:

1. That the Proposed Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders in the Knoll Street Area, Castleton be approved and implemented as per the recommendation.
2. That the Assistant Director (Place) advise Officers of the importance of attending committee meetings to present reports and answer questions in order to facilitate the Committee to fulfil its statutory role.

Reasons for the decision:

The experimental (and any subsequent permanent) scheme was promoted and recommended as part of the Council's statutory responsibility to ensure that its highways operate safely and efficiently for all road users. The proposal was complementary to the Council's Core Strategy policy in seeking an accessible network, including a highway layout that was both sustainable and safe for all users.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes.

26 ROCHDALE SOUTH TOWNSHIP FUNDS 2023/24

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which provided an update on revenue and capital expenditure, commitments and balances of Rochdale South Township Funds 2023/2024 and the allocation of funds to proposed projects.

Members were informed that the Rochdale South Township Capital Funds available for allocation was £25,743 and that the Rochdale South Township Revenue (Projects) Funds available for allocation was £16,062.

In considering the funding applications the Sub-Committee received three verbal representations from the public applicants in attendance at the meeting.

Alternatives considered:

Members were asked to decide whether or not to approve the allocation of funds to projects/schemes as appropriate.

Resolved:

1. That the expenditure, commitments and balances of the Rochdale South Township Revenue and Capital Funds, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the submitted report, be noted;
2. That the decisions made under delegated authority as detailed in Appendix 3 of the submitted report be noted;
3. That the Sub-Committee notes that the Townships and Communities Manager has assessed the proposed projects to be considered for funding against the criteria of eligibility for the Rochdale South Township Fund, the priorities of the Township and any specific risks have been identified within the report;
4. That the Townships and Communities Manager, in consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and opposition spokesperson of the Sub-Committee, be given delegated authority to make decisions on any deferred projects;
5. That applications for Rochdale South Township Funds 2023/2024, as outlined at Appendix 4 of the submitted report, be dealt with as follows:

| Ref | Project | Decision |
|---------------------|---|--|
| RP/11/23 | Rochdale Central Library events and exhibitions space | Approved - £6,938.44 from Rochdale South Township Projects Fund |
| TC/19/23 & RP/12/23 | Stoneyfield Play Area CCTV | Approved - £3,200 from Rochdale South Township Projects Fund, £6,582 from Rochdale South Township Capital Fund and £6,582.67 from Milkstone & |

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| | | Deeplish Ward Fund |
| TC/10/23 | Alley behind Lambeth Terrace reconstruction | Refused |
| TC/20/23 | Norden Road vehicle activated speed signs | Approved Option 1 (£11,000) - £5,500 from Rochdale South Township Capital Fund and £5,500 from Bamford Ward and Members Funds (subject to Highways responses to questions raised about the specification and maintenance of the signs for delegated decision of the Chair, Vice Chair and Opposition) |
| TC/21/23 | Queensway/Darlington Road junction build out | Approved - £6,250 from Rochdale South Township Capital Fund and £6,250 from Balderstone & Kirkholt Ward Fund |
| TC/25/23 | Chamber House Drive road humps | Approved - £4,761 from Rochdale South Township Capital Fund, £2,989 from Rochdale South Township Projects Fund and £7,750 from Castleton Ward Fund (subject to Highways clarification of the costs of the road humps for delegated decision of the Chair, Vice Chair and Opposition) |
| TC/32/23 | Deeplish Ride to School Scheme | Approved - £2,650 from Rochdale South Township Capital Fund. Deeplish Primary Academy advised to seek the balance of funds for their project from other sources, e.g. TfGM, etc. before approaching Milkstone & Deeplish Ward Members about a contribution from the Milkstone & Deeplish Members Funds. |

Reasons for the decision:

Management of the Rochdale South Township Fund was delegated to the Rochdale South Township Delegated Sub-Committee.

Rochdale South Township Funds were allocated to projects that benefitted the Township's community and environment and realised the Township's priorities.

To enable the Sub-Committee to monitor and review the use of the Rochdale South Township Funds to ensure continued efficient and effective use of the funds.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes

