

ROCHDALE SOUTH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Thursday, 27th February 2020

PRESENT: Councillor Zaman (in the Chair); Councillors Shakil Ahmed, Daalat Ali, Brett, Farnell, Meredith, Nickson, Angela Smith, Sullivan and Zaheer.

OFFICERS: S. Blezard (Director of Operations – Adult Social Care), V. White, M. Aiken (Neighbourhoods Directorate) and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: 10 members of the public

24 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hornby, Howard, Rashid, Sheerin and Wraighte.

25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests.

26 **MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the Minutes held of the meeting of Rochdale South Township Committee, held 7th November 2019, be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

27 **OPEN FORUM**

The following matter was raised in the Committee's Open Forum session:

a) Woodlands View, Kingsway, Rochdale

The Township Committee received representations from residents of Woodlands View, Rochdale, regarding a damaged culvert, underneath their road, which had led to the development of flooding in the area and the development of a sink hole.

The Committee were advised that Council staff had worked to make the area safe for residents but that the road would remain closed for a few days more.

The Committee noted that Woodlands View was an un-adopted highway and requested that the Townships and Communities Manager be requested to clarify with the Council's Property Service the ownership of the land in question.

The Committee also noted that the culvert was perhaps over 100 years old and that there were perhaps many other similarly old culverts that may be in need of repair. In this regard the Committee suggested that the Head of Highways prepare a report, to the Informal Cabinet in the first instance, on the condition of culverts across the Borough.

Resolved:

1. The Head of Highways Services be requested to keep residents of Woodlands View updated on developments regarding the sink-hole and associated flooding risks on a regular basis, via e-mail.
2. The Townships and Communities Manager be requested to clarify with the Council's Property Service the ownership of the land in question.
3. The Head of Highways Services be requested to prepare a report, to the Informal Cabinet in the first instance, on the condition of culverts across the Borough.

28 HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION

The Committee received a presentation from the Director of Operations (Adult Social Care) relating to Integrated Health and Social Care Neighbourhood Teams.

The presentation outlined:

- Rationale for integrated neighbourhood teams;
- Why there were six neighbourhoods in the Borough;
- The map showing the neighbourhoods;
- Staff within the Team;
- Changes that had happened since the Team was formed;
- Specific Township issues;

Members of the Committee welcomed the new structure and requested that it be communicated more widely. In reply the Committee was advised that further information, with specific contact details, would be circulated to all Members of the Council.

Resolved:

That the presentation be welcomed and noted.

29 2020 - 2022 HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Township Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which sought approval of indicative highways work programmes which were proposed to take place during the 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 financial years.

The programmes included the following –

- two year local transport plan (LTP) funded capital programme;
- two year bridges and structures capital maintenance programme;

The Committee discussed the report in detail requesting that Members be kept updated, at regular intervals, of highways related activities on a regular basis. The Committee also requested that the Council's Head of Highways Services be requested to make representations to Highways England requesting that the grass verges on the A627(M) on the approach to Rochdale be cut and that litter be cleared from the same area on a regular basis.

Alternatives considered:

No alternatives were considered. The programme had been developed according to Department for Transport (DfT) guidance and in line with other Greater Manchester Authorities.

Resolved:

1. That the highways work programmes to be delivered in 2020/2021 and 2021/2022, as circulated to Members of the Committee, be noted and approved in principle, subject to any final amendments being submitted to the Highways Service.
2. The Head of Highways Service be requested to regularly update Members of the Township Committee on highways related activity within the Township.
3. The Head of Highways Services be requested to make representations to Highways England requesting that the grass verges on the A627(M) on the approach to Rochdale be cut and that litter be cleared from the same area on a regular basis.

Reasons for the recommendation:

The selected schemes have been put together based on the principles of asset management which use network condition data, engineer inspections, life cycle planning and cost efficiency to produce the most efficient highway improvement over the course of the programmes.

Using Asset management techniques for scheme selection ensured that they were in line with recommendations from the DfT which enables the full funding allocation from the DfT incentive fund scheme. Authorities that are deemed not to be carrying out efficient highway improvements can have funding reduced and in the case of Rochdale, the maximum reduction would be £410,000.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes

30 TOWNSHIPS PLAN 2020-2022

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which outlined the Townships Plan for 2020-2022.

The Council's Corporate Plan 2019-2022 had been approved by the Council at its meeting on 18th December 2019. The process included carrying out a review of the Council's values and behaviours which have been defined as: Proud, Passionate, Pioneering and Open.

In line with the new Corporate Plan, the Townships Plan 2020–2022 had been developed around the following priorities: Prosperous People and Places.

The various Township Chairs and Vice Chairs had worked with the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods, Community and Culture to produce the new Townships Plan.

In considering the report Members agreed that the issue of 'climate change' should be a major priority for the Township going forward and it was agreed that this should be a standing agenda item on future agendas.

Alternatives considered:

No alternatives to having the Plan were put forward.

Resolved:

1. That the detail included in the Townships Plan 2020-2022 appended to the report be noted:
2. It be noted that the plan has been developed in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, Township Chairs and Vice Chairs in line with priorities identified in the Council's Corporate Plan 2019-2022;
3. That the Plan be approved to allow the Townships to focus on local priorities in line with the Council's key priorities – Prosperous People and Places.
4. That 'Climate Change' be a standing agenda item on future meetings of the Township Committee

Reasons for the decision:

The Townships Plan identifies priorities which have been determined by each of the Townships as a focus for action over the next two years. The Township Plan gathers aspirations and ideas together as a focus for decision makers, Council Services, partner agencies and the voluntary and community sector active in the Rochdale Borough. The Plan also identifies priorities that have been determined by members as a focus for action over the 2020-2022 period.

The previous Townships Plan was due to expire. The Townships Plan 2020-2022 includes objectives identified to meet the priorities identified by each of the five Townships. The Plan will also guide, direct and detail the use of devolved budgets, including Township Revenue Funds, for the financial years 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

The Townships Plan formed part of the Council's policy framework. The plan is a live document that can evolve and change to meet new opportunities and initiatives, and they can be updated to reflect changes as the Authority moves forward.

Eligible for Call-in: No