

HEYWOOD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday, 13th July 2021

PRESENT: Councillor Rush (in the Chair); Councillors Beswick, Cocks, Dutton, McCarthy, O'Rourke and Wardle.

OFFICERS: S. Hay (Heywood Township and Engagement Officer), A. Storey, M. Cummings, C. Bamford-Goulding, V. Clarke (Neighbourhoods Directorate) and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: 15 members of the public.

1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Susan Emmott and Robinson.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests.

3 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR**

Resolved:

That Councillor Dutton be appointed Vice Chair of Heywood Township Committee for the duration of the 2021/2022 municipal year.

4 **OPEN FORUM**

The following matters were raised during the Committee's Open Forum session:-

a) Heywood Environment Group

The Township was addressed by Mr. Bratby, on behalf of the Heywood Environment Group, who informed Members of activities that the Group had undertaken to improve the environmental appearance of Heywood. He also asked about proposals to 'regenerate Heywood town centre, further to Councillor Blundell's contribution to the last meeting of the These activities included clearing up alleyways and litter picks. Councillor O'Rourke, in his capacity as portfolio holder for Environment and Facilities advised the meeting of work that the Council was doing to improve the environmental aspect of Heywood and the wider Borough and he emphasised the importance of environmental improvements under the Council's new leadership. In terms of improving and cleaning alleyways, it was noted that some of the responsibility for this rested with the Borough's social housing providers such as Rochdale BoroughWide Housing and the Guinness Trust.

Resolved:

1. That representatives of social housing providers in Heywood Township (eg Rochdale Boroughwide Housing) and Guinness Trust be invited to the future meetings of the Township Committee to discuss how they

can assist the Council and the community to improve the environmental landscape of Heywood Township.

2. The Chair of the Heywood Township Committee be requested to liaise with the portfolio holder for Economy and Communications regarding the regeneration of Heywood town centre, further to the Township Committee's meeting held 15th February 2021.

b) Fly-tipping

Mr. P. Malcolm asked the Committee about the activities of the CCTV cameras that had recently been used in initiatives to counter fly-tipping in the West Heywood Ward. The Committee was advised that the cameras had been effective and had aided the Council in its campaign against fly-tipping and confirmed its continued future use in the Township's Wards.

c) Holly Oak Gardens

A resident reported upon proposals to fell trees in the Holly Oak Gardens area of Heywood, to enable the land to be cleared for use as a site for residential housing. The Township Committee had previously successfully campaigned to prevent the development of this area and the Committee asserted its support to efforts by local residents to preserve the trees at this location.

d) Takeaway Shops

A resident informed the Committee of his concerns that there were too many take-away food outlets in Heywood town centre which was hampering campaigns to tackle obesity and the promotion of 'healthy' lifestyles.

e) Heywood Town Centre

A resident informed the Committee of her concerns at the amount of litter that was often accumulated in Heywood town centre, largely from fast-food takeaways and the local supermarkets. The Chair of the Township Committee undertook to raise this issue with representatives of local Heywood town centre traders including the supermarkets.

5 MINUTES

Resolved:

That consideration of the Minutes of the meeting of Heywood Township Committee, held 15th February 2021, be deferred to the Committee's next scheduled meeting on 7th September 2021.

6 HEYWOOD TOWNSHIP DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS 2021/2022

The Township Committee considered a report of the Director of Resources which informed Members that at the start of each municipal year, the Committee was required to confirm its delegated decision making arrangements for the ensuing year and to make appointments to the Township's Delegated Sub- Committee, (including the Chair and Vice Chair) and to various other bodies as detailed within Appendix 2 of the report.

Resolved:

1. That the Heywood Township Delegated Sub-Committee be retained on the terms of reference as set out in Appendix 1 of the submitted report;
2. That all Members of the Heywood Township Committee be appointed to the Heywood Township Delegated Sub-Committee with Councillors Rush and Dutton being appointed as Chair and Vice Chair respectively;
3. That appointments be made to the other bodies as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report as follows:-

a. East Lancashire Railway Trust

Mr. Brian Davies and Councillor Dutton

b. Heywood Magic Market Board

Councillors Cocks, Dutton, Susan Emmott and Rush

c. Township Older Persons Champion

Councillor Robinson

d. Township Highways Champion

Councillor Rush

e. Heywood Township Planning Panel

Comprising Members of the Township who are not Members of the Planning and Licensing Committee - Councillors Beswick, Cocks, Dutton, O'Rourke, Robinson and Wardle

f. Road Safety Group

Councillors Beswick and Rush

7 OBJECTIONS TO TRAFFIC ORDER - HORNBY STREET, HEYWOOD

The Township considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which outlined objections that had been received to a proposed Traffic Regulation order at Hornby Street, Heywood. The Committee was informed that a request had been received previously from Heywood Township Members for Officers in the Highways service to investigate the introduction of parking restrictions on Hornby Street, King Street and Hardfield Street in Heywood to address issues relating to indiscriminate parking around Harwood Park Primary School.

A scheme had been advertised and during the consultation period the Council had received one objection to the proposal. The submitted report outlined the reason for the proposal, the objection received and a response to the objection.

Alternatives considered:

The measures proposed, in the submitted report, were the minimum believed necessary to alleviate identified visibility and access issues and also issues impacting on traffic flow. Were the Committee to resolve not to introduce the restrictions outlined in the report, then the issues relating to parked vehicles, would not be addressed.

Resolved:

That the proposed Traffic Regulation Order, Borough of Rochdale ((Civil Enforcement of Traffic Contraventions) (Various Streets) (Heywood Township) Order 2008) (Amendment) (No.66) Order be implemented as advertised, to address issues of indiscriminately parked vehicles which cause difficulty for motorists by reducing available road width, obstructing visibility at junctions and affecting access to private off street parking areas along Hornby Street, King Street and Hardfield Street, Heywood.

Reasons for the decision:

Members of Heywood Township recently approved funding for the Council to promote new parking restrictions along Hornby Street to address issues of indiscriminate parking around Harwood Park Primary School which had been reported by residents to local ward members.

Greater Manchester Police's Injury Accident Database had detailed recorded injuries and accidents that had occurred in the vicinity of the proposed restrictions over the past five years. Therefore it was proposed to promote new prohibition of waiting restrictions on safety grounds.

Eligible for call-in: Yes

8 OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED TRAFFIC ORDER, HIGHER LOMAX LANE, HEYWOOD

The Township considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which outlined objections that had been received to a proposed Traffic Regulation Order at Higher Lomax Lane, Heywood. Representations from the public had identified concerns about footway parking at the junction of Higher Lomax Lane and Chelmer Grove, restricting driver sightlines and available width for the safe passage of users of the footway. Heywood Township Committee had subsequently approved the investigation and development of an appropriate scheme and this included additional consideration of protection for the adjacent bus stop and associated junction with Cherwell Avenue.

The approved scheme was advertised between 25th February and 18th March 2021 and eight objections were received. The submitted report considered each of the objections received.

Alternatives considered:

The Township Committee could decide not to introduce the restrictions as proposed, in the submitted report, then the observed issues with parked vehicles, as reported originally to Heywood Township members, would not be appropriately addressed.

Resolved:

That the proposed Traffic Regulation Order, Borough of Rochdale ((Civil Enforcement of Traffic Contraventions) (Various Streets) (Heywood Township) Order 2008) (Amendment) (No.67) Order 2021' be implemented as advertised, to appropriately enhance access and operational safety at the location detailed in the report.

Reasons for the decision:

The proposed scheme is promoted and recommended as part of the Council's statutory responsibility to ensure that its highways operate safely and efficiently for all road users.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes

9 HEYWOOD TOWNSHIP FUNDS REVIEW

The Township Committee considered a report from the Director of Neighbourhoods which presented a review of the Township revenue and capital expenditure during 2020/2021 and provided options for the allocation of funds for 2021/2022.

Members were also requested to consider the terms and conditions for the Heywood Township Funds and to agree delegation arrangements concerning funding decisions.

Resolved

1. That the expenditure, commitments and balances for Heywood Township revenue and capital funds at financial year end 2020/2021 be noted;
2. That the findings of the review of Township Funds 2020/2021 and evaluations received to date for some of the projects funded be noted;
3. That the allocation of Heywood Township Funds to funding streams in 2021/2022 be approved;
4. That the terms and conditions for Heywood Township revenue and capital funds for 2021/2022 be approved;
5. That the delegation arrangements for Heywood Township Funds 2021/2022, as detailed at paragraph 4.6 of the submitted report, be approved.

Eligible for Call-in: No.

10 HEYWOOD TOWNSHIP FUNDS 2021/2022

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which provided updated information on revenue and capital expenditure, commitments and balances of Heywood Township Funds 2021/2022 and to enable the Sub-Committee to consider the allocation of funds to proposed projects.

Alternatives considered: In considering the report, the Committee would consider whether or not to approve the allocation of funds to projects as appropriate

Resolved:

1. That the expenditure, commitments and balances for Heywood Township revenue and capital funds as detailed in Appendix 1, 1A and 2 of the report be noted;
2. That the decisions made under delegated authority, as detailed in Appendix 3 of the submitted report, be noted;

3. That it be noted that the Townships and Communities Manager has assessed all of the proposed projects to be considered for funding against the criteria of eligibility for the Heywood Township Fund, the priorities of the Township and that any specific risks had been identified in the report;
4. That the applications for Heywood Township Funds be dealt with as follows:

Reference	Application	Decision
Revenue Fund		
HE/01/21	Heywood Remembrance Sunday Event 2021	An award of £835
HE/02/21	Heywood Christmas Lights 'Switch on' 2021	An award of £4,209
HE/03/21	Heywood Charities Fete 2021	An award of £4,320 (of which £1364 funded from the Township's Projects fund)
Projects Fund		
HP/12/20	Roch Valley Wildlife Pond	An award of £630
HP/04/21	Tackling Minds	An award of £2,719
HP/06/21	Heywood Town Flags	An award of £466.70
Capital Fund		
HTC/08/20 £40 000 allocated.	Heywood Civic Concourse Improvements	The Township Committee committed to allocating £40,000 to this project from their 2021/2022 Funds – but Members noted that this commitment may diminish, or increase, depending on the nature and urgency of other funding applications received during the municipal year
HTC/02/21	Darnhill Community Hub Café	An award of £12,446.53

Reason for decision:

Management of the Heywood Township Fund is a function that is delegated to Heywood Township Committee to determine. Heywood Township Funds are allocated to projects that benefit the Township's community and environment and which will realise the Township priorities.

Eligible for Call-in: yes.