

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Highways Committee** held in Committee Room 2 - County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 9 February 2011 at 11.30 am**

Present:

Councillor G Bleasdale (Chair)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors J Robinson, B Arthur, A Bainbridge, D Burn, S Hugill, A Naylor, T Taylor, L Thomson, E Tomlinson, C Woods and R Young

Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N Foster, D Hancock, D Marshall and A Wright

Also Present:

Councillors A Cox and C Walker

1 Declarations of Interest

The Chair (Councillor Bleasdale) declared an interest in item 3 – Proposed Traffic Calming: B1287 North Road, Seaham and relinquished the chair to the Vice-chair (Councillor Robinson) whilst the matter was discussed and voted on.

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 22 November and 2 December 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3 Proposed Traffic Calming: B1287 North Road, Seaham

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services advising of objections received with regard to a proposed traffic calming scheme and 20mph speed limit for the B1287 North Road, Seaham.

The report summarised the background to the proposal, which was the result of representations made with regard to traffic congestion and increased pedestrian activity in the area arising from tourists and recent housing developments. The existing traffic calming had accordingly been reviewed and a scheme had been prepared comprising alterations to/removal of current road narrowing features, a series of sets of speed cushions along the length of North Road, a humped zebra crossing, the introduction of a 20mph speed limit with associated signing and road markings and a rationalisation of existing signs to reduce roadside clutter. A consultation exercise had been undertaken and resulted in 5 objections being received.

The objections were detailed in the report, together with officer responses. It was noted that the police, ambulance service and local members were supportive of the proposals.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorses the proposal to set aside the objections and proceed with the introduction of a traffic calming scheme on the B1287 North Road, Seaham, as outlined in the report.

4 A68 and C42 West Auckland: Prohibition of Waiting

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services advising of objections received to a proposal to introduce waiting restrictions on the A68 and C42 Front Street/Chapel Street, West Auckland.

The report summarised the background to the proposal, which was the result of complaints about indiscriminate parking made to the Council and the police – parking in close proximity to a mini roundabout and various side road junctions was causing road safety concerns. Pedestrians were also being prevented from using a footway running alongside the A68 due to parked cars.

A consultation exercise had been undertaken and resulted in a number of objections being received. The objections were detailed in the report, together with officer responses. It was noted that the police were supportive of the proposals.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorses the proposal to set aside the objections and proceed with the implementation of the Traffic Regulation Order to introduce 'No Waiting At Any Time' restrictions on the A68 and C42 Front Street/Chapel Street in West Auckland, as outlined in the report.

5 Bus Shelter - 65 Milbank Terrace, Station Town, Wingate

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development advising of objections received to the proposed erection of a bus shelter at 64/65 Milbank Terrace, Station Town, Wingate.

The report summarised the background to the proposal, which was the result of a request from the parish council. There were currently six bus services utilising the bus stop, approximating to more than three buses an hour during the day Monday to Saturday and it was proposed to erect a fully glazed cantilever bus shelter (without a seat) at this location.

Whilst local members and the police were supportive of the proposal, an objection had been received from a nearby resident. The objection was detailed in the report, together with officer responses.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorses the proposal to set aside the objection and proceed with the installation of the bus shelter.

6 Transit 15: Responses to public consultation for A177 Durham High School Junction Modifications and North Road Durham Bus Stop Modifications

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development providing feedback on consultations with the public on two Transit 15 schemes involving changes to the existing road layout at the above locations.

Members were reminded that completion of all the planned schemes comprising the Transit 15 project would see reduced delays and improved reliability for services on seven key bus corridors across the county.

Each of the two proposals was detailed in the report, together with representations received as a result of consultation; the comments received were outlined in the report, together with officer responses in each case.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorses the proposal to set aside the objections and to proceed with the road layout modifications in each case, as outlined in the report.