

Committee Minutes

Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee

Edinburgh, 8 February 2011

Present:- Councillors Gordon Mackenzie (Convener), Aldridge (Vice-Convener), Ewan Aitken (substituting for Councillor Wilson), Barry, Buchannan, Burgess, Child, Dundas, Elliott-Cannon, Hawkins, McInnes, McIvor, Mowat, Peacock, Perry, Tymkewycz, Whyte (substituting for Councillor Jackson) and Dawe.

1 Deputation Request

A request for a deputation in respect of item 3 on the agenda, the minute of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee of 23 November 2010 had been received by the Moray Feu Residents' Association.

Decision

To refuse the deputation request.

2 Minute of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee of 23 November 2010

Decision

- 1) The Committee agreed that a paragraph be added to reflect the Order of Business at the meeting as follows:

Order of Business

- i) The Convener ruled in terms of Standing Order 16 that the Order of Business for the meeting be as shown on the agenda and that the deputations be taken prior to the items they had requested to speak to.
- ii) To otherwise approve the minute of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee of 23 November 2010 as a correct record.

3 Edinburgh Tram – Shandwick Place and West End Junction Review

At its meeting on 23 November 2010, the Director of City Development was instructed to report on the options to improve vehicular access to Shandwick Place until the Main tram works recommence and to review the east to west pedestrian crossing timings at the Princes Street/Lothian Road junction.

Details were provided on options to improve vehicular access to Shandwick Place in particular the re-opening of the west turn from Lothian Road into Shandwick Place.

Decision

- 1) To note that vehicular access improvements to Shandwick Place had been investigated and a number of temporary improvements would be made.
- 2) To note that these would be monitored and further improvements made if required.
- 3) Note that a report on air quality issues would be presented to a future Tram Sub-Committee.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 21 September 2010 (items 4 and 6) and 23 November 2010 (item 5); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

Declarations of Interest

Councillors Gordon Mackenzie and Perry declared a non-financial interest in this item as Directors of **tie** and TEL.

Councillor Buchanan declared a non-financial interest in this item as a Director of TEL.

4 Duddingston Village – Traffic (Motion by Councillor Ewan Aitken)

(a) Deputation

Lindsay Crofts, on behalf of Duddingston Village Conservation Society, advised that they had had a meeting with Council officials, the police and Historic Scotland on 8 February 2011 and had hoped that the conclusions from that meeting would have been fed-in to the report by the Directors of City Development and Services for Communities. The report did not readily identify the problem of the strategic movement of traffic between

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the east and the centre and southern parts of the city. The consultant's report commissioned by the Conservation Society showed that the narrow residential road was well over capacity, that it was being used as a quasi arterial route despite its configuration being entirely inappropriate for such use. There were serious problems of speeding in Holyrood Park (averaging nearly 40 mph in a 30 mph limit). These problems would not be solved by tinkering with the traffic flow within the village and these supposed solutions which were intended to improve traffic flow and thus encourage more traffic to use this route. The Society had never advocated any of the solutions which officials had put up and the report had neither addressed the real issues nor answered Councillor Ewan Aitken's questions. It highlighted the wrong problems and concluded that it was all too difficult and consequently offered no real answers to the problem.

The main problems was that there were too many vehicles taking this route and because part of it was fast and unregulated, there was a requirement to take enforcement action through the unregulated part of the route through the park and to look at other alternatives such as adjustments of signals and priorities to junctions to encourage traffic to stay on the main routes. In conclusion Miss Crofts stated that there needed to be further analysis undertaken in conjunction with the consultant's report commissioned by the Society to address the issues raised.

(b) Report by the Director of City Development

The Directors of City Development and Services for Communities reported further on concerns regarding Duddingston Village Traffic.

Decision

- 1) That a Member/Officer Working Group to be established to discuss proposals to reduce traffic problems in Duddingston Village. The membership to consist of one member from each political group on the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee, relevant Council officials, the police and a representative from Historic Scotland and Duddingston Conservation Society.
- 2) The Group to produce an interim report to be submitted to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee in six months.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 27 July 2010 (item 5) and 23 November 2010 (item 9); joint report by the Directors of City Development and Services for Communities, submitted.)

5 Morningside Road/Bruntsfield Place Parking Restrictions

The Director of City Development reported on a motion by Councillor McInnes in regard to Morningside Road/Bruntsfield Place parking restrictions.

Decision

To agree that it would be inappropriate to remove peak parking restrictions on the Bruntsfield/Morningside Corridor and to discharge the motion by Councillor McInnes.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 23 November 2010 (item 6); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

6 Controlled Parking Zones – Residents Parking in Polwarth Terrace – Motion by Councillor McInnes

The Director of City Development reported on a motion by Councillor McInnes in regard to residents parking in Polwarth Terrace.

Decision

- 1) To note the content of the report.
- 2) To note the potential adverse implications of providing parking spaces on the section of Polwarth Terrace between Harrison Road and Ashley Terrace.
- 3) To note that it was not considered possible to safely locate parking places on this street.
- 4) To discharge the motion by Councillor McInnes.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 9 February 2010 (item 5); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

7 Vehicle Activated Speed Signs – Priority List of Future Sites – Motion by Councillor Jackson

At its meeting on 4 May 2010 the Committee had approved the criteria for the placement of vehicle activated speed signs.

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The Director of City Development reported on a priority list for sites for the installation of signs.

Decision

- 1) To approve the creation of an ongoing list for the installation of vehicle activated speed signs, this would be reported to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee for approval annually.
- 2) To note that each site would be consulted upon with residents or relevant Neighbourhood Partnerships and local Councillors prior to any installation work.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 4 May 2010 (item 10); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

8 Talking Buses – Motion by Councillor Whyte

The following motion by Councillor Whyte was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28(3):

“Council:

- i) acknowledges the role of accessible local bus services in the mobility of disabled people;
- ii) recognises that the lack of audio visual information systems on buses makes these services difficult to use for many people;
- iii) supports the Talking Buses campaign promoted by Guide Dogs and supported by 20 other national organisations; and
- iv) agrees, where possible, within its development of strategy and policy and in discussions with bus service providers to promote the use of audible and visual information systems which announce next stop and final destination information.”

Councillor Whyte was heard in regard to this motion.

Decision

The Director of City Development to report on the terms of the motion.

9 City of Edinburgh Renewable Energy Development Company – Motion by Councillor Burgess

The following motion by Councillor Burgess was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28(3):

“That the Council:

Notes changes to legislation that could allow the Council to generate renewable energy, including from buildings on its estate, and receive revenue for excess electricity generated through a recently introduced feed-in-tariff.

Notes that generating its own renewable electricity could reduce Council energy bills and carbon emissions as well as providing an additional source of revenue for the Council.

Calls for a report on this opportunity including the feasibility of setting up a City of Edinburgh Renewable Energy Development Company.”

Councillor Burgess was heard in regard to his motion.

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Burgess.

10 Action on Climate Change – Motion by Councillor Burgess

The following motion by Councillor Burgess was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28(3):

“That the Council:

Notes with concern reports to Policy and Strategy Committee and the Cross Party Working Group on Climate Change (CPWGCC) that the Council is failing year-on-year to meet targets to reduce pollution that is contributing to Climate Change.

Notwithstanding the recent decision by the CPWGCC to revise its remit and establish an officer support group.

Calls for the new Chief Executive once in post to be asked to review and make recommendations on improving the Council’s governance and management arrangements for Sustainable Development and Climate Change, including having the Sustainable Development Unit report directly to the Chief Executive.”

Councillor Burgess was heard in regard to his motion.

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Burgess subject to consideration being given to the appropriate location of the Sustainable Development Unit.

11 Waste Minimisation Activities in Edinburgh

Details were provided on the current and potential waste minimisation activities in Edinburgh.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To request that Council officers continue to be proactive when making representations to Central Government on these proposals.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 23 November 2010 (item 15); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

12 UK and International Recycling Comparison

Details were provided on relative recycling performances between Edinburgh and other cities and highlighted the challenges in comparing recycling rates across jurisdictions and suggested some reasons why the data was not directly comparable.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) The Director of Services for Communities to provide members with details of Edinburgh rates for recycling on a ward basis.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 23 November 2010 (item 15); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

13 Destination for Recyclable Materials Collected by the City of Edinburgh Council

Details were provided of the final destinations for recyclable material collected by the City of Edinburgh Council.

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Decision

- 1) To note the contents of the report, particularly the measures in place to ensure recycling materials are managed in the appropriate manner.
- 2) Information on waste rejected for recycling to be provided to Councillor Burgess.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 23 November 2010 (item 15); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

14 Regulations to Deliver Zero Waste

Approval was sought for the Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation "Regulations to Deliver Zero Waste".

Decision

To approve the draft response to the Scottish Government.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

15 Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Performance Report – October/November 2010

Details were provided on performance management information for October/November 2010 for the Departments of Services for Communities and City Development.

Decision

To note the performance for the period October to November 2010.

(Reference – joint report by the Directors of City Development and Services for Communities, submitted.)

16 Services for Communities: Revenue and Capital Monitoring 2010-11

Details were provided of the month 8 revenue and capital monitoring position for the Department of Services for Communities.

Decision

To note Services for Communities' financial position at month 8.

(Reference – joint report by the Directors of Finance and Services for Communities, submitted.)

17 Department of City Development – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2010/11 Month 8 Position – To 30 November 2010

Details were provided of the revenue and capital monitoring position for the Department of City Development after eight months of the financial year and provided an update on projected outturn for the year 2010/11.

Decision

- 1) To note that the Department of City Development was currently projecting adverse variance of £714,000 for 2010/11.
- 2) To note the risk to the Department of City Development's budget.

(Reference – joint report by the Directors of City Development and Finance, submitted.)

18 Network Rail: Scotland Route Utilisation Strategy Generation Two

Details were provided on the response to a Network Rail consultation on the next Scotland Route Utilisation Strategy.

Decision

To note the Council's response to the consultation.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

19 West Coast Main Line Route Utilisation Strategy

Approval was sought on a response to a consultation by Network Rail on the West Coast Main Line Route Utilisation Strategy.

Decision

To approve the Council's response to the consultation.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

20 DfT Consultation on Amending Strategic National Corridors

Details were provided on a consultation by the Department of Transport on amending the Strategic National Corridors.

Decision

To note the response submitted on behalf of the Council.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

21 Traffic Management in Portobello

At its meeting on 23 November 2010, the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee had agreed to note two motions approved by the Portobello and Craigmillar Neighbourhood Partnership relating to a range of traffic management issues in the Portobello area and for an interim report to be submitted to this meeting on the issues raised.

Decision

- 1) To agree that no further work was to be carried out on the underground waste disposal system on the grounds that high costs for such a scheme could not be justified at this time.
- 2) To approve the submission of a further report to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee on 10 May 2011, which would provide an update on the consultation that had taken place with local residents, emergency services and traders.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 23 November 2010 (item 42); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

22 South-East Wedge Cycle and Pedestrian Links

Details were provided of the intention to initiate discussions with Midlothian, West Lothian and East Lothian Councils on a development of cross boundary cycle and pedestrian links.

Decision

- 1) To note the actions for creating cross boundary cycle and pedestrian route in south-east Edinburgh in the active action travel plan.
- 2) To take forward discussions with Midlothian, East Lothian and West Lothian Councils on the co-ordination of cross boundary pedestrian/ cycle links.

(References – Executive of the Council 28 February 2006 (item 26); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

23 Cross Forth Passenger Vessel Service Progress Update

Details were provided on the progress with the Cross Forth Passenger Vessel Service procurement.

Decision

- 1) To note, from the limited response from potential operators that there was not a great deal of market interest in operating a Cross Forth Passenger Vessel Service, particularly during this economically challenging period.
- 2) To note from the responses that there was likely to be a requirement for both a capital infrastructure outlay and an ongoing operational subsidy.
- 3) To note that Transport Scotland were unlikely to include in the Cross Forth Passenger Vessel Service in the National Travel Concessionary Fare Scheme particularly in the current financial climate.
- 4) That competitive dialogue procurement for such a service should not proceed at this time.
- 5) To note that both Edinburgh and Fife Councils would work together should any commercial operator be interested in running a future Cross Forth Service.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 24 November 2009 (item 2); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

24 Objections to Glenbrook Road – Proposed 30 mph Speed Limit TRO/09/037

Details were provided on the representation made when the proposals to introduce a section of 30 mph speed limit at the east end of Glenbrook Road (TRO/09/037) were advertised to the public.

Decision

- 1) To repel the outstanding objections to TRO/09/037 (Glenbrook Road – proposed 30 mph speed limit) to allow the Traffic Regulation Order to be made as advertised.
- 2) To instruct the Director of City Development to commence the statutory process to reduce the existing speed limit on the remainder of the route through to Glenbrook.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

25 Objection to the Decriminalised Enforcement of Bus Lanes’ Traffic Regulation Order

Details were provided of the objection received to the Traffic Regulation Order associated with decriminalised bus lane enforcement of bus lanes.

Decision

To repel the objection and make the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

26 City Car Club Parking Bays – Hermitage Place, Leith

Details were provided of the representations made when the Order was advertised to introduce a City Car Club parking place for Hermitage Place, Leith.

Decision

To repel the objection and make the Order as advertised to come into effect at an early date.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

27 Controlled Parking Zones – Residents’ Daily Parking Permits

At its meeting on 21 September 2010 the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee requested a report on visitor permits including a possible poster campaign to raise awareness of the permits.

Decision

To note the intention to bring forward proposals for the introduction of Visitor Permits, providing greater flexibility and cost effectiveness than the current system of Residents’ Daily Parking Permits.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 22 September 2010 (item 28); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

28 Subsidised Bus Services: Ratho Service Contract

Details were provided of the results of the recent tendering process for the renewal of the supported bus service contract covering the service to Ratho.

Decision

To accept Lothian Buses; Lot 2 alternative tender Option B at a cost of £3,500 per week, the contract to remain in force for two years from 3 April 2011 with options to extend for up to two subsequent 12 month periods.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 26 May 2009 (item 2); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

29 Wester Drylaw/Craiglockhart Road North/Cameron Toll Roundabout – Commencement of Statutory Procedures to Permit Use of Footpaths by Cyclists

Approval was sought to commence the necessary statutory procedure to re-determine sections of footpath to cycle track (for use by pedal cycle and foot only) at the following locations:

- 1) Wester Drylaw – paths connecting the Blackhall cycle path to Wester Drylaw Drive; Silverknowes Neuk and Corbiehill Avenue;
- 2) Craiglockhart Road North – the path between this road and an access onto the Union Canal (adjacent to Allan Park Road); and

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- 3) Cameron Toll Roundabout – a section of path between Cameron March and a signalised cycle coursing of the Lady Road arm of the roundabout.

Decision

To instruct the Director of City Development to initiate and make the necessary re-determination orders for the footpaths under the relevant sections of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1994.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

30 George IV Bridge to King's Buildings Quality Bike Corridor – Public Consultation

Details were provided of the outcomes of the recent public consultations carried out for the George IV Bridge to King's Buildings Quality Bike Corridor scheme which would improve facilities for cyclists and bus users travelling between the City Centre, Sciennes and the University of Edinburgh King's Buildings Campus.

Decision

- 1) To note the outcomes of the recent public consultation carried out for the George IV Bridge to King's Buildings Quality Bike Corridor Scheme and that a thorough review of the proposals was currently being undertaken to consider the issues raised.
- 2) To note that three significant issues had arisen from this review to date and the new proposals to address these issues.
- 3) To note that consultation would be undertaken with the Convener of the Committee and with the elected members for affected wards prior to making any major changes to proposals that have previously been reported to the Committee.
- 4) To note that the following the completion of that review process, the statutory procedures necessary to implement the proposals would be undertaken as previously approved by the Committee.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 23 November 2010 (item 32); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

31 20 mph Speed Limit Pilot in South Edinburgh

Details were provided of the results of a consultation exercise for the above proposals for a 20 mph speed limit pilot in South Edinburgh, and approval was sought to commence the statutory procedure to promote the Traffic Regulation Order for a 20 mph speed limit in south Edinburgh.

Decision

- 1) To note the results of the consultation, the comments received and the responses made to these objections.
- 2) To approve the introduction of 20 mph speed limits in south Edinburgh as set out in the report, subject to completion of the necessary statutory procedures.
- 3) To commence the commencement of statutory procedures to introduce a 20 mph speed limit:
 - (a) in the streets indicated with proposed 20 mph speed limits on the plan attached to the Director of City Development's report as Appendix A; and
 - (b) on Ratcliffe Terrace and Causewayside between the junctions with Fountainhall Road and West Preston Street.
- 4) To note the support for increasing the number of streets covered by a 20 mph limit specifically the support for applying the speed limit to the north-south Marchmont Road-Kilgraston Road-Blackford Avenue-West Mains Road-Esslemont Road route and the east-west Churchill - Strathearn Road-Grange Road route.
- 5) With this in mind, to move that these routes be added to the streets to be covered by the 20 mph speed limit.
- 6) To instruct the Head of Transport to contact Neighbourhood Partnerships providing an outline of the proposed pilot inviting them to submit proposals for other pilot areas within their neighbourhood.
- 7) The Head of Transport to qualify with consultees the reasons for including additional streets within the proposals.
- 8) Information on emissions to be included in future reports.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 21 September 2010 (item 23); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)