

Minutes

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00 am Tuesday, 14 January 2014

Present

Councillors Hinds (Convener), Orr (Vice-Convener), Bagshaw, Barrie, Booth, Brock, Doran, Gardner, Bill Henderson, Keil, Jackson, McInnes, Mowat and Perry.

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Transport and Environment Committee of 29 October 2014, as adjusted, as a correct record

2. Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Transport and Environment Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan for the period March to June 2014 was submitted.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan for March to June 2014.

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

3. Business Bulletin

The Transport and Environment Committee Business Bulletin for 14 January 2014 was presented.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

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

4. Transport and Environment Committee Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee Work Programme

Approval was sought for the Transport and Environment Committee Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee Work Programme for February 2014 to July 2014.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Transport and Environment Committee Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee Work Programme subject to the following items being included:
 - Nuclear Submarine Dismantling at Rosyth
 - Street lighting and Stair lighting
 - Policies that need to be refreshed
- 2) To refer the Work Programme to the Transport and Environment Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee for detailed consideration.
- 3) To refer the Work Programme to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee for information.

(Reference – Transport and Environment Committee Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee Work Programme, submitted)

5. Local Transport Strategy 2014-2019

Following the second phase of consultation on the draft Local Transport Strategy, approval was sought for the final draft. The revised Strategy would continue to contribute to the Council's long standing approach of enabling people to choose walking, cycling and public transport as sustainable modes of transport.

Decision

To approve the draft Local Transport Strategy 2014–2019 as final subject to the following editorial changes:

- Include the following wording as a footnote to the table of “Modal Share for Travel to Work” – “recent figures on a smaller sample size give different indicators and outcomes may vary depending on the verification of the figures by a larger sample size”
- Page 23 (Env1) – replace “aligned to improve air quality” with “are adequate to address issues around air quality”.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Orr declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Board Member of Friends of The Earth Scotland.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 27 August 2013 (item 7); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

6. Governance of Major Projects – Water of Leith and Braid Burn Flood Prevention Schemes

Information was provided on progress made against a number of recommendations resulting from the findings of an assurance review undertaken by the Corporate Programme Office (CPO) to determine lessons learned from Phase 1 of the Water of Leith Flood Prevention Scheme (WoLFPS) and the state of readiness for Phase 2.

An update was also provided on the governance arrangements which had been put in place during Phase 1 of the Scheme.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress made in relation to the findings of the Assurance Review Report undertaken by the Corporate Programme Office.
- 2) To note that cognisance had been taken of a number of issues encountered on the Braid Burn Flood Prevention Scheme.
- 3) To note that Phase 1 of the Water of Leith Flood Prevention Scheme was now substantially complete.
- 4) To note that Phase 2 of the Water of Leith Flood Prevention Scheme was now being taken forward.
- 5) To refer the report to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.

(References –Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 24 November 2009 (item 33); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

7. HS2 Phase 2 Consultation Response and ‘Better Connections’ Response

The Council had been invited to comment on the UK Government Department for Transport consultation on the second phase of High Speed 2. Network Rail had also invited comments on a related document: ‘Better Connections; Options for the integration of High Speed 2’. The deadline for submission of both responses was 31 January 2014.

Details were provided of both responses which had been prepared in consultation with elected members.

Decision

To approve both responses to the consultation on HS2 Phase 2 and to ‘Better Connections: Options for the integration of High Speed 2’.

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

8. Issues Arising from Cycling on City Centre Pavements

The Petitions Committee had referred a petition entitled ‘Ban cycling on City Centre pavements by cyclists over 12 years’ to this Committee for consideration. Details were provided of the Council’s response to the petition and actions proposed to address the issues raised.

Decision

- 1) To note the actions being taken by the Council and Police Scotland to discourage cycling on footways.
- 2) To note that the Council supported the promotion of messages encouraging mutual respect between road/path users.

- 3) To advise the Petitions Committee of the decision of the Transport and Environment Committee and to note that an update would be provided in the Petitions Committee Business Bulletin.

(References – Petitions Committee 5 September 2013 (Item 7); Transport and Environment Committee 29 October 2013 (Item 24); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted)

9. Trees in the City – Finalised policy and Action Plan

The outcomes of the public consultation on the draft 'Trees in the City' document were presented and approval sought for the finalised 'Trees in the City' document.

In response to a motion by Councillor Booth, information was provided on the feasibility of taking forward "A Tree for Every Child" scheme in the City together with associated financial implications.

Decision

- 1) To note the outcome of the consultation.
- 2) To approve the resulting 'Trees in The City' policy and action plan.
- 3) To request a further report identifying any particular areas of the city where problems had been identified in relation to trees in close proximity to housing.
- 4) To include in the action plan reference to the sustainable disposal of felled trees.
- 5) To note that a further report detailing progress on the 'Tree for Every Child' project would be made to this Committee in due course.
- 6) To request that the Director of Services for Communities investigate the possibility of accessing any external funding sources which could be utilised in implementing a Tree for Every Child and to explore other options for taking forward A Tree for Every Child scheme.
- 7) That the Director of Services for Communities contact the Welsh Government to draw on their experience in setting up the Welsh Tree for Every Child scheme.
- 8) To agree that revenue and capital funding for A Tree for Every Child scheme be considered as part of the budget process.
- 9) To discharge the motion by Councillor Booth.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 4 June 2013 (item 23) and 27 August 2013 (Item 32); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

10. Landfill and Recycling Update

An update was provided on performance in reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfill and increasing recycling. The positive trend in performance was continuing with the amount of waste sent to landfill so far in 2013 reducing by 6913 tonnes or 7.27% when compared against the same period last year.

Information was also provided on ongoing engagement to promote recycling and on complaint numbers. In 2013/14 there had been on average 511 complaints per week. This was 30.8% less than the average number of complaints per week in 2012/13 (738 complaints per week).

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To ask the Director of Services for Communities to identify repeat complaints by service area at a neighbourhood partnership level and engage with local ward members to discuss proposed solutions to address these.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 27 August 2013 (item 25); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

11. Cleanliness of the City

The outcome of the Cleanliness Index Monitoring System (CIMS) assessment of Edinburgh's streets, which had been undertaken by Keep Scotland Beautiful in September 2013, was detailed.

Decision

To note the report and to thank the Task Force Street Cleaning Staff for their efforts and commitment to keeping the City clean.

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

12. Subsidised Bus Service Contracts

Options for renewing or establishing three subsidised bus services were outlined together with the associated financial implications.

Decision

- 1) To note that a contract had been placed for the operation of bus service 68, to take effect from 31 March 2014 for a period of up to four years.
- 2) To note that funding was only partially available to place a contract for bus service 60 (Dumbiedykes), that discussions were continuing with Lothian Buses and other interested parties over the possible diversion of an existing bus service to serve Dumbiedykes; and that discussions would take place with organisations in Dumbiedykes to consider options in relation to Community Transport for the elderly.
- 3) To note that insufficient budget existed to make any change to bus service 18 and that the existing contract for the service should therefore be allowed to continue unaltered in the meantime.

- 4) To note that, following the setting of the Council budget for 2014/2015, a further report would be submitted in March 2014 updating the Committee on recommendations 2 and 3, and on other tenders currently in progress.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 29 October 2013 (item 13); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

13. Street Lighting – Result of White Light Pilot

The Street Lighting Team were piloting new technologies to try and identify lighting design solutions to mitigate current and future financial pressures associated with rising energy costs. Three different types of energy efficient white lighting had been installed in four sites at Saughton Mains and Gilmerton Dykes.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To note that the results of the consultation showed that all light types used in the pilots met with the approval of residents and residents in adjoining streets.
- 3) To note that further trials of variable lighting would be carried out.
- 4) To note that further business cases and models to upgrade the remaining stock would be reported to committee.
- 5) To approve the proposals to use energy efficient white light technologies in all future Street Lighting installations, choosing the design solution which best optimised energy savings, using LED's and Long Life Fluorescent Lighting as the primary design solution.

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

14. Zero Waste Project – Edinburgh and Midlothian - Residual Waste Treatment Progress Report.

The Council had approved the Project Initiation Document for the Zero Waste Project, including the governance arrangements, procurement budget and the joint purchase of the Millerhill site in Midlothian.

An update was given on the progress made regarding the procurement of residual waste treatment facilities as part of the Zero Waste Project.

Motion

- 1) To note the progress in procuring residual waste treatment facilities.
- 2) To note that a Memorandum of Understanding between The City of Edinburgh Council and Midlothian Council had been concluded.
- 3) To note that there was a high level of confidence, that final tenders would provide a solution that met the Partner Council's requirements, was value for money and affordable.

- 4) To reconfirm the Committee's commitment to the Zero Waste Project and its objectives.
 - 5) To note that a further report would be provided to the Council later this year recommending the appointment of a preferred bidder.
- moved by Councillor Orr, seconded by Councillor Hinds

Amendment

- 1) To note the progress in procuring residual waste treatment facilities.
 - 2) To note that a Memorandum of Understanding between The City of Edinburgh Council and Midlothian Council had been concluded.
 - 3) To note that there was a high level of confidence, that final tenders would provide a solution that met the Partner Council's requirements, was value for money and affordable.
 - 4) To reconfirm the Committee's commitment to the overall aims of the Zero Waste Project.
 - 5) To note that a further report would be provided to the Council later this year recommending the appointment of a preferred bidder.
- moved by Councillor Booth, seconded by Councillor Bagshaw

Voting

For the motion	-	12 votes
For the amendment	-	2 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Orr.

(References – Act of Council No 13 of 30 May 2013; report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

15. George Street Trial – Festival Layout

A number of options for the layout of George Street during the August festival period in 2014 were presented. The options took into account the balance of activities and users of the street during this period, the festival experience of recent years and the introduction of tram passenger services to the City Centre area.

Decision

- 1) To delegate authority to the Director of Services for Communities, in consultation with the Director of Corporate Governance, relevant Conveners, Vice Conveners, the Festival and Events Champion, opposition spokespeople and local ward members, to take the decision on the layout of George Street during the August festival in 2014.

- 2) To note that the future use of George Street for festival activities would be reviewed at the end of 2014 following the summer festival, the running of tram passenger services as well as the introduction of the Council's revised approach to governance and approval of events.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 29 October 2013 (item 5); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

16. 2013/14 Road and Pavement Capital Investment Update

An additional £12M for 2013/14 for road and pavement investment had been approved at the Council's budget meeting on 7 February 2013, increasing the total investment in roads and footways in 2013/14 to £24.5M.

An update was given on the progress of the 2013/14 road and pavement capital investment programme.

Decision

To note the report and the progress in delivering the 2013/14 capital investment programme as detailed in section 2 of the report.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 4 June 2013 (item 18); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

17. Review of George IV Bridge to King's Buildings Cycle Route

The George IV Bridge to King's Buildings cycle route scheme was implemented in 2012, delivering a range of walking and cycling improvements along a 4km route linking the city centre with the University of Edinburgh's King's Buildings campus.

The Scheme had been subject to ongoing review and the findings were now presented.

Decision

- 1) To note the results of the review of the scheme.
- 2) To recognise that issues persisted in terms of both legal and illegal parking and that the planned Active Travel Action Plan review of parking restrictions in cycle lanes would include the Quality Bike Corridor Route.
- 3) To discharge the outstanding remit from the Committee of 9 February 2010.

(References – Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 9 February 2010 (item 10); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

18. Parking Satisfaction Survey 2013 – The Results

A Parking Satisfaction Survey was undertaken in May 2013. A summary of responses to the Survey was submitted together with recommendations for action based on those results.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.

- 2) To note the support for the introduction of additional shared-use parking places in central and peripheral controlled zones.
- 3) To note a further report on detailed proposals for introducing shared-use parking places and visitors' parking permits would be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee.
- 4) To approve further investigation into evening and weekend parking problems in residential areas and agree that a further report on this matter be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee.
- 5) To approve further customer satisfaction surveys at least once every five years.

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

19. Proposed Changes to the Delivery of Road Safety Education, Training and Publicity – Police Scotland Withdrawal of Services

The current responsibility for the delivery of road safety education and training within Edinburgh was divided between the Council and Police Scotland. Police Scotland had now advised that, as part of the standardisation of police service delivery across Scotland their involvement with the delivery of this particular service would end on 31 March 2014.

Members expressed concerns that there had been no formal consultation process undertaken with local authorities or handover procedures put in place, especially with the provision of road safety education in schools. There was also no transfer of funds to enable local authorities to make alternative arrangements to corporately deliver this service.

Decision

- 1) To seek an urgent meeting between the Convener and Vice Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee, the Convener of the Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee and Police Scotland to discuss the continued provision of Road Safety services
- 2) To receive a further report on the future provision of Road Safety services to ensure statutory commitments were met.

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

20. Public Bowling Greens

Following consultation with a number of stakeholders approval was sought to begin a process of investigating and agreeing alternative uses for those public bowling greens that had been identified as being no longer required.

Decision

- 1) To note the need to reduce the number of bowling greens to better reflect level of usage.
- 2) To approve in principle the process of investigating and agreeing alternative uses for each site.

- 3) To note the intention to submit a further report on the outcome of this work.
(Reference - report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

21. Services for Communities Financial Monitoring Period 8

Details were provided of the month 8 revenue monitoring position for Services for Communities together with the outturn positions against its approved revenue and capital budgets for 2013/2014.

Decision

To note Services for Communities' financial position at month 8 including the pressures and mitigating actions in place.

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

22. Objections to Proposed Waiting Restrictions Morningside Grove – Traffic Regulation Order

Details were provided of the objections received during the consultation on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for a new pedestrian refuge island in the vicinity of Morningside Grove.

Decision

- 1) To set aside the objections received.
- 2) To make the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised.

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

23. Carmel Avenue at Pentland View Road, Kirkliston - Proposed Double Yellow Lines on Corner - Objections to Traffic Regulation Order

Details were provided of the objection received during the consultation on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for a package of measures to promote safer pedestrian access to Kirkliston Primary School around the junction of Pentland View Road and Carmel Avenue and on Pentland View Road.

Decision

- 1) To set aside the one objection received.
- 2) To make the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised

(References – report by the Head of Legal, Risk and Compliance, submitted.)

24. Representations to the Dregghorn Loan (Polofields) Road Construction Consent

Decision

- 1) To note that the report had been withdrawn at the request of the Director of Services for Communities.

- 2) To note that the report would be considered at the next meeting of the Regulatory Committee.

25. Edinburgh Community Solar Co-operative Proposal – Referral from the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

The Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee had considered a report on a proposal by Edinburgh Community Solar Cooperative for the development of a community owned Solar Photovoltaic scheme on council buildings and referred it to this Committee for information.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee 3 December 2013 (Item 11); report by the Head of Legal, Risk and Compliance, submitted.)

26. Solar Photovoltaic Energy – Purposed Council Sites - Referral from the Economy Committee

The Economy Committee had considered a report by the Director of Services for Communities which identified potential Council owned sites that could be allocated for Solar Photovoltaic Energy and had referred it to this Committee for information.

Decision

To note the report.

(References – Economy Committee 16 December 2013 (Item 5); report by the Directors of Services for Communities, submitted)

27. Edinburgh Living Landscapes Initiative – Motion by Councillor Gardner

The following motion by Councillor Gardner was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16.1:

“Committee agrees to call for a report by the Director of Services for Communities on progress made to date in delivering the Edinburgh Living Landscapes Initiative”.

Decision

To approve the motion.