

# Minutes

## Transport and Environment Committee

10.00 am Tuesday 18 March 2014

### Present

Councillors Hinds (Convener), McVey (Vice-Convener), Aldridge, Bagshaw, Barrie, Booth, Brock, Doran, Gardner, Jackson, Keil, Lunn (substituting for Councillor Bill Henderson), McInnes, Mowat and Perry.

### 1. Deputation – Leith Central Community Council

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The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Harald Tobermann representing Leith Central Community Council.

Mr Tobermann described Leith Walk as the most densely populated residential area in Edinburgh and as such it played a significant part in the economic viability of Edinburgh. Mr Tobermann said that Leith had been disproportionately impacted upon by the tram works and being asked to wait a further 2 years before The Leith Programme would be finished was unacceptable.

Mr Tobermann requested the Committee:

- 1) To remove itself from the legal process of the Traffic Regulation Order and focus on small scale projects; and
- 2) To establish a dedicated programme team to deliver the Leith Programme.

### Decision

The Convener thanked the Mr Tobermann for his presentation and invited him to remain for the Committee's consideration of the report by the Director of Services for Communities at item 3 below.

### 2. Deputation – George Street Association

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The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Michael Apter, Josh Miller and Hamish Dobbie, representing the West End Association and the George Street Association.

Mr Apter stressed the importance of the tram stop at the West End and felt Leith Walk should also have this benefit. Mr Apter said that the tram developments had had a detrimental impact on the West End and to help facilitate the restoration of the West End asked the Committee to ensure the permeability of road access to the city centre. Mr Apter also highlighted some of the issues facing visitors and residents in accessing the West End by car.

Mr Miller supported the statements made by Mr Apter adding that the expected increase in economic activity that was expected once the tram works were removed had failed to materialise and that to help support struggling business access to the West End must be improved.

### **Decision**

The Convener thanked the Deputation for their presentation and invited them to remain for the Committee's consideration of the report by the Director of Services for Communities at item 4 below.

### **3. Leith Programme – Update and Objections to Traffic Regulation Order and Redetermination Order – Leith Walk (Pilrig Street to Duke Street)**

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Details were provided of the objections received during the statutory consultation on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order and Redetermination Order to allow the next phase of The Leith Programme to be implemented. The report also updated members on work done to ensure 'best fit' between this Programme and any future tram construction works.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the objections received to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order and the Council's comments in response.
- 2) To note that nine objections were received to changes to loading and unloading facilities that were proposed as part of the advertised Traffic Regulation Order and that the Council was obliged to hold a public hearing if any of these objections were not subsequently withdrawn.
- 3) To note the amendments that were proposed to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order to address the concerns raised by objectors over changes to waiting, loading and unloading facilities and that two objectors had agreed to withdraw their objections to the proposed changes to loading and unloading facilities if these amendments were made.
- 4) To set aside the objections that did not relate to proposed changes to loading and unloading facilities.
- 5) To approve the advertised Traffic Regulation Order in part, omitting three areas where there were unwithdrawn objections to proposed changes to loading and unloading facilities.
- 6) To instruct officials to write to the Scottish Government to propose that a public hearing be held into the unwithdrawn Traffic Regulation Order objections relating to Leith Walk just north of Pilrig Street, and between Jane Street and Casselbank Street.
- 7) To agree to initiate a new Traffic Regulation Order process, which would be required to make some of the amendments that were proposed to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order on Leith Walk immediately north of Balfour Street.

- 8) To approve the advertised Redetermination Order, revised to reflect the amendments that were proposed to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order.
- 9) To note the arrangements to future proof the Leith Programme in relation to the potential for an extension to the tram line and the intention to report to Finance and Resources Committee to seek the required budgetary approval.
- 10) To note that the issues raised by the deputation and matters relating to interim repairs to pavements on Leith Walk would be discussed at the Leith Stakeholders meeting to be held on 20 March 2014.

### **Declaration of Interest**

Councillors Bagshaw and Gardner declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of Greener Leith.

(References – Finance and Resources Committee 31 July 2012 (item 3(b)); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

## **4. Post-Tram Construction – Review of Traffic Management and Interfaces**

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Information was provided on the implications on pedestrian, cyclist and road traffic movements around the city following the completion of construction works in respect of the Edinburgh Tram system.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To note the intention to enhance the directional signage advising traffic route choices around the city centre, specifically on Lothian Road, the West Approach Road, Haymarket, the West End and on Queensferry Road.
- 3) To note the intention to enhance and reinforce road markings and signage to regulate access to trams only at the junction of Princes Street with South St Andrew Street and at the junction of North St Andrew Street with York Place.
- 4) To monitor traffic movements around the city centre after commencement of tram passenger operations in order to identify emerging issues after this period and that a further report be submitted to Committee on 26 August 2014 which assesses the situation and brings forward proposals as appropriate; the report to also include an analysis of parking bay occupancy at the West End.
- 5) To ask the Director of Services for Communities to enter into discussions with West End residents and businesses on the issues around vehicular access raised by the deputation with a view to identifying a proposed solution and way forward.

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

## 5. Minutes

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### Decision

To approve the minute of the Transport and Environment Committee of 14 January 2014, as adjusted, as a correct record

## 6. Key Decisions Forward Plan

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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.)

## 7. Business Bulletin

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The Transport and Environment Committee Business Bulletin for 18 March 2014 was presented. The Committee also received a presentation on the key issues reviewed by the Transport Forum since June 2013.

### Decision

- 1) To note the Business Bulletin.
- 2) To note the presentation.

(Reference – Business Bulletin, submitted.)

## 8. Appointment to Working Groups Etc 2013-14

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The Committee was invited to appoint the membership of its Sub-Committees and Working Groups for the remainder of 2013/14 session.

### Decision

- 1) To note that the Committee's Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions specified that the membership of the Committee's Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee would be the same as the parent Committee and that the Vice-Convener of the parent Committee would be the Convener of the Sub-Committee.
- 2) To appoint Councillor McVey to the Transport Forum, Duddingston Village Traffic Working Group and Zero Waste Cross Party Cross Council Working Group.
- 3) To agree that Councillor Hinds replace Councillor Child on the Carbon, Climate and Sustainability Working Group.
- 4) To appoint Councillor McVey (in his capacity as Vice-Convener of the Committee) to the Carbon, Climate and Sustainability Working Group, Leith Programme Oversight Working Group and Tram All Party Oversight Working Group.

- 5) To await the outcome of work done by members of the Transport Forum to scope ideas and options for a Walking Forum before appointing a new chair of the Cycle Forum.

(Reference – report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)

## **9. Edinburgh Street Design Guidance – Draft for Consultation**

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Approval was sought for the new consolidated Street Design Guidance in draft for consultation. The Committee also viewed a presentation on how the values, key principles, aims and outcomes for the City had been established and developed.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note that the Planning Committee had approved the Edinburgh Street Design Guidance in draft for consultation in respect of planning considerations within its Terms of Reference.
- 2) To approve the Guidance for consultation in respect of transport and public realm matters within this Committee's Terms of Reference.
- 3) To note the presentation.

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

## **10. Edinburgh Roadworks Ahead Agreement 2014**

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Approval was sought for proposals to assist Road Services in executing its powers under the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 in managing, co-ordinating and effectively controlling road occupations particularly by Public Utilities (PUs). The report proposed a way forward in partnership with PUs to deliver improved performance.

### **Decision**

- 1) To approve the changes to the Edinburgh Roadworks Ahead Agreement 2014.
- 2) To note that the performance of the revised Agreement was included in the quarterly performance reports currently presented to Committee.

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

## **11. Subsidised Bus Services – Ratho Village and Dumbiedykes**

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The options for a new subsidised bus service contract to serve Ratho Village were detailed together with the associated cost implications. Approval was sought for the award of contract being made on the basis of available funding.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the intention to accept Lothian Buses Option 1 Alternative Tender at a cost of £5,100 per week (£265,200 *per annum*) to take effect from the commencement of Tram operations for a period of up to four years.

- 2) To note that alternative solutions for a public transport link for Dumbiedykes were still being explored by officials, and that should these negotiations be successful any solution would, after consultation with the Convener and Vice-Convener be progressed by the Director of Services for Communities using delegated powers conferred by the Council's Contract Standing Orders.
- 3) To recognise the concerns expressed by the local community in Ratho, regarding the need for a public transport link to the city centre.
- 4) To consider a future link to the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena.
- 5) To further agree that the Director of Services for Communities report back once the new contact has been in place for 6 months to consider the two issues detailed at 3) and 4) above.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 29 October 2013 (item 17); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

## **12. Enhancing Communal Recycling Services**

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The challenges and opportunities associated with the provision of recycling facilities for people living in flats and tenements were highlighted. Approval was sought for the proposed piloting of a number of changes aimed at enhancing recycling provision. Commencement of a refurbishment programme to enhance and protect the assets provided for disposal of waste and recyclable materials was also proposed.

### **Decision**

- 1) To approve the development of two pilots; the outcome of which would be reported to Committee after completion of the pilots.
- 2) To approve the proposed three year rolling programme of bin repair and refurbishment to improve the appearance of on-street bins.
- 3) Outwith the pilot, to continue to provide extra bottle recycling facilities in tenemental areas where suitable.

(References - Transport and Environment Committee 27 August 2013 (item 20); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

## **13. Landfill and Recycling Update**

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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 reducing by 6425 tonnes (5.48%) in the period April 2013 and January 2014 compared to the same period for the previous year.

Information was also provided on ongoing engagement to promote recycling and on complaint numbers. In 2013/14 there had been on average 502 complaints per week. This was 29.5% less than the average number of complaints per week in 2012/13 (738 complaints per week).

## **Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) That the Director of Services for Communities arrange a workshop session on recycling participation rates and community based incentive schemes for a future meeting of the Policy Development and Review Sub-Committee.

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

## **14. Cleanliness of the City**

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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. The City of Edinburgh Council had achieved a score of 71 with 95% of the streets surveyed achieving the nationally recognised standard of cleanliness, an improvement in seasonal cleanliness standards from December 2012 to December 2013.

## **Decision**

To note the report.

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

## **12. Tackling Dog Fouling in Edinburgh**

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An update was provided on the progress of pilot schemes and other initiatives used to tackle dog fouling in the city.

## **Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To receive a further report on:
  - i) the implementation of the Pride Campaign after six months of operation, if funding was secured by Wastesites Scotland Limited; and
  - ii. other suitable dog fouling initiatives that could be implemented in Edinburgh.
- 3) To discharge the remit from the 19 March 2013 Transport and Environment Committee to receive a further report on the review of the pilot schemes after six months of operation.
- 4) To acknowledge the success of the “Dish the Dirt” Campaign operated jointly by the Council and the Evening News.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 19 March 2013 (item 25); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

### **13. Increase in Littering and Flytipping Fixed Penalty Notice Amounts**

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Following the recent Scottish Government National Litter Consultation, the prescribed amounts for litter and flytipping Fixed Penalty Notices would increase with effect from 1 April 2014 from £50 to £80 for littering, and from £50 to £200 for flytipping.

#### **Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To request a further report in 12 months detailing the impact of the increase in terms of revenue and payment rates of the affected Fixed Penalty Notices.

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

### **14. Public Utility Company performance Quarter 3 2013/14**

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Performance information relating to public utility companies for the third quarter of 2013/14 (October to December 2013) was submitted.

#### **Decision**

To note the report and performance information and the arrangements for securing an improved performance level from Scottish Water.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 27 August 2013 (item 17); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

### **15. Park and Pitch Drainage Programme**

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Twenty-four locations within parks and recreational grounds had been identified as requiring drainage improvements. An update was given on the progress made in delivering improvements to drainage.

#### **Decision**

- 1) To note the progress in implementing the park and pitch drainage programme.
- 2) To note that works on only seven of the 24 parks and recreational grounds identified as requiring drainage improvements could be resourced within the existing allocation.
- 3) To ask the Director of Services for Communities for a further report detailing the likely costs of extending the programme to parks and greenspaces still requiring drainage works.
- 4) To consider the options available should the Council wish to invest in reinforced surfacing or improved drainage/maintenance for locations likely to be regularly used for large-scale events, and to note that further information would be provided following completion of the Parks Events Manifesto consultation.
- 5) To refer the report to the Culture and Sport Committee for consideration.

(References - report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)



## 16. Nuclear Submarine Dismantling at Rosyth – Environmental Statement Consultation

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The Ministry of Defence had decided that Rosyth Dockyard would be used to dismantle the decommissioned nuclear powered submarines stored afloat at the Base. As part of the regulatory approval process, Babcock, the company contracted to carry out the dismantling work to remove the radioactive material, were required to prepare an Environmental Statement for submission to the Health and Safety Executive.

The Council had been invited to comment on Babcock's application and decommissioning project.

### Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To approve the submission of the consultation response detailed at Appendix 1 of the report by the Director of Services for Communities.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 4 June 2013 (item 24); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

## 17. Trade Waste Pilot – Update

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An update was provided on progress on trials regarding timed trade waste collection windows in the following three pilot areas – Rose Street and its lanes, the High Street and Leith Walk

### Decision

- 1) To note the progress made to date.
- 2) To note that further reports would be provided including a full evaluation of the pilots after the summer festivals and information on the impact of the pilots on traffic movement and volume.
- 3) To record the Committee's thanks to all the staff involved in developing and progressing the trade waste pilot.

(References – Transport and Environment Committee 29 October 2013 (item 9); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

## 18. Fairmile Avenue at Oxgangs Road – Proposed Waiting Restrictions

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Approval was sought to make a Traffic Regulation Order for double yellow line waiting and loading restrictions in Fairmile Avenue at its junction with Oxgangs Road.

### Decision

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

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