

Motions and Amendments

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00 am Thursday, 27th January, 2022

Virtual Meeting - via Microsoft Teams

Motions and Amendments

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Nick Smith

Service Director, Legal and Assurance

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Amendment by the Conservative Group

Committee - Transport and Environment

Date – 27th January 2022

Item – Business Bulletin

Amendment to Business Bulletin

1. Notes the update report on the business bulletin regarding the communal bin project;
2. Considers that the report on the consultation exercise does not reflect the concerns reported to councillors that this was only a communication exercise, many residents couldn't access the information as there were long queues; the information that residents expected about the siting of the bins was not available and that there was no additional information to what was available on the Council website;
3. Recognises that there continues to be significant concern about the effect of bins on the World Heritage Site if the parameters agreed at Transport and Environment Committee of 22nd April 2021 are strictly adhered to;
4. Understands that there has been further consultation but is concerned that the report before us today indicates that suggestions made by Edinburgh World Heritage and Historic Environment Scotland have not been taken up and recommends that:
 - a. Committee notes that as councillors have not seen the details of the concerns raised by Heritage Bodies, Residents, Living Streets and the Access Panel because there is only a truncated note in the Business Bulletin and no formal report; and
 - b. in recognition of this lack of detailed information and the significant concern expressed by residents that no further action is taken on installing bin hubs in the World Heritage Site without convening facilitated meetings with residents and stakeholders to discuss the competing issues and until Councillors have had the opportunity to assess the competing concerns and consider whether there is a way forward which addresses the concerns.

Moved by: Councillor Jo Mowat

Seconded by: Councillor Iain Whyte

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Amendment by the Conservative Group

Committee - Transport and Environment

Date – 27th January 2022

Item - 7.1 Petition for Consideration: Improve the original/current traffic calming measures at 60 Spylaw Road, Edinburgh, to make them fit for purpose for this 20mph school and kindergarten zone

Committee agrees to seek a further report on the matter.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte

Seconded by: Councillor

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Amendment by the Conservative Group

Committee - Transport and Environment

Date – 27th January 2022

Item - 7.2 West Edinburgh Link - Compulsory Purchase Order

1) Committee notes that the West Edinburgh Link (WEL) was one of the winners of Sustrans Scotland's 2017 Community Links PLUS competition there is no change on the ground some five years later at the conclusion of the current Council Administration and that there is no clear indication in the report of when delivery can be achieved given that the land required is not yet in Council ownership.

2) Committee further notes that a CPO process is time consuming, bureaucratic, draconian and expensive and therefore rejects the recommendations and agrees to seek an expedited negotiated purchase of, or servitude access to, the land noted in Appendix 1.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte

Seconded by: Councillor

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Amendment by the Green Group

Transport and Environment Committee

27 January 2022

Item 7.3 Air Quality Annual Progress Report

Deletes 1.1.2 and adds

1.2 Is concerned that Edinburgh has five Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in which air quality has failed to meet safety standards;

1.3 Notes from this report that following new evidence on the adverse health effects of air pollution, the World Health Organisation has published revised health-based air quality guidelines but that Scottish air quality objectives have yet to be revised in line with these;

1.4 Recognises that the main cause of this harmful pollution is exhaust gases from cars and other vehicles and that before the Covid pandemic around 60,000 commuting vehicles were travelling through Edinburgh every day;

1.5 Recognises that air quality improvements will depend on reducing the pollution caused by this traffic and that the forthcoming Low Emission Zone is intended to tackle this issue;

1.6 Notes the recent general improvement in air quality as a result of reduced traffic because of the Covid pandemic. However recognises that as restrictions ease, traffic levels are likely to return towards pre-pandemic levels with a consequent impact on air quality;

1.7 Agrees not to revoke the Inverleith AQMA until it can be confirmed that pollution levels will not again breach air quality standards once Covid pandemic restrictions are lifted and that the LEZ will prove to be effective in this location.

Moved by: Councillor Burgess

Seconded by: Councillor Miller

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Amendment by the Conservative Group

Transport and Environment Committee

27th January 2022

Item 7.4 - Low Emission Zone - Carbon Impact

Replace recommendations with:

Committee:

- 1) Notes that despite the scheme in its current format being rejected by the Committee on 26 October 2021 no changes have been made or are proposed in the current report;
- 2) Therefore considers that the proposed Low Emission Zone remains poorly designed, expensive and will not meet its stated aim to improve air quality;
- 3) Agrees that a study on likely patterns of traffic and pollution displacement should proceed before the adoption of any LEZ scheme;
- 4) Regrets that the consultation presented a fait accompli and, once again as with other Council consultations, did not incorporate any of the rich and varied consultation feedback into the final proposals;
- 5) Therefore rejects the current LEZ scheme and instructs officers to produce a report in 3 cycles on a range of options for consultation, to incorporate analysis of likely traffic and pollution displacement from each scheme, evidence-based analysis of likely reductions in air pollution levels to be achieved and consideration of how any proposed scheme could become self-financing, if necessary by lobbying the Scottish Government to change the penalty mechanisms in this regard.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte

Seconded by: Councillor Jo Mowat

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Addendum by the Green Group

Transport and Environment Committee

27 January 2022

Item 7.4 – Low Emission Zone – Carbon Impact

Adds additional points to the report recommendations:

“1.1.7 Thanks officers for the considerable work to evaluate the carbon impact of the proposed LEZ;

1.1.8 Notes that, as per paragraph 4.5, future euro standards are expected to include measures based on CO₂ emissions, and committee therefore agrees that when new euro standards are agreed council officers will begin the process to evaluate making changes to vehicles permitted within the Low Emission Zone and report this to committee;

1.1.9 Notes that feedback received in the consultation showed some misconceptions of the LEZ scope and of LEZ support funds, therefore committee agrees the Council’s public communications should ensure greater public understanding of which vehicles are affected and what support funding is available to people impacted

1.1.10 Thanks the Preston Street Primary School community for their engagement and input into the Low Emission Zone designs, welcomes the suggested measures proposed by the community and agrees that officers put in place traffic level and air quality monitoring around the school and consider how the following could be applied:

- Permanent widening of pavements around school to make a buffer from the road and reduce crowding
- Reduce the number of lanes approaching school northbound on Dalkeith Road to two lanes
- Reposition the bus stop on Dalkeith Road to position away from the school
- Enforcement of parking restrictions around school during key times
- Prioritisation of traffic signalling around school pick/up and drop off times to pedestrians
- Introduction of additional traffic calming measures around school”

Moved by: Councillor Miller
Seconded by: Councillor Burgess

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Amendment by the Liberal Democrat Group

Transport & Environment Committee

27 January, 2022

Report. 7.4

Report Title: LEZ Carbon Impact

Delete 1.1.4 to 1.1.6 and insert;

1.1.4 notes the findings of the Council's earlier 2019 Low Emission Zone (LEZ) consultation in which:

- 78% of respondents supported the proposed city-wide LEZ applying to buses and coaches, with 81% support for the city-wide LEZ applying to HGVs, LGVs and vans.
- support for a city wide LEZ was greater than that for a city centre only LEZ.

1.1.5 recognises the continued concern expressed by residents on the potential for traffic displacement to areas around a city centre zone, and that the air quality modelling forecasts increases in NOx concentration in a number of streets outside the LEZ boundary following the implementation of the proposed scheme.

1.1.6 believes that, after almost six years of work and another two years before restrictions are enforced, it is important to be ambitious in driving down pollution levels and improving air quality for all communities, not just those within the core city centre area.

1.1.7 therefore agrees not to approve the proposed scheme and agrees that officers should return to committee in two cycles with plans for a city wide LEZ and the necessary statutory and non-statutory consultations which would be required.

Moved by Cllr Kevin Lang

Seconded by

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Amendment by the Conservative Group

Committee - Transport and Environment

Date – 27th January 2022

Item - 7.5 Objections to TRO/20/20 - 40mph Speed Limit Review

Committee agrees the recommendations except those in regard to the following which should remain at 40mph:

Milton Link; Sir Harry Lauder Road between its junctions with Milton Road East and Baileyfied Road; Calder Road; and Wester Hailes Road.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte

Seconded by: Councillor Cameron Rose

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Amendment by the Liberal Democrat Group

Transport & Environment Committee

27 January, 2022

Report. 7.6

Report Title: Kirkliston Junction Reconfiguration

Add at end;

1.1.4 intention to undertake journey time assessments before and after the implementation of the improvements works, and agrees this comparison data should be made available to the committee by way of a business bulletin update once available.

Moved by Cllr Kevin Lang

Seconded by

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Amendment by the Conservative Group

Committee - Transport and Environment

Date – 27th January 2022

Item – 8.3 Progress Report on the ‘Vision for Water Management’ and Operational Management of Roads Drainage Infrastructure

Committee:

Accepts recommendations 1.1.1 to 1.1.4, but re-numbers 1.1.4 to 1.1.7.

Adds the following:

1.1.4 Specifically, asks the Executive Director of Place to prepare a gully recovery programme that identifies the organisation and resources required to deliver an efficient proactive and reactive maintenance regime to minimise flooding risks due to any gully issues within the control of this Council;

1.1.5 For clarity, expects the dedicated multi-disciplinary in-house team to include provision for regular road / gutter clearing, to minimise the build up of any detritus that might restrict the efficiency / effectiveness of the drainage networks that support our pavements, paths or roads;

1.1.6 Expects that costed options to achieve the above will be available to inform the 2022/23 budget debate;

1.1.8 Requires a follow up report, less this important topic be lost, to this Committee (or any successor Committee) following the formation of a new Council after the forthcoming local elections and in light of any new budget provisions.

Moved by: Councillor Jim Campbell

Seconded by: Councillor Iain Whyte

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Amendment by the Conservative Group

Committee - Transport and Environment

Date – 27th January 2022

Item - 8.5 Place Directorate Internal Audit Actions Update

- 1) Given that nine Internal Audit Overdue actions directly relating to this Committee's remit have not been closed, even in line with the three-month extension which concluded on 31 December 2021, Committee agrees to receive a report at its next meeting detailing any further closed actions and setting out in detail how any remaining actions can be closed before the end of April 2022.
- 2) Committee notes that repeated requests for action and assurances from the Senior Leadership Team that closing Overdue Audit Actions was being given extra priority and additional resources have failed to result in the desired change and agrees that any failure to close overdue actions by the end of April should be considered through the Council's Performance Management Processes for the individuals concerned.

Moved by: Councillor Iain Whyte

Seconded by: Councillor Jo Mowat

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Motion by Ward councillors

Transport & Environment Committee

27 January 2022

Sciennes Primary playground on Sciennes Road

This Committee;

1. Notes the longstanding and ongoing challenge of providing adequate playground space for children at Sciennes Primary school and that this motion has been submitted on behalf of all four Southside-Newington ward councillors with the support of Sciennes Parent Council;
2. Notes that because building works at Sciennes primary school have required use of the existing playground for portacabins, agreement has been reached with the Council to extend the play area into Sciennes Road in front of the school on a temporary basis and that this has been implemented, with some actions outstanding;
3. Notes that with the move of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children to Little France, it has been possible to close Sciennes Road to vehicular traffic without significant disruption to traffic flows, although passage for pedestrians and cyclists through the new play area has been maintained, resulting in some concern over welfare of pupils and the need for additional school staff to be present while the play area is in use;
4. Requests that council officers bring forward a report on closing Sciennes Road to traffic in front of Sciennes Primary school on a permanent basis to provide adequate playground space for the school in the long term, using the most appropriate mechanism such as Traffic Regulation, Stopping-Up or Redetermination Order etc;
5. Requests that in the meantime, while a permanent closure is investigated, that all practical measures are taken to make the temporary, partial closure safe and secure for children, including signage and road painting as previously agreed, and also exploring closing the road to pedestrians and cyclists during use of the play area during school time;
6. Requests that appropriate council officers meet with ward councillors and parent council representatives as soon as possible to progress this matter and that a members' briefing is provided to this committee and ward councillors by the end of March.

Moved by: Cllr Steve Burgess on behalf of Southside Newington Ward councillors

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