

Great Yarmouth Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group

Minutes

Tuesday, 06 March 2018 at 11:30

Present :

Councillor B Coleman (in the Chair), Councillor K Grey and Jeal.

County Councillors Castle and Plant

Mr D Glason and Mrs S Wintle (GYBC)

Mr I Parkes, Mr D Cumming, Mr D Wardale (NCC)

Mr M Frith (Highways England)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 9 November 2017 were confirmed.

4 ROUTE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME - VAUXHALL ROUNDABOUT

The Committee received an update on the Route Improvement Scheme at Vauxhall Roundabout.

Members were advised that intervention work scheduled for Vauxhall Roundabout and Gapton Hall would continue as planned but that impact from the Third River Crossing would be taken into consideration.

Mark Frith (Highways England) reported that Highways England would be working in partnership with Network Rail Greater Anglia, Natural England and the RSPB.

In discussing the improvement scheme the following issues were raised :-

- In relation to the phasing of projects, some concern was raised as to whether the funding of £300M was secure for the projects. It was reported that although the budget had been assigned, how the budget would be effected by the phasing of projects was being looked into.
- What works were being undertaken to mitigate disruption.
- Peak tourist visiting times were discussed and the need for consideration as to scheduled works during these periods.
- The difficulties in respect of delivering both the Vauxhall Roundabout scheme and Third River Crossing at the same time in relation to diversion routes.
- Members made reference to the large signs that were placed at the entrances to the town centre stating long delays possible during the Fullers Hill roundabout construction and commented that they did not feel these signs were appropriate.
- Reference was made to a piece of land at Runham Vauxhall that had been affected by flooding.

5 MARKET GATES BUS STATION IMPROVEMENT

The Infrastructure Development Officer provided the Steering Group with an update on the proposed improvement work to be completed at Market Gates Bus Station from the Local Growth Sustainable Transport Fund. He advised that some of the scheduled improvement works may not be completed in this financial year but that the monies had been accounted for from this years funding allocation.

In discussing the improvements works the following issues were discussed :-

- Some concern was raised in respect of pigeons, and it was reported that mitigation work was being undertaken.
- Clarification was sought in respect of the plastic cladding to be used and whether this would be washable.
- County Councillor Castle stated that in his opinion there was a need for public convenience facilities under market gates.
- Councillor Jeal asked whether arrows could be used to direct the public to the facilities already provided.
- Clarification was sought in relation to display boards that were to be installed and what type of advertisements could be displayed. The Development Director advised that he would seek clarity on this issue and email Councillor Jeal directly.

6 GREAT YARMOUTH TRANSPORT STRATEGY

The Steering Group considered the Infrastructure Development Officer's draft brief on the Great Yarmouth Transport Strategy which provided a summary of overall process as follows :-

- Analysis of the current and future transport problems and issues
- Development of possible transport options identified by both GYBC and NCC to address the issues
- Use of DFT Early Appraisal Sifting Tool to assess possible transport schemes
- Appraisal of transport schemes in development using a variety of existing modelling tools
- Stakeholder consultation/workshop and identification of a preferred strategy for GYBC and NCC to pursue.

County Councillor Castle commented that he welcomed the strategy and felt that it was a positive document and suggested that continuity was built into the strategy.

Councillor Jeal raised some concern in relation to cycle lanes that are introduced and then not used.

Councillor Plant commented on the issues of traffic management along the Quay, Nelson Road and the Seafront in Great Yarmouth, and he was advised

that work was needed to address the traffic flow.

RESOLVED :

That the support of the Great Yarmouth Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group be noted in respect of the Great Yarmouth Transport Strategy.

7 CAR PARK SIGNING

Members considered the Infrastructure Development Officer's report which provided Members with parking proposals for Great Yarmouth.

In discussing the report the following issues were raised :-

- Staples Roundabout - should be referred to as Fullers Hill Roundabout
- In respect of the signs proposed at Caister Road, Northgate Street and Lawn Avenue, the addition of long stay parking at Fullers Hill Car park.
- Signage at the Market Gates Bus stop was discussed, and it was advised that this would form part of the Market Gate Bus Station improvements.

RESOLVED :

That the support of the Great Yarmouth Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group be noted in respect of the Car Park Signing.

8 THIRD RIVER CROSSING UPDATE

The Infrastructure Development Officer provided the Steering Group with an update on the progression of the Third River Crossing.

9 A47 UPDATE

The Principal Infrastructure Planner provided the Steering group with an update in respect of the A47 Roads Investments Strategy schemes.

Members discussed the need for a strong business case moving forward, it was suggested that there was a need to involve MP's and the Minister in order to achieve the best for Norfolk. The Principal Infrastructure Planner reported that the A47 Alliance were working with Archant to produce postcards to publicise the need for the schemes and gain public support, he advised that a delegation would be taken to Westminster in September and that the Transport Minister, Jesse Norman would be delivered the Business Case on the 19 March 2018.

Mark Frith, Highways England, made reference to a comment made in relation

to a proposed roundabout at the Blofield to North Burlingham Scheme and advised that this was to be a split grade junction and not a roundabout.

10 LGF SCHEMES UPDATE / CONSTRUCTION

The Project Engineer provided the Steering Group with an update on the following construction schemes :-

- **Fullers Hill Roundabout** - Members were advised that landscaping work was still to be undertaken
- **North Quay** - Surfacing work to be undertaken, it was pointed out that this had been scheduled although due to bad weather and freezing temperatures this work had been postponed and had now been re-scheduled.
- **Howard Street** - this scheme has been deferred until next year in order for a more detailed plan to be produced.
- **Right Turn - Asda** - on schedule
- **Great Yarmouth Station Forecourt** - A meeting had been arranged with Greater Anglia.
- **Vauxhall Gardens** - Discussions were currently being undertaken on this matter.
- **Thamesfield Way** - Utility mapping, feasibility study to be progressed
- **Wayfinding** - Report to be taken to the Town Centre Masterplan Working Group

The Infrastructure Development Officer reported on a significant scheme at the junction of Southtown Road, Pasteur Road and Bridge Road, he advised that detailed design had been undertaken and that construction was scheduled for October 2018. Some concern was raised in respect of site lines, visibility and access to the junctions, and it was advised that further discussions in relation to these matters were still to be discussed and that a further detailed report would be brought back to the Steering Group in due course.

Members commented on the exits on to the A47 from the Lidl and B&M sites and were advised that discussions had been undertaken on this matter.

The Infrastructure Development Officer also reported on the proposals for a right turn over Haven Bridge and the possibilities of making more public realm space within this area. This would also give up the road loop in front of the Star Hotel and allow it to become part of the pedestrian realm, providing a blank canvas for Masterplan public realm improvements. He advised that the scheme could also investigate making better use of the triangle of land outside the NNAB centre by rationalising the two one-way limbs of Stonecutters Way that form the triangle. Members agreed that there was a need for a detailed scheme in relation to the right turn at Haven bridge and the possibilities of public realm space to be established.

Councillor Plant asked in relation to the vehicular entrance into the Town Centre from Haven Bridge and whether any improvement works had been

proposed for this area, and he was advised that Officer's were still awaiting the feasibility study results on this matter. Councillor Jeal stated that Members of the Yarmouth Area Committee had also raised concerns in relation to the speed of vehicles travelling down Nottingham Way, Great Yarmouth, and he was advised that this matter would be reported back to the relevant Officer at Norfolk County Council.

RESOLVED :

That approval be given to develop a scheme for Hall Plain to provide a right turn from North Quay over Haven Bridge.

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Yarmouth Area Committee

Councillor Jeal referred to a recent meeting of the Yarmouth Area Committee where the following issues had been raised :-

- Excessive speed of vehicles travelling through Cobholm - It was advised that this matter would be reported back to the appropriate Officer at Norfolk County Council
- Beaconsfield Road proposals, Councillor Jeal reported that the Yarmouth Area Committee opposed the proposals, it was advised that this matter be reported back to the appropriate Officer at Norfolk County Council.

Temporary Traffic Revision Order

Councillor Plant asked in relation to a Temporary Traffic Revision Order that had been requested by the organisers of the Gorleston Cliff Top Gala, Councillor Grey pointed out that drives were being blocked during the event by parked cars. Councillor Jeal suggested that on street parking charges could be introduced to alleviate issues.

Beacon Park - Roundabout Improvements

Members were advised that roundabout improvements at Beacon Park were to be extended for a further three months.

County Councillor Castle asked whether signage at the roundabout was to be improved, and he was advised that this would be completed as part of the improvement work.

Councillor Grey questioned whether further speed limit signs could be introduced on the new link road at Beacon Park and she was advised that as the road had street lighting, no further speed limit signs could be introduced.

The meeting ended at: 13:30