
INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Draft MINUTES

Of a meeting held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on Tuesday 26 June 2018 between 7.30pm and 8.16pm.

Councillors present:

Stephen Giles-Medhurst
(Lead Member for Economic Development)
Martin Trevett (Lead Member for
Infrastructure and Planning Policy)
Angela Killick
Jon Tankard

Joanna Clemens
Peter Getkahn
Paula Hiscocks
Margaret Hofman
Heather Kenison
Chris Lloyd

Officers Present: Geof Muggerridge, Director of Community and Environmental Services
Kimberley Rowley, Head of Regulatory Services
Katherine Frost, Sustainable Projects Officer
Mike Simpson, Committee and Web Officer

Also In attendance: Councillor Diana Barber
Mr Andrew Beck (Member of the public)

Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst in the Chair

IHED01/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Joan King and Andrew Scarth (Cllr Chris Lloyd substituted).

IHED02/18 MINUTES

The minutes of the Sustainable, Development, Planning and Transport Committee meeting held on 13 March 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairmen.

IHED03/18 NOTICE OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

IHED04/18 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

IHED05/18 INTRODUCTION OF A NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER AT THE STATION APPROACH CAR PARK, STATION APPROACH, SOUTH OXHEY

The Head of Regulatory Services introduced the report which detailed the proposed introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the redeveloped Station Approach car park in Station Approach, South Oxhey.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 35(b) Mr Andrew Beck, Vice-Chairman of South Oxhey Residents' Association (SORA) spoke against the TRO. He said the majority of residents were opposed to the proposed new arrangements, and asked that the Council keeps its previous promises relating to charges.

The Head of Regulatory Services replied that the new proposal offered a level of flexibility in parking arrangements. A Member asked whether the proposal included permits for business users, and noted that the proposal differed from the new parking regulations in Rickmansworth in that no additional hour was available for £1. The Head of Regulatory Services said a staggered approach to charges in this car park was not considered viable. This car park was predominantly viewed as a commuter car park, for long term users, considering the close proximity to the station.

A Member asked whether the Station Approach car parks was more likely to be used by shoppers or commuters, and if the latter, would there be a parking facility nearby for shoppers? The Member also asked whether an allowance had been made for business permits, and by introducing the proposed changes was the Council moving cars onto nearby roads?

The Chairman reminded Members that the proposed charges were in fact a return to previously approved charges, The Head of Regulatory Services said in regard to business permits in the past parking bays had remained unused. She had spoken to the South Oxhey Initiative team regarding business permits but had been advised there was no current demand. She added that there was an existing temporary car park at Henbury Way and a large car park would be attached to the new food store.

The Chairman said the Station Approach parking report had been sent in advance to the three Members of the Council that represent South Oxhey and adjacent local ward members, and none had commented.

The Lead Member for Infrastructure and Planning Policy suggested a graduated level of charges might be worth considering, and a Member asked what the timescale of the statutory public consultation was for the making of representations, to which it was replied that it was likely to be late summer/autumn.

A Member asked why the proposed charges were different from those in Rickmansworth, and said he believed people should be prepared to travel greater distances i.e. from the car park to the train station.

A Member asked whether any parking spaces were designated for use by disabled motorists, and if so, for how long may they park? The Chairman replied that two spaces were designated for disabled drivers, but the length of stay entitlement was not known.

The Chairman formerly moved that the report be carried, duly seconded.

A Member asked that more attention be paid to the concerns of the speaker, especially if, as was suggested, the car park was used more by shoppers than commuters. The Member also suggested that a compromise be reached in terms of business parking permits, and that two be made available. The Chairman replied that there was no current demand evident for business permits

A Member said there was scope for different parking schemes.

The Chairman informed the member of the public that he would have a further opportunity to make comments on the proposal at the statutory public consultation.

On being put to the Committee the Chairman declared the motion CARRIED, the voting being 6 For, 0 Against and 4 Abstentions.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendation for a new Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) at Station Approach, South Oxhey, be carried.

IHED06/18 GREEN EXPECTATIONS – SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN 2018-19

The Sustainable Projects Officer introduced the report, and added it was expected that the slight increase in the overall gas emissions would be reduced due to the introduction of a Green Tariff across all sites, except Hertsmere Leisure.

The Chairman moved, duly seconded, that the Green Expectations Action Plan 2018/19 (Appendix 1) be approved, after which questions from the Committee were invited.

Reference item 4.1 on the Action Plan, a Member asked where the three Green Flag accredited sites were within the District. It was advised that the sites were the Aquadrome, Chorleywood House and Leavesden County Park. The Member referred to item 4.2 and expressed concern that management of

Woodlands had slipped over the years and questioned the assertion that targets had been met.

The Chairman explained that the remit of the Committee was to address the retention of the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme and the passing of the Audit. Questions relating to the management of the Woodlands should be raised with the Leisure, Environment and Community Committee.

The Member questioned the work undertaken with 'Friends of' groups as noted in the Action Plan (6.3). The Chairman reiterated that this Committee covered Sustainability, and the other matters raised were not within its remit. A Member said that although the work of 'Friends of' groups sat largely with Leisure there was an element of cross-pollination but would be better addressed to the Leisure, Environment and Community Committee.

A Member was concerned that the report referred to Strategy and Action Plan but that the document was not strategic. They were also concerned that the targets were too vague and asked how Greenhouse Gas emissions could be measured (1.2). A Member responded that emissions are totally and clearly measurable.

The Chairman suggested that in future it may be beneficial to send questions in advance of the meeting to the relevant Officer. The Member said she had emailed the Head of Planning Policy and Projects beforehand and had been sent a link to The Green Expectations Strategy document. .

The Member asked why the target for Waste reduction and recycling (8.1) was lowered, as she believed that raising the target was more appropriate and why the achievement was indicated as 'green'. The Chairman replied that the target remained at 60% and that 62% in the Action Plan illustrated instances of over-achievement.

The Sustainable Projects Officer said in regard to recycling of waste (8.1 and 8.3) that previous targets were met and that provisional data indicated the 2017-18 would also be met so it would not have been correct for the indicator to be anything except green.

A Member asked where Three Rivers sat in comparison with other Local Authorities for recycling, and the Chairman said in the top ten nationally, and first in the County.

The Head of Regulatory Services emphasised that the report and the Action Plan was based on Three Rivers' Green Expectations strategy, as denoted in paragraphs 1.1 and 2.1. of the report.

RESOLVED:

That the Green Expectations Action Plan 2018/19 be approved unanimously.

IHED07/18 WORK PROGRAMME

The Chairman asked the Committee whether Members wished to add or clarify items on the Work Programme, and he asked for dates of future meetings to be included.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee noted the items included in the work programme, including the above amendment as agreed.

CHAIRMAN