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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of Transport, Capital, Inward Investment Working Party

Date: Thursday, 7th January, 2021
Place: Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

Present: Councillor R Woodley (Chair)
Councillors S Wakefield (Vice-Chair), S Ayles, M Borton, K Buck,
P Collins and D Cowan

In Attendance: S Moore, S Harrington, J Matthews, M Warren, T Row and
N Constantine

Start/End Time: 6.30 pm – 7.35 p.m.

1 Apologies and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Moring.

2 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared at the meeting.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 22nd October 2020

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 22nd October 2020 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

4 Cycling Strategy

The Working Party received an oral report in response to the notice of motion that had been referred to it by Cabinet at its meeting on 3rd November 2020 (Minute 526 refers). The motion called upon the Council to generate a comprehensive strategy to increase the uptake of cycling and make cycling safer in the Borough and had been presented to Council at its meeting on 10th September 2020 (Minute 313 refers),

The Working Party discussed the motion and cycling issues in some detail and noted the work that had been undertaken to date. The Transport Strategy Team were developing the Local Transport Plan (LTP) 4 and a cycling strategy could be included as part of this, ensuring that the long-term ambitions for all modes of transport in the Borough were addressed together and not in isolation. The LTP would run from 2022 to 2026 and would be published in early 2022. An update on the LTP4 would be presented to the Working Party at a meeting later in the year.

The Working Party identified that the connectivity of cycle routes north to south required improvement. An interim Transport Strategy was currently being prepared for the Borough and this could possibly be included as part of this strategy. A report / briefing would be added to the Agenda for a future meeting of the Working Party to provide an update on the progress to date and what the next

steps are. As part of this, a detailed map of the cycle routes / network within the Borough would be included. The use of electric bikes and infrastructure requirements, as well as the connectivity of cycle routes such as at Shoebury Station, should also be considered as part of this strategy.

Resolved:

1. That an update on the LTP4, including the development of a cycling strategy, be presented to the Working Party at a meeting later in the year
2. That a report / briefing be added to the Agenda for the next/future meeting of the Working Party providing an update on the progress of the Transport Strategy to date and what the next steps are.

5 Ekco Park Estate

The Working Party received an oral report in response to the notice of motion that had been referred to it by Cabinet at its meeting on 3rd November 2020 (Minute 526 refers). The motion had been presented to Council at its meeting on 10th September 2020 (Minute 315 refers) and called upon the Council to:

1. Undertake to investigate the un-adopted highway and land at the Ekco Park Estate with a view to bringing all land on that estate to adoptable standards; and
2. Highlight to all Councillors future planning applications that include any un-adopted or unadoptable highway or land for consideration in the planning process.

The report provided an overview of the legal issues of highways adoption, including the requirements and responsibilities of the Highway Authority and as part of the planning process.

The Working Party discussed the subject in some detail and found the information on planning extremely helpful and informative. It noted the Council's position in relation to action sought in relation to the motion and agreed that it would be beneficial for the subject to be included as a subject for a Development Control training session for Councillors.

Resolved:-

1. That a Development Control training session on the planning rules regarding adoption of highways.

6 Tyre Pump Stations

The Working Party received an oral report in response to the notice of motion that had been referred to it by Cabinet at its meeting on 3rd November 2020 (Minute 526 refers). The motion had been presented to Council at its meeting on 10th September 2020 (Minute 321 refers). It called upon the Council to install communal bike pumps, similar to those seen in cities such as Portsmouth, in areas such as our segregated cycle lanes and high footfall areas to allow for cyclists and users of wheelchairs and pushchairs to inflate their tyres.

The Working Party felt there would be some merit in investigating the feasibility of providing such facilities. The Council's Head of Traffic & Highways undertook to contact her colleagues at Portsmouth City Council to ascertain their experiences and if they had undertaken any risk assessments in providing them. It might be possible to seek funding to install such facilities under Tranche 2 funding for Active Travel Schemes and/or the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Resolved:-

That Portsmouth City Council be contacted to ascertain their experiences on the installation communal bike pumps in the City as part of the feasibility study to provide similar facilities in the Borough.

Chair: _____

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