

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE** held at County Hall, Matlock on 13 February 2020

**PRESENT**

Cabinet Member - Councillor S A Spencer

Also in attendance – Councillors T Ainsworth and G Hickton

In accordance with Standing Orders, Councillor J Atkin attended the meeting as local Member in respect of Minute No. 13/20.

**11/20**      **PETITIONS**      **RESOLVED** (1) to receive the under-mentioned petition:-

<b>Location/Subject</b>	<b>Signatures</b>	<b>Local Member</b>
Warren Carr, Oldfield Lane – Request for 30mph Speed Limit	13	Councillor J Atkin
Whitwell, Duke Street – Request for Residents Parking	22	Councillor D McGregor

(2) that the Executive Director – Economy, Transport and Environment investigates and considers the matters raised in the petitions.

**12/20**      **MINUTES**      **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure held on 23 January 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

**13/20**      **ADDITION OF FUNDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019-20 – DARLEY BRIDGE**

The issues of large vehicles being unable to pass each other due to the constrained road widths at Darley Bridge was well known to the County Council and would benefit from better management of traffic movements.

A proposal to address the issues with a system of vehicle activated signs (VAS) was explored in 2013-14 but not progressed and in 2018 South Darley Parish Council approached the County Council again requesting reconsideration of the issue. A public meeting was held on 21 November 2018, to ascertain public support to justify carrying out further work on a mitigation scheme. A vote was taken with 25 in favour and 1 against and this was taken as a mandate to commit Officer time and resources on designing a suitable VAS scheme and to explore funding streams. Work has

progressed and a scheme has now been drawn up and costs estimated based upon current manufacturers' pricing for the required equipment.

HJ Enthoven and Sons committed to covering the cost of the supply of the relevant equipment up to a maximum of £25,000 and have also committed to donating an area of land to enable the construction of a passing place for lorries on Oldfield Lane. The County Council would be responsible for the cost of all associated civil engineering works and the on-going maintenance of all additional assets. The County Council now needed to add this contribution to its capital works programme in order that the appropriate works could be programmed.

Monitoring of the scheme would be undertaken and a review would be carried out after the scheme has been operational for a year.

Councillor Spencer stated that specialist professional officers had worked on proposals for Darley Bridge and had taken into account all relevant conditions, physical and financial constraints.

The Cabinet Member allowed Peter Savidge, Richard Barton and Kevin Dean to address the meeting. Paul Morris, Chair of Stanton in Peak Parish Council and Philippa Lloyd were also allowed to put forward comments. The comments included a request for details of the scheme, the type of vehicle activation control to be explained to residents and local representatives; the risk to vehicles and pedestrians using Darley Bridge; the use of traffic control on the bridge; and the suggestion that a feasibility study be undertaken to evaluate a new bridge. Concerns were also expressed in relation to non-compliance with the VAS, increased volume of HGVs and the lack of detailed information for residents.

Councillor Jason Atkin, Local County Councillor covering Darley Bridge also addressed the meeting and felt that as the matter had been the subject of discussion for a number of year progression was required. He therefore supported the recommendations.

Councillor Spencer responded in detail to the comments and proposed that County Council officers draw up a detailed proposal, which would include technical documents, with a view to holding constructive discussions with South Darley Parish Council, the elected local body, on an agreed date and venue.

**RESOLVED** (1) to note the commitment of a financial contribution of £25,000 and land dedication from HJ Enthoven and Sons to facilitate highway improvement works needed to mitigate the effects of long standing vehicle conflict situations at Darley Bridge;

(2) to approve the inclusion of a scheme in the Highways and Transport Capital Programme 2019-20 for Darley Bridge; and

(3) that officers draw up a detailed proposal, including technical documents, to discuss at a meeting with South Darley Parish Council at a venue and date to be agreed.

**14/20 PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE FOOD BAG PROJECT IN THE HIGH PEAK**

On 6 June 2019, the Cabinet Member approved the expansion of the Food Bag project across the Glossop and Buxton areas to issue compostable food bags that would encourage more householders to divert food waste for composting through their garden waste bins for the period of October 2019 to March 2020.

Surveys have found that the average composting rate across the Buxton area for 2018/19 was 0.45kg and for Glossop was 0.54kg. The project incurred additional costs to supply compostable bags to households and to promote the scheme. These costs could be absorbed by the landfill savings resulting from the project provided that households continued to divert more than 0.40kg per household per week.

The food waste collected was composted at the County Council's in-vessel composting plant at Waterswallows, Buxton. This facility was managed by Suez on the County Council's behalf and has confirmed it was satisfied with the inputs from the project and would continue to spread the resulting compost on agricultural land in the Buxton area.

The Government has consulted on its new Resource and Waste Strategy and one of its elements was to eliminate food waste from landfill by 2030. The Strategy included the proposal to collect an increased amount of food waste separately from garden waste on a weekly basis from 2023 and to treat it at Anaerobic Digestion facilities in future. In view of this it would be unwise to expand the current food diversion project in High Peak. However, the councils did not want to discourage the existing participants for composting their food waste and it was therefore deemed practical to continue the project in its current form until there was greater clarity on the Government's intentions.

Approval was now being sought for the continuation of the compostable food bag for householders in the Glossop and Buxton areas for 2020/21.

**RESOLVED** (1) to approve the continuation of the compostable food bag project in the Glossop and Buxton areas until March 2021, whereby the County Council finds the costs outlined in the report from disposal savings; and

(2) that a further report is submitted to the Cabinet Member in due course to update on progress with this food waste diversion project and the implications of the Government's Resources and Waste Strategy.

**15/20 CHARGES FOR DEPOSITS OF LANDOWNER STATEMENTS AND DECLARATIONS**

Section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980 provides a mechanism by which landowners could protect their land from public rights of way coming into existence across it, as a result of any future or further physical public use of ways over the land. It required a map and statement to be deposited with the

County Council, and to continue this statutory protection, a declaration must be deposited with the County Council by the landowner within 20 years of the deposit of a map and statement. To maintain the statutory protection further declarations need to be deposited with the Council at ongoing intervals of less than 20 years.

Section 15A (1) of the Commons Act 2006 provides a way for landowners to bring to an end any period of recreational use of land “as of right” by depositing a landowner statement.

The Growth and Infrastructure Act 2013 enabled the introduction within the Commons (Registration of Town or Village Greens) and Dedicated Highways (Landowner Statements and Declarations)(England) Regulations 2013 of a provision by which the County Council might charge landowners depositing these items with the Council reasonable fees in respect of the associated work it has to carry out. In order to maintain a sustainable delivery of this service, it was considered that the County Council now needed to introduce charges.

It was considered that it would be reasonable to charge fees on each application for the deposit of a section 31(6) Highways Act 1980 statement with map; a section 15A (1) Commons Act 2006 statement; a combined section 31(6) Highways Act 1980 statement with map and a section 15A (1) Commons Act 2006 statement, or Highways Act 1980 declaration; with the following fee structure:

- (a) Areas of land up to 100 hectares - £309
- (b) Areas of land 100-500 hectares - £359
- (c) Areas of land 500-1000 hectares - £409
- (d) Areas of land in excess of 1000 hectares - £459,

always subject, where the land comprises more than one parcel of land or the land was segmented by highways, to additional fees of £50 for each additional parcel and/or segment.

**RESOLVED** to approve the introduction of charging of fees in accordance with the fee structure described in the report and minute, in respect of applications received by the Council for the deposit of statements with maps pursuant to section 31 (6) Highways Act 1980, statements pursuant to section 15A (1) of the Commons Act 2006, statements with maps pursuant to section 31 (6) of the Highways Act 1980 combined with statements pursuant to section 15A (1) of the Commons Act 2006, and declarations under section 31 (6).