

Regeneration & Transport Select Committee

A meeting of Regeneration & Transport Select Committee was held on Monday, 28th April, 2008.

Present: Cllr Maurice Perry (Chairman), Cllr Dick Cains, Cllr John Fletcher, Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Bill Noble, Cllr Fred Salt and Cllr Michael Smith.

Officers: R Bradley, B Buckley, M Robinson (DNS); D Ladd, Mrs T Harrison, N Hart (LD).

Also in attendance: No other persons were present.

Apologies: Cllr Kevin Faulks and Cllr Steve Walmsley.

RTS 1/08 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

RTS 2/08 **Draft minutes of the meeting held on 25th March 2008**

Consideration was given to the content of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 25th March 2008.

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th March 2008 be forwarded to Council for consideration.

RTS 3/08 **Review of Highways and Footpath Management:-**

Members were presented with the Scope and Project Plan for the Review of Highways and Footpath Management.

Following the tripartite meeting the Chair suggested that the issue of pavement parking, its impact on footpaths, obstruction and enforcement be removed from the Scope and Project Plan as the inclusion of the issue would make the criteria too big for the committee to undertake at this time, therefore it would be reviewed at a later time.

It was suggested that the title of the review be changed to Highway Network Management as Highways was generally used to define a specific roadway yet the Committee were reviewing various roadways.

Members were provided with briefing notes from Officers and discussed the following matters related to Road and Footpath Maintenance:-

- Current performance, condition survey and Best Value Performance Indicator information
- Intervention levels, repair statistics and general policy information
- Insurance Statistics
- Assessment criteria for schemes
- Utility liaison and repair policy
- Public Perception
- Marketing and Promotion
- Highway maintenance performance targets
- Analysis of viewpoint survey comments

- Multi authority comparisons

CONCLUDED that:-

1. The title to be changed from "Review of Highways and Footpath Management" to "Review of Highway Network Management".
2. Pavement parking, its impact on footpaths, obstruction and enforcement issues' to be removed from the Scope.
3. Head of Technical Services provide a breakdown of the reasons for claims against the Council relating to highway/footpath networks.
4. Highways Officers report back on whether emergency services are informed of any roadwork's therefore enabling them to choose alternative routes prior to emergencies.
5. Highways Officers provide all Members with a list of all highway/footpath work being undertaken by utility companies and Stockton Borough Council.
6. Information be obtained from the Strategic Advisor for Research and Consultation.
7. Members submit questions relating to the issues on the Scope to the Scrutiny Officer who will gather the information and provide as evidence at a future meeting.
8. All Councillors and Parish Councillors be invited to act as expert witnesses.
9. The Scope and Project Plan be agreed with the amendments changes.
10. The next meeting to be held on 19th May 2008 will be held at Kingsway, Billingham where Members will view the Street Work System used by utility companies when serving notice of work to be undertaken.