

Regeneration & Transport Select Committee

A meeting of Regeneration & Transport Select Committee was held on Monday, 24th May, 2010.

Present: Cllr Maurice Perry(Chairman) Cllr Dick Cains(Vice-Chair), Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr John Fletcher, Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Bill Noble, Cllr Fred Salt

Officers: Bill Trewick, Richard McGuckin, Mick McLone, Neil Ellison, Sue Daniels, Tara Connor, Simon Milner(DNS), Vince Rutland(PPC), Graham Birtle, Kirsty Wannop(LDS)

Also in attendance: Member of the Public.

Apologies: Cllr Michael Smith

RTS 8/10 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr John Fletcher declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in the item entitled EIT Review of Events, Arts and Tourism as a member of Billingham Folklore Festival.

RTS 9/10 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th January 2010 and 22nd February 2010**

The Chairman signed the minutes of the meetings held on 11th January 2010 and 22nd February 2010.

RTS 10/10 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th April 2010**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2010.

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2010 be forwarded to Council for consideration.

RTS 11/10 **Monitoring Updates**

Members were asked to consider the assessments of progress for the previously agreed recommendations. There were outstanding recommendations from the reviews of Pavement Parking, Highway Network Management, Sustainable School Transport, and Street Lighting.

Pavement Parking

Members requested that the scoring matrix used to assist Councillors in prioritising the request for verge parking in their wards be sent to all Ward Councillors.

The Committee agreed the Members Guide produced to address parking problems which was previously delayed due to ongoing discussions with the Police.

Pavement Parking was featured in the May issue of Stockton News and another would follow later in the year.

Highway Network Management

Members requested a demonstration of the Highway Asset Management System when it was fully operational.

Sustainable School Travel

Members were made aware of three schools which did not have a travel plan in place which were Hardwick Green Primary School, Our Lady and St Bede's Roman Catholic Secondary School, Westland's Special Needs School. Local Transport Plan funding had been committee for supporting the latest round of successful school travel plan submissions. The work programme would shift to the monitoring and review of existing Travel Plans, and the drive to increase the levels of walking, cycling and public transport usage for the home-school journey. Sustainable school travel development was closely aligned to the aims and objectives of the Healthy Schools Programme and the Healthy Weight Healthy Lives Strategy.

Street Lighting

The Committee was informed that the policy for the Lighting Board's Code of Practice for Highway Lighting Management was currently being developed in partnership with Durham County Council and was due to go to Cabinet in July.

CONCLUDED that

1. Members be sent the Scoring Matrix used to assist councillors in prioritising the request for verge parking in their wards.
2. Member be contacted when the Highway Asset Management System was fully operational.
3. The information be noted.

RTS Exclusion of the Press and Public

12/10

RESOLVED that under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the act.

RTS EIT Review of Events, Arts, and Tourism

13/10

The Committee was presented with and agreed the scope and project plan for the review and noted the key objectives as follows:

- The review will be of interest to local residents and visitors to Stockton. Many of the activities provided are designed to ensure access to all and focus upon the 'feel good' factor that attending a high quality, mostly free event brings.
- Improving the council's events portfolio through innovation and efficiency will improve the social well being of residents. Attracting visitors to Stockton will contribute to the economic well being of the area and assist in improving the reputation of the area.

The Committee was provided with financial information on the events in the Stockton Borough and noted the limited resources in relation to the number and scale of events provided.

The Committee was informed that a booklet would soon be widely available giving information about events in Stockton Borough and that this information would also be included in the next Stockton News.

Members questioned how the “one-off” events being trialled might become permanent events. They were informed that a full evaluation was undertaken after the event to establish its success, including the economic benefits, to consider visitor feedback and to determine its future provision.

Members discussed possibilities of doubling up events which might include linking to events in neighbouring local authority areas.

CONCLUDED that information be noted.

RTS Work Programme

14/10

The next meeting of the Committee was 21st June 2010. Members would receive the baseline information for the arts element of the EIT review.

The report of winter maintenance would be presented at a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

RTS Chairs Update

15/10

The Chair had no further information to give to the Committee.