

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Transport and Planning
Date	11 February 2016
Present	Councillor Gillies (Executive Member)
In Attendance	Councillors Craghill, Gunnell, Levene, Looker and Waller

47. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare if he had any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests in the business on the agenda. He declared that he had none.

48. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Sessions held on the 7 and 14 January 2016 be signed and approved by the Executive Member.

49. Public Participation - Decision Session

It was reported that there had been eleven registered speakers under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Tony Fisher from Strensall and Towthorpe Parish Council spoke regarding road safety. He advised the Executive Member that adding cycle lanes on to York Road would not ease the traffic problems encountered there, and that a pelican crossing was needed. He raised concerns that funding was only allocated to locations where accidents had already occurred and he considered that this was a reactive rather than proactive approach. He felt that only a small number of residents were being consulted on highway items in the area. He considered that the residents and the Parish Council were not being consulted appropriately and that their concerns were being ignored. He wanted to work co-operatively with the Council and the Executive Member to identify the source of the problems addressing road safety in the area.

One of the registered speakers did not attend.

The following speakers spoke regarding Agenda Item 4 (Monkgate Parking Changes):

Paul Bushnell spoke about how he had safety concerns regarding the current parking layout. He stated that when the car parking bays were full that a situation called 'bay diving' occurred, when cars rushed from one side to another down the street. Double parking occurred when cars waited for a space. This was particularly bad on the southern side of Monkgate, and was very hazardous for cyclists. He wanted more parking spaces to be introduced. He urged the Executive Member to select the do nothing option and to seek an alternative arrangement.

Joy Plaskitt expressed concerns that the time of the Decision Session had been rescheduled in that it would not allow for people who worked to attend. She gave an example of how removing the car parking spaces affected her in that she had to use the Monk Bar Car Park overnight when returning home from evening classes as there were no spaces outside of her house. She pointed out the car parking spaces on Monkgate were oversubscribed. She suggested that an alternative proposal would be to use marked bays on the road to avoid people abandoning their cars and to allow space for two cars instead of one.

Anita Adams stated that the photographic evidence used by Officers had been taken during the day when most residents were not at home. She questioned why Council Highways Officers did not voice concerns when planning permission was granted for new developments in the area, when they were aware of visibility problems at the Agar Street junction.

Vanessa Smith spoke on behalf of residents of Orchard Court. She stated that it was dangerous exiting Agar Street with a vehicle since the cycle lane had been put in as cyclists thought they had right of way. She added that it was regrettable that in order to implement a safety measure that residents only parking spaces had to be removed, but if nothing was done and if there was an accident there might be a liability on the Council. She urged the Executive Member to approve the removal of the spaces but to also look at alternative measures to recompense Monkgate residents.

Councillor Looker spoke as the Ward Member. She strongly supported the proposed scheme as detailed in Annex A of the Officer's report on road safety concerns, and also stated that it was dangerous exiting Agar Street. She felt that as this scheme had removed residents only parking in the city centre, that perhaps it would be a good idea to revisit other residents parking zones in Monkgate and the Groves.

Barbara Hunt spoke regarding Agenda Item 6 (East Mount Road: Consideration of Objection received to recently advertised proposal to amend the York Parking, Stopping and Waiting Traffic Regulation Order). She informed the Executive Member that she was the owner of the short vehicle mentioned in the report at Paragraph 7, and when she could not park there she used a longer space. She asked that the short space be retained as to lose this would be losing a longer space.

Councillor Craghill spoke regarding Agenda Item 8 (City and Environmental Services Capital Programme-2015/16 Monitor 2 Report). She spoke regarding the transfer of funds for road safety from the Navigation Road Speed Management Scheme to the Speed Review Process budget for other parts of York. It was noted that the funding for the scheme was originally given as a result of a petition as older people had found it difficult crossing Navigation Road. The area had suffered traffic wise as it had been used as a rat run and cut through. She felt that more crossing points should be installed as this would mean that more people would get out of their houses more, and would generally feel healthier.

Councillor Waller spoke regarding Agenda Item 9 (Local Safety Schemes- Casualty Reduction Programme 2015/16). He shared his thoughts with the Executive Member on the proposed schemes;

- Thanet Road- there were sight problems opposite the rugby club and a cable box which obscured cars.
- Tudor Road/Kingsway West-how would a bin lorry manage this?
- Cornlands Road-he was grateful for the markings put on after resurfacing and although residents the removal of railings, he hadn't felt they had obscured.

Councillor Gunnell spoke as the Ward Member regarding Agenda Item 10 (Objections to the advertised Residents Priority Parking Scheme on Nunthorpe Grove, Micklegate). She stated that she supported the Officer's recommendation mainly as the neighbouring streets were in Residents Parking schemes. Cars were also unevenly parking on Nunthorpe Grove making other vehicles having to zig zag in and out to travel down the street, which was dangerous.

Councillor Levene spoke regarding Agenda Item 11 (Free Weekend Bus Travel for Young People in January and February 2016 Update). He felt that the Executive Member should approve Option 2 to approve funding of the offer for a further period to expire at the end of the Easter Holidays, mainly as the original period of a month, had been cut short due to flooding. He also felt that the trial had not been advertised widely and so the cut off point was not known to young people.

50. Monkgate Parking Changes

The Executive Member considered a report which asked him to approve changes to the parking layout on Monkgate.

Officers reported that they endorsed calls from Councillor Looker to revisit parking zones in Monkgate and the Groves and comments made by Paul Bushnell about double parking. This particular issue had not been brought to their attention before. They also stated that they had to balance the use of the road by various users. They also informed the Executive Member that a report into a Parking Review at a city wide level which would be considered at the next Executive meeting, would look into various options for residents parking across the city.

- Resolved: (i) Approve the parking proposals as shown in Annex A noting the changes that may come about as a result of the procurement from the Parking Review report that is considered by Executive.
- (ii) That the installation of cycle parking stands in the two parking spaces on the south side of Monkgate be approved.

Reason: To enhance road safety by improving visibility for drivers emerging on to Monkgate.

51. Consideration of Petitions received from Residents of Haxby and Wigginton

The Executive Member received a report which detailed the options that could be taken in response to two petitions submitted by Councillor Richardson in respect of implementing parking restrictions on Abelton Grove and South Lane.

The Executive Member reported that he had received an email from Councillor Richardson requesting more meaningful engagement with residents.

Officers stated that they had investigated the reported requests but they advised the Executive Member that the situation was similar across the city.

The Executive Member suggested that residents could put a white line in front of their properties and residents parking could be investigated, and that Haxby Town Council might wish to come up some proposals to submit to Officers.

Resolved: That the matters are closed and no further action be taken.

Reason: Both areas were included and considered earlier this year as part of the 2015 Review of Waiting Restrictions. A recommendation of no further action was confirmed by the Director of City and Environmental Services. Extracts from this report are attached as Annex A (Abelton Grove) and Annex B (South Lane).

52. East Mount Road: Consideration of Objection received to recently advertised proposal to amend the York Parking, Stopping and Waiting Traffic Regulation Order

The Executive Member considered a report which concerned a resident parking bay on East Mount Road.

Resolved: That Option B, to uphold the objections (in part) and implement the changes outlined as (a) and (c) in paragraph 6; the white bar marking to remain in situ, be approved.

Reason: To take on board residents concerns whilst still achieving an improvement to the parking amenity for residents of 50 East Mount Road.

53. Consideration of Petitions received from Residents of 110-128 Broadway (Fulford & Heslington Ward)

The Executive Member considered a report which asked him to approve a formal consultation with residents in response to a request for Residents Priority Parking for the properties of 110-128 Broadway.

The Executive Member read out the written representation received from Councillor Aspden, which was attached at the annex of written representations.

Officers stated that they would not normally enter into direct contact with the Ministry of Defence or other organisation themselves on behalf of residents.

Resolved: That the formal consultation be approved.

Reason: The documentation package we provide enables residents to make an informed decision.

54. City and Environmental Services Capital Programme – 2015/16 Monitor 2 Report

The Executive Member considered a report which set out progress to date on schemes in the 2015/16 City and Environmental Services (CES) Capital Programme, including budget spend to the end of December 2015.

In response to comments raised under Public Participation by Councillor Craghill, the Acting Director of City and Environmental Services informed the Executive Member that the speed survey undertaken could be redone at a cost of £300-£400. The Executive Member agreed to this being carried out.

Resolved: (i) That the amendments to the 2015/16 City and Environmental Services Capital Programme as set out in Annexes 1 and 2 be approved.

(ii) That a speed survey be undertaken on Navigation Road/Walmgate.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the council's capital programme.

55. Local Safety Schemes - Casualty Reduction Programme 2015/16

The Executive Member received a report which sought approval of a detailed 2015/16 Casualty Reduction programme, following initial consultation which identified three packages of work-Schemes, Minor Works and Studies.

Resolved: That Option (i), i.e to approve in principle the schemes of Hull Road/Tang Hall Lane, Cornlands Road/Gale Lane and Tudor Road/Kingsway West and authorise Officers to undertake further local consultation and advertisement of traffic orders as necessary, and implement the schemes if necessary are received be approved. Any insurmountable objections will be reported back to the Executive Member for a decision.

Reason: To improve the overall level of safety in the city and reduce the number of casualties.

56. Objections to the advertised Residents Priority Parking Scheme on Nunthorpe Grove, Micklegate Ward

The Executive Member considered a report which informed him of the objections received to the proposal to make Nunthorpe Grove a Residents Priority Parking area.

Resolved: That the scheme be implemented as advertised, and a 24 hour Residents Priority Parking area on Nunthorpe Grove be introduced.

Reason: This is in line with a well established procedure when dealing with requests for new Residents Parking Schemes; however the return percentages are very close to the implementation limits.

57. Free Weekend bus travel for young people in January & February 2016 update

The Executive Member considered a report which provided him with an updated on the take up of the free weekend bus travel offer as agreed by him at his Decision Session on 9 December 2015.

In response to Councillor Levene's comments raised under Public Participation, Officers responded that the trial was advertised on buses.

The Executive Member stated that he was disappointed when he saw the take up figures. He informed Officers and those present that he had recently met with the Youth Council and had asked if they would work with Council Officers and the bus companies to investigate a way to encourage more young people to use the bus more often. He said that he would make a small amount of funding available for them, and that he was happy to work with the Youth Council rather than extending the scheme as it was in its current form.

Resolved: That the free travel offer be finished at the end of February but instead of extending the scheme, money be made available to Officers to work with the Youth Council and other relevant groups of young people to investigate measures which would increase bus use by young people.

Reason: (i) The scheme has not generated increased bus use in the target market (children and young people).

(ii) To find out the views of young people in respect of bus travel.

58. Petitions: Langdale Avenue and Rydal Avenue Area - Highway Condition and Nevinson Grove, Stirling Grove, Wilsthorpe Grove (Heslington Lane) - request for inclusion in future resurfacing plans

The Executive Member received a report which concerned two petitions that related to highway condition and the adoption of private streets. It also asked him to approve a review of the existing policy for the adoption of private streets.

Officers informed the Executive Member that there were approximately 100 unadopted roads in York, and that residents would have to be in agreement before a street could be adopted. The responsibility for funding bringing a road up to adoptable standard rested with the frontagers of the street with a potential contribution from the Council under the existing policy. Funding for the future maintenance of the street would be allocated from Council resources once it was adopted by the Council.

Resolved: That the findings of the investigations surrounding the petitions be noted and the review of the existing policy for the adoption of private streets be approved.

Reason: To ensure that the most appropriate policy is in place relating to the adoption of private streets.

Councillor Gillies, Chair

[The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 3.05 pm].