



**Notice of a public meeting of  
Decision Session - Executive Member for Transport and Planning**

**To:** Councillor Gillies

**Date:** Thursday, 8 September 2016

**Time:** 2.00 pm

**Venue:** The Auden Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G047)

**AGENDA**

**Notice to Members - Calling In:**

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in any item\* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democracy Support Group by **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 4:00 pm.**

\*With the exception of matters that have been the subject of a previous call in, require Full Council approval or are urgent which are not subject to the call-in provisions. Any called in items will be considered by the Corporate and Scrutiny Management Policy and Scrutiny Committee.

Written representations in respect of items on this agenda should be submitted to Democratic Services **by Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 5.00pm.**

## 1. **Declarations of Interest**

At this point in the meeting, Members are asked to declare:

- any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests
- any prejudicial interests or
- any disclosable pecuniary interests

which they may have in respect of business on this agenda.

## 2. **Minutes** (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11 August 2016.

## 3. **Public Participation - Decision Session**

At this point in the meeting, members of the public who have registered their wish to speak at the meeting can do so. The deadline for registering is **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 5:00pm.**

Members of the public may speak on an item on the agenda or an issue within the Executive Member's remit,

### **Filming, Recording or Webcasting Meetings**

Please note this meeting may be filmed and webcast or audio recorded and that includes any registered public speakers, who have given their permission. This broadcast can be viewed at <http://www.york.gov.uk/webcasts> or, if sound recorded, this will be uploaded onto the Council website following the meeting.

Residents are welcome to photograph, film or record Councillors and Officers at all meetings open to the press and public. This includes the use of social media reporting, i.e. tweeting. Anyone wishing to film, record or take photos at any public meeting should contact the Democracy Officer (whose contact details are at the foot of this agenda) in advance of the meeting.

The Council's protocol on Webcasting, Filming & Recording of Meetings ensures that these practices are carried out in a manner both respectful to the conduct of the meeting and all those present. It can be viewed at

[http://www.york.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/11406/protocol\\_for\\_webcasting\\_filming\\_and\\_recording\\_of\\_council\\_meetings\\_20160809.pdf](http://www.york.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/11406/protocol_for_webcasting_filming_and_recording_of_council_meetings_20160809.pdf)

**4. Petition: Lighting on Walmgate Stray** (Pages 7 - 12)

This report concerns a petition which closed on 7 July 2016, requesting that City of York Council install lighting on the footpaths through Walmgate Stray.

**5. Urgent Business**

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officer:

Name: Laura Clark

Contact Details:

- Telephone – (01904) 554538
- Email – [Laura.Clark@york.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Clark@york.gov.uk)

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

**This information can be provided in your own language.**

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

 (01904) 551550

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

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Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Transport and Planning
Date	11 August 2016
Present	Councillor Gillies (Executive Member)

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## 20. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests that he might have in relation to the business on the agenda. No additional interests were declared.

## 21. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the last Decision Session held on 14 July be signed and then approved by the Executive Member as a correct record subject to:

In Minute 14 – Public Participation - Definitive Map Modification Order: Hoisty Field, Fulford  
The addition of the word 'not', prior to the words 'make an order...' to Graham Cheyne's comments.

## 22. Public Participation - Decision Session

It was reported that there had been two registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme on the following items:

Consideration of the Objection Received to a Proposed Amendment to the York Parking, Stopping and Waiting Traffic Regulation Order 2014: R16: St Benedict's Road, Residents' Priority Parking on Clement Street

Yvonne Speight, spoke on behalf of Abbey Signs, in favour of the amendments to resident's parking on Clement Street. She informed the Executive Member that, whilst the plan meant the removal of two existing spaces, the dropped kerb would ensure ease of access and would allow parking for additional vehicles off-road. Mrs. Speight also explained that the current situation

meant that it was impossible to pass parked cars, and rendered the turning circle unusable, forcing residents to reverse onto Nunnery Lane.

Safe Routes to School – Sheriff Hutton Road, Strensall/ The Village

Tony Fisher, speaking behalf of Strensall Parish Council, explained that local residents were generally in support of the report's recommendations. He informed the Executive Member that the lack of a safe crossing in the village meant an increased number of parents drove their children to school, which did not help traffic conditions. He explained that whilst the Parish Council were aware of the budget constraints, they felt further action would be required when funds allowed. Mr. Fisher also requested the installation of the riverside gate prior to the start of the 2016/17 school year and questioned the effectiveness of the Vehicle Activated Sign and hatch marking. Mr. Fisher finished by reiterating the need for a pedestrian refuge and a 20 mph speed limit in the centre of the village.

**23. Consideration of the Objection received to a proposed amendment to the York Parking, Stopping and Waiting Traffic Regulation Order 2014: R16: St Benedict's Road, Residents' Priority Parking on Clement Street**

The Executive Member received a report which asked him to consider amendments to the York, Stopping Parking and Waiting Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) in order to facilitate changes to the R16 Residents " Priority Parking zone (Respark) to allow vehicle access to a private parking area to the rear of 113 Nunnery Lane accessed from Clement Street.

It was noted that one objection had been received relating to the loss of parking on Clement Street, details of which were outlined in the report. It was confirmed that the Executive Member had received full details of the objection and was aware of the concerns raised. The Executive Member stated that he felt Officers had provided a full representation of the objection at the meeting.

Consideration was then given to the following options:

1. Implement the proposal as advertised.
2. Uphold the objection and leave the residents parking amenity on Clement Street unaltered.

Resolved: That the proposed amendments to the York Parking, Stopping and Waiting Traffic Regulation Order 2014 in respect of the R16: Resident's Priority Parking zone in St Benedict's Road/Clement Street be implemented as advertised.

Reason: To facilitate legitimate vehicle access from the public highway onto private land.

#### **24. Safe Routes To School – Sheriff Hutton Road, Strensall/ The Village**

The Executive Member received a report which presented him with the findings of a feasibility study into pedestrian safety at the junction of The Village and Sheriff Hutton Road, Strensall. The report also included the results of consultation on a proposal to provide a vehicle activated sign on Sheriff Hutton Road, and sought a decision on implementing the scheme.

Officers responded to the concerns raised by the public speaker and clarified that the measures suggested would be a starting point and that the road hatching would be reviewed at Stage 3 and 4 of the Road Safety Audit.

In respect of the Parish Council's request to fit the gate prior to the start of the new school year, Officers stated this would be fitted as soon as was reasonably practicable, following necessary riverside works.

The Executive Member highlighted the possible use of Ward funds to assist the Parish Council with the mitigation of traffic problems in the village.

Consideration was then given to the following options:

(i) – Approve the introduction of the proposed signs (Annex E), along with the changes to the riverside path access (Annex B). Additionally approve the provision of a hatch marking to tighten the entry radius at the junction (Annex F).

(ii) – As option (i) but with revisions as the Executive Member deems appropriate.

(iii) – Do nothing, reallocate spend elsewhere.

Resolved: That approval be given to Option (i), the introduction of warning signs, as shown at Annex E of the report, changes to the riverside path access, as shown at Annex B, and the provision of a hatch marking to tighten the entry radius at the junction of Sheriff Hutton Road/The Village, shown at Annex F.

Reason: This option provides a value for money safety scheme which aims to make crossing the road safer.

## **25. Pedestrian Crossing Request Evaluation and Prioritisation Methodology**

The Executive Member considered a report which sought to agree a process for the development of a new methodology for evaluating and prioritising pedestrian crossing improvement requests. It was noted that the resulting prioritised list would be used to influence sites for investigation, and implemented as appropriate, from future years' Transport Capital Programmes.

The Executive Member noted Councillor Craghill's comments in respect of this item and he confirmed that the issue of suppressed demand was already covered within the new process and that any further investment would be dealt with as part of the budget process.

The Executive Member then considered the following options:

Option 1: Adopt the staged process proposed in paragraph 9 of the report, to deal with 2016/17 schemes and the prioritising of sites using the new formula identified in Annex B.

Option 2: Adopt the staged process proposed in paragraph 9 of the report to deal with 2016/17 schemes and the prioritising of sites using the existing formula.

Option 3: Use the 16/17 budget to review the existing formula and undertake surveys to enable the full request list to be prioritised

Resolved: That the staged process approach proposed in Option 1, be adopted to deal with the 2016/17 budget allocation for pedestrian crossing improvements using a new methodology to evaluate



and prioritise pedestrian crossing requests for future financial years.

Reason: To ensure the 2016/17 budget allocation is spent on delivering improvements for local residents and that the list of outstanding pedestrian crossing requests can be assessed taking into account appropriate factors.

Cllr I Gillies, Chair

[The meeting started at 2.05 pm and finished at 2.30 pm].

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**Decision Session- Executive Member for  
Transport & Planning**

8 September 2016

**Report of the Director of City and Environmental Services****Walmgate Stray Lighting Petition****Summary**

1. This report concerns a petition which closed on 7 July 2016 requesting that City of York Council install lighting on the footpaths through Walmgate Stray.

**Recommendations**

2. The Executive Member for Transport and Planning is recommended to:
  - i. Note the petition
  - ii. Refer the safety concerns expressed in the petition to appropriate partnership forums

Reason: To consider an appropriate response to the concerns whilst ensuring that street lighting budgets are used effectively and works are not carried out that would deliver wider negative impacts.

**Background**

3. A petition received by the Council on 7 July 2016 (see Annex 1) raised the issues around the lack of lighting on the paths and the risks to users when travelling the route in times of darkness. The petition, which asks the Council to provide lighting for the footpaths, has 33 signatories.
4. Walmgate Stray is recognised as a well used footpath and is used to access York University. Concerns over the lack of lighting on Walmgate Stray have been raised previously; like other such areas of the city, the stray has historically not been lit.
5. Previous investigations showed that the cost of providing lighting would be prohibitive: given the current lack of power supply there

would be a need for trenching for approximately 1 km to provide the necessary services at an estimated cost in excess of £100k. The cost of the lighting columns themselves would be in addition to this figure.

6. Lighting on the strays was considered during the Cycling City Project 2008-10. The project group looked at ways considered at that time that there was no satisfactory, affordable solution which improved the safety for users of the path (both in terms of reducing the potential for collisions and increased personal security) without having a negative impact on conservation and wildlife.
7. The footpaths are not adopted highway and City of York Council has no obligation to provide lighting.

### **Consultation**

8. When last considered (some 4 years ago) there was no support from stakeholders, including the Police, and the matter was not progressed further. The Police consider that there are well lit roads and pathway alternatives on all sides of the stray and that this was the safer alternative to accessing the stray in times of darkness; it was considered that lighting would encourage people to use the path late at night and lighting a thin strip of path would not provide safety as the surrounding area would still be dark and is not overlooked.
9. The Council's Environment Technician Lighting has been consulted and reports that lighting can be damaging in nature conservation terms, particularly for such protected species as bats. There are recent records of 8 bat species foraging in the area of the paths, some of which are particularly sensitive to lighting.

### **Options**

10. The options open to the Executive Member are:
  - A. To recommend to Council through the budget process allocation of capital funding to under take a more detailed feasibility study to provide the lighting requested.
  - B. To refer the safety concerns expressed in the petition to other appropriate forums

### **Analysis**

11. For the reasons set out above it is not recommended that a lighting scheme is taken forward on Walmgate Stray.

It is proposed instead that the safety concerns expressed should be discussed in the first instance through the Student Community Partnership.

### Implications

12. **Financial:** There is no budget allocation for the requested scheme and it would require the existing programme to be reviewed and reduced to accommodate any works.
13. **Other implications:** There are no further implications in this report.

### Contact Details

<b>Author:</b>	<b>Chief Officer Responsible for the report:</b>		
Steve Wragg Flood Risk and Asset Manager City & Environmental Services Tel: (01904 553401)	Neil Ferris Director City and Environmental Services		
	<b>Report Approved</b>	✓	<b>Date</b> 22.08.16
<b>Wards Affected:</b> Fishergate			<b>All</b>
<b>For further information please contact the author of the report</b>			

### Background Papers:

Annex 1 - Lighting on Walmgate Stray ePetition

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**EPetition**

**EPetition Title:** Lighting on Walmgate Stray

**Statement:**

We the undersigned petition the council to put lighting on the footpaths through Walmgate Stray

**Justification:**

It is a regularly used footpath for students and members of the public at all times of the day. At night time it becomes pitch black and dangerous: there have been multiple accounts of rape and attacks. This popular footpath needs to be made safe at night, especially for students who are on campus late and use this path as their main route home - why should they have to pay for a taxi home when the problem of their safety could easily be solved by lighting their way home and preventing abusive crimes.

**Start Date:** 27 May 2016

**End Date:** 7 July 2016

**Total:** 33 Signatories

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