

ALLERDALE HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a Meeting of the Allerdale Highways Working Group held on Tuesday, 5 April 2022 at 10.00 am via Microsoft Teams.

PRESENT:

Mr AL Barry
Mr A Bowness
Mr J Lister

Mr AJ Markley (Chair)
Ms C McCarron-Holmes

Also in Attendance:-

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Miss A Sykes | - | Highways Network Manager |
| Mr A Graham | - | Traffic Management Officer |
| Mr P Groom | - | Traffic Management Officer |
| Mr D Hamilton | - | Democratic Services Officer |

96 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr T Lywood, Mr A Kennon and Mr M Johnson.

97 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED that, members agree the minutes of the previous meeting as an accurate and complete record.

98 ALLERDALE SPEED LIMIT REVIEW

Members considered a report from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which provided the Allerdale Highways and Transport Working Group with the background and details of the proposed alterations to speed restrictions in the Allerdale area following statutory consultation and advertisement.

The Traffic Management Officer reminded members that informal consultation was carried out for potential alterations to Speed Limits within Allerdale during 2021, including proposals for A594 Dovenby, A596 Micklethwaite and C2065 Low Road, Brigham and C2064 Embleton. Those proposals progressed to Statutory Consultation and advertisement which took place over a 21-day period from 11 February to 5 March 2022.

The Traffic Management Officer provided a summary of each proposal and relayed the feedback received:-

Proposal 1 – A594 Dovenby. To reduce a section of the existing 50mph speed limit down to 40mph through Dovenby, as recommended by the engineering safety study.

Members heard that the responses received from the informal consultation indicated that the proposal should be amended to include the Craggs Crossroads therefore the extents of the proposal were amended to include this at Statutory consultation. A total of 2 responses were then received with regard to the amended proposal, both were in favour.

The Local Member for Aspatria stated that he was in favour of the proposal for A594 at Dovenby but asked whether any measures could be introduced to improve visibility of oncoming traffic as the road approaches the brow of the hill at Dovenby Craggs. Officers provided assurance that the Local Member's concerns would be considered.

Proposal 2 – A595/A596 Nealhouse junction to Wigton. The initial consultation included a proposed reduction from National Speed Limit through Micklethwaite down to 40mph as recommended by an independent Engineering Safety Study.

Responses received from the initial consultation made it clear that enforcement of the proposed 40mph limit would be needed. However, Cumbria Police assessed the proposed site and indicated that there were no suitable locations within the extents to situate the Safety Camera Vehicle.

Therefore, after taking into consideration the reasons stated above, characteristics of the road layout, and collision statistics along the A596 from the Wigton junction to Thursby roundabout, Officers amended the proposal to include a 40mph Speed Limit from Micklethwaite to Thursby roundabout.

After taking on board, members comments, previous requests from residents and with agreement from the local member for Thursby, further amendments were made and the final proposal which included extending the existing 50mph through Wigton up to the Micklethwaite gateway, reducing Speed Limit to 40mph through Micklethwaite extending in an easterly direction to the Crofton junction, then increasing to 50mph from east of the Crofton junction to Thursby roundabout. The proposal also included extending the existing 50mph limit along the A595 from the Carlisle boundary to Thursby roundabout to provide consistency and reduce driver confusion. A total of 15 responses were received with 6 being in favour, 5 against and 4 general comments.

Proposal 3 – C2065 Low Road, Brigham. To introduce a 30mph Speed Limit along the C2065 through Brigham, to improve safety for pedestrians, including children walking to School from St Bridget's Close area. A total of 3 responses were received, with all 3 being in favour.

Proposal 4 – C2064 Embleton. To introduce an extension to the existing 40mph Speed Limit by approx. 130m at the easternmost entrance to the village. This

proposal was as the result of planning consent obtained by Caterite Food Services relating to the creation of a staff car park to be situated on land on the opposite side of the carriageway to the distribution centre.

Members showed general support for the proposals but the Chair asked that his objection to the proposal relating to A595 be noted.

RESOLVED that, having taken into consideration the matters contained in section 122(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which are more specifically referred to at paragraph 7.2 of the report, the Working Group recommends that Local Committee agrees that “The County of Cumbria (Various Roads in the Borough of Allerdale) (Consolidation and Provision of Speed Limits) Order 20>< (“the Order”) be brought into operation, as advertised.

99 MARYPORT TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER REVIEW

Members considered a report from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which provided the Highways Working Group with the background and details of proposed changes to The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Maryport and Surrounding Area) (Consolidation and Provision of Traffic Regulations) Order 2018, following informal consultation which concluded on 21st March 2022.

The Traffic Management Officer provided a detailed background to the proposed changes. The Local Member for Maryport North gave her approval to the schemes but asked whether there was a possibility that a Speed Indicator Device could be fitted on the A594 Ellenborough Road / Ashby Street to coincide with Proposal 4. The Traffic Management Officer explained that he could see the justification and gave the Local Member assurance that the site would be assessed. The Local Area Network Manager explained that there were mobile Speed Indication Devices which could be brought into the area on a temporary basis. A discussion then took place regarding the need for further parking bays in the area and the options available to Maryport Town Council for securing more off-road parking in the area.

The Traffic Management Officer also highlighted Proposal 9 – The Went, Dearham. This proposal was to introduce a one-way system following historical concerns regarding the volume of traffic using The Went, particularly at either end of the school day. Members heard that five responses were received, all objecting to proposals, mainly citing access issues.

One of the responses highlighted concerns over the almost-inevitable increase in traffic speeds that would be likely to result from a one-way system. The additional factors of narrow carriageway, nowhere for pedestrians to step off as well as many of those pedestrian movements being connected with the school; further amplified these valid concerns.

Taking into account all responses received considered against the benefits of the proposal; officers recommend that these measures not be pursued and that other measures be considered.

RESOLVED that,

- 1) the Working Group recommend that Local Committee agree to proceed to statutory consultation and advertisement of a Traffic Regulation Order which would consolidate and vary The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Maryport and Surrounding Area) (Consolidation and Provision of Traffic Regulations) Order 2018, (as varied by The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Maryport and Surrounding Area) (Consolidation and Provision of Traffic Regulations) (Order 2018) Variation (No. 1) Order 2019), by proposing to introduce new restrictions as shown on the plans attached as Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4A, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, and 13 of the report only (“the Order”).
- 2) the Working Group recommend that Local Committee agree that, subject to there being no unresolved objections received at the end of the statutory consultation and advertisement of the changes referred to in paragraph 3.1 above, that the Order be brought into operation, as advertised having taken into consideration the matters contained in Section 122(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which are more specifically referred to at paragraph 7.2 of the Report.

100 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Allerdale Highways Working Group is due to take place on 27 May 2022.

The meeting ended at 10.45 am