

ALLERDALE HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a Meeting of the Allerdale Highways Working Group held on Friday, 27 May 2022 at 10.00 am at Microsoft Teams

PRESENT:

Mr AL Barry
Mr A Bowness
Mr A Kennon

Mr J Lister
Mr T Lywood
Mr AJ Markley (Chair)

Also in Attendance:-

Mrs S Davis-Johnston	-	Traffic Management Team Leader (Allerdale)
Miss A Sykes	-	Local Area Network Manager
Mr A Graham	-	Traffic Management Officer
Mr J Bushell	-	Project Lead
Ms S Pearson-Carr	-	Streetworks Manager
Mr D Hamilton	-	Democratic Services Officer

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mrs C McCarron-Holmes.

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

3 PERMIT SCHEME PRESENTATION

Members considered a presentation which provided an update on Streetworks and the Permit Scheme which covered the following areas:-

- Objectives of Streetworks and the Permit Scheme
- CCC Permit Scheme Review
- Number of Works on the Network
- Immediate Urgent and Emergency Works
- Permit and Variation Applications
- Average Duration and Total Days Worked
- Benefits of the Permit Scheme
- Managing Streetworks on the network
- Enforcement – Inspections

- Regarding Streetworks Issues

Members thanked the Streetworks Manager for the presentation and the Vice-Chair thanked the team for their work and for delivering a scheme which ensured that utility companies were aware of their responsibility to communities.

4 PROHIBITION OF MOTOR VEHICLES: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO COCKERMOUTH TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

Members considered a report from the Executive Director – Economy & Infrastructure which detailed the improvements to the Greyhound Inn / Torpenhow junction. Members heard that as part of the scheme right hand turning lanes would be constructed into School Lane and Torpenhow Road. The road to Torpenhow would be realigned with a new section of road to form a staggered junction layout. The existing road to Torpenhow would be retained to create an area for safe active travel and allow for any necessary land access. The Council propose to introduce a Prohibition of Motor Vehicles (except for access) to the retained section of road, installing vehicle barriers at either end.

Informal consultation on the proposal began on 11 March 2022 and ended on 29 April 2022. 3 responses were received including responses from the Police and Bothel Parish Council; there were no objections raised.

Members heard that a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) would be required in order to introduce the proposed Prohibition of Motor Vehicles (except for access) restriction.

A discussion took place regarding the details of the proposal whereby members were assured agricultural access was covered under the exemptions to the prohibition. The Project Lead also explained that access was proposed for both Torpenhow and Bothel ends of the highway with the Bothel end set back to accommodate a gate and bollards framing the access. Discussion then turned to safety and the flow of traffic. The Project Lead assured members that clear signage would be key to ensuring safety and that verge clearing would also provide a clear view of the access from a distance.

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 the provisions of The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Cockermouth and Surrounding Area) (Consolidation and Provision of Traffic Regulation) Order 2020, and propose to introduce a Prohibition of Motor Vehicles (except for access), as shown on the plan attached as Appendix 1 of the report (“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 Order 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 in paragraph 7.2 of the report.

5 KESWICK & SURROUNDING AREA TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER REVIEW

Members considered a report from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure which provided background on the proposals. Members heard that concerns had been raised by residents and Local Members regarding a variety of locations throughout Keswick and the surrounding area, after they had observed possible safety issues and disruption to local bus services.

Officers undertook site assessments, proposing solutions for alleviating issues where applicable. These proposals would require amendments to The County of Cumbria (Various Roads, Keswick) Order 2020. Due to the lengthy processes involved when amending a Traffic Regulation Order, this had presented an opportunity to the Committee to also address some other minor issues.

Informal consultation was carried out from 6 December 2021 to 3 January 2022 which included 15 proposals. Following the comments received from the initial consultation, Local Committee agreed that 5 of those proposals would be abandoned.

Formal statutory consultation and advertisement then took place between 22 April to 13 May 2022 which included 10 proposals. The Traffic Management Officer provided an overview of the proposals and took questions and comments from members.

With regards to Proposal 5, the Local Member discussed the need for officers to move quickly to issue permanent sign arrangements to replace the temporary “No Entry” signs currently in place at the junction of St John’s Street and Derwent Street.

RESOLVED that,

- 1) 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, Keswick) (Consolidation and Provision of Traffic Regulations) Order 2020, (“the Order”) be brought into operation, as advertised, except for the following: -
 - a) That in respect of Proposal 7, the extent of the “No Waiting At Any Time” on the south side of the carriageway on High Hill, Keswick, be reduced to allow for some on-street parking availability to remain where safe to do so, to the extent shown on the plan attached as Appendix 14.1 of the report.

6 VERBAL UPDATES

A verbal update was received from the Traffic Management Team Leader which provided an update on the use of emergency powers to introduce waiting and loading restrictions along the C2057 Portinscale to Grange to prevent parked cars causing obstruction to emergency service vehicles, bus services and others. Members heard that the existing restrictions were only temporary and proposals to make the restrictions permanent would go to consultation in the future dependent upon feedback received during the trial. A discussion took place regarding the feedback received from Parish Councils and the collaborative work which took place between the Traffic Team, Lake District National Park Authority and Stagecoach to identify the areas whereby it was necessary to introduce restrictions.

Members also heard that statutory consultation and advertisement was underway for a number of proposals, including;

- Prohibition of motor vehicles (except for access) at Thirlmere Dam, with corresponding No Right Turn and No U Turn restrictions;
- Extension of the existing 40mph speed limit on High Hill, Keswick;
- Extension of the existing 30mph speed limit on Branthwaite Road, Workington; and,
- No Waiting and No Loading / Unloading restrictions on High Hill, Keswick in connection with the cycle lanes.

The Local Area Network Manager then provided an update on jet patching across Allerdale. Members heard that due to good weather the team had been able to work continuously and work was now ongoing in the Thursby area. Following a conversation about potholes it was **AGREED** that a programme of inspections be provided to the Member for Thursby electoral division. The Local Area Network Manager suggested inviting the Highways Condition & Safety Inspection Team Leader to a forthcoming Highways Working Group. It was also **AGREED** that an additional standing item be brought to future meetings which would allow members to express general concerns.

7 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Allerdale Highways Working Group is due to take place on 6 October 2022.

The meeting ended at 10.30 am