

WESTMORLAND AND FURNESS COUNCIL SOUTH LAKELAND LOCALITY  
BOARD

Minutes of a Meeting of the **South Lakeland Locality Board** held on Wednesday,  
18 October 2023 at 6.00 pm at District Council Chamber - Kendal Town Hall -  
Kendal Town Hall, Lowther Street, Kendal, LA9 4DQ

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**PRESENT:**

Cllr G Archibald	Cllr J Filmore
Cllr R Audland	Cllr E Hennessy
Cllr J Battye (Vice-Chair)	Cllr H Hodgson
Cllr S Bavin	Cllr V Hughes
Cllr J Boak	Cllr H Irving
Cllr M Brereton	Cllr A Jarvis
Cllr J Brook	Cllr D Jones
Cllr H Chaffey (Chair)	Cllr H Ladhams
Cllr W Clark	Cllr I Mitchell
Cllr J Cornthwaite	Cllr S Sanderson
Cllr J Drake	Cllr M Severn
Cllr P Endsor	Cllr P Thornton
Cllr S Evans	

**Officers in attendance:**

Mike Conefrey	Senior Manager (Safe and Strong Communities)
Gill Holmes	Community Development Officer
Hosking	Local Area Network Manager (Highways Delivery)
Helen Karaaslan	Traffic Management Team Leader
Ms J Krier	Legal, Governance and Democracy Senior Specialist (Solicitor)
Mr A Moffatt	Democratic Services

**PART I ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE  
PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Cooper, P Dixon, S Pender and D Rathbone.

**24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**

There were no disclosures of interest made at the meeting.

**25. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no excluded items on the agenda.

## **26. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED**, that the Chair be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2023.

## **27. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr Cox, a local resident was invited by the Chair to address the Locality Board to present a petition which had been signed by 77 residents.

The petition requested the creation of a single lane carriage way with a 20 mph zone along Aynam Road, Kendal.

Following his statement regarding the petition, the Chair thanked Mr Cox for his contribution to the meeting and noted that a written response would be provided by officers.

Members expressed their support for the petition and understanding of the current issues faced by the residents of Aynam Road.

## **28. PRESENTATION FROM KIER CONSTRUCTION**

Members received a presentation regarding the Structures Renewal Scheme on the M6 Lune Gorge (the Scheme) from Kier Construction. The presentation set out the following:-

- background to the Scheme;
- the provisional timescales for options, design and construction;
- Stakeholders engaged with so far;
- next steps for the Scheme; and
- an offering called Caring for Cumbria which was a social value project developed by the M6 Lune Gorge Scheme.

The Chair invited members to raise any questions.

Following a question regarding the number of days that traffic would be flowing through Kendal as a result of the Scheme, Members were informed that traffic management would be an issue and that it was not possible to provide key details of the impact at this stage. It was noted that when this information was available, it would be communicated to Members.

Members referred to the impact the Scheme would have and requested details of any actions to enhance Biodiversity and reduce the impact of the Scheme on Climate Change. It was highlighted that the aim of the Scheme was to not leave an imprint and that a plan would be put in place to enhance the environment in the area.

Details were requested on any plans to contribute to ensuring that areas such as Appleby Road would be in a good condition ahead of the increased traffic flow as a result of the Scheme. Members were informed that there was a strict budget but that if it was possible this would be considered. It was also noted that some areas would benefit from closures that would decrease traffic flowing from the M6 for some periods of time within the proposed timescales of the Scheme.

Members requested that the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills be kept informed on the Caring for Cumbria proposal, particularly where apprenticeships and training were mentioned.

Following a query regarding biodiversity and offsetting CO2, Members were encouraged to email any ideas or helpful information to the scheme.

Members reiterated earlier concern for the impact of the Scheme on the traffic management within Kendal, particularly the potential impact on the elderly residents around Kendal who may rely on a Carer.

Members were informed of the reasons for replacing the bridges and were provided with the estimated life span of the planned replacements. It was requested that Grayrigg, New Hutton and Sedbergh Parish Councils all be kept up to date on the Scheme.

## **29. SAFE AND STRONG COMMUNITIES**

The Senior Manager (Safe and Strong Communities) introduced a report which set out information from across the Thriving Communities Teams, including community development, and provided an update on the work undertaken by three of the four working groups created by the Locality Board at its meeting held on 18 July 2023. Members were also given an update on current issues and an overview of the Locality Board budget position.

The Senior Manager (Safe and Strong Communities) informed Members of an amendment to the wording of paragraph 3.1 in the report which read as below

*These budget lines respectively 'Building Community Assets' and 'Climate Action and Biodiversity' to be administered in accordance with the criteria regarding Community Grants agreed by Cabinet at its meeting of the 12th September 2023 OR the terms of the Officer Decision Record (ODR) of August 2023 regarding the Priority Investment Fund, Strong and Connected Communities Programme (Appendix VI - to follow).*

The Chair then invited the three Working Group Chairs to provide an update on the work undertaken in the initial meetings.

The Chair of the Building Community Assets and Addressing Inequalities Working Group informed Members that the Working Group had discussed the two devolved budgets, which related to Building Community Assets and Local Sustainable Travel and Transport. Members were informed of the issues considered, as set out in the Action Notes of the meeting which were attached at Appendix II to the report.

The Chair of the Children and Young People Working Group informed Members that the Working Group had received a written report on the Children's Public Health Team and a verbal update from the Youth Council/ Youth Parliament and Early Years Service. Members of the Working Group also discussed the role of Elected Members as Corporate Parents and considered access to youth work. A number of grant submissions had been considered with respect to the two devolved budgets as set out in the Action Notes of the meeting which were attached at Appendix I to the report. Members also highlighted discussions around changes to the terminology used in the Terms of Reference and other documents relating to children and young people, Members had been requested to use "cared for children" and "care experienced" in the future.

The Chair of the Climate Action and Increasing Biodiversity Working Group recognised the positive step the South Lakeland Locality Board had taken in recognising Climate Change and Biodiversity loss as a priority of the Locality Board and commented that across the Westmorland and Furness area there should be equity in the approach of Members and Officers. He noted that communication was key regarding potential funding opportunities and that several actions were raised at the Working Group which he looked forward to updating on. The Action Notes of the Working Group were attached at Appendix III to the report.

Members were reminded of and encouraged to attend the ongoing consultation on the Climate Change Action Plan, which in part was being conducted through a series of Climate Conversations across the Westmorland and Furness area.

The Chair proposed that members consider the recommendations in the following order:-

- Recommendations at paragraph 2.1 to 2.6 and 2.9 to 2.10 in the report
- Recommendation at paragraph 2.7 in the report
- Recommendation 2.8

A motion to approve recommendations 2.1 to 2.6 and 2.9 to 2.10 was proposed and seconded.

Members expressed their support for the recommendations and information set out in the report, which would provide support for households across the South Lakeland Area and noted their concern regarding funding from central government.

A vote was taken and Members unanimously approved recommendations set out at 2.1 to 2.6 and 2.9 to 2.10.

Regarding the recommendation set out in 2.7, Members were asked to consider the funding report set out in Appendix IV, relating to Destination Hawkshead.

A proposal was received to grant an award of £16,620 to Hawkshead Parish Council from the Building Community Assets Budget and was seconded.

The seconder then withdrew his seconding of the motion.

The Chair requested an alternative proposal from members.

Members requested clarity on the figures in the application to ensure that they represented good value for money.

Following a request from Members the Chair clarified that if members were minded to defer the decision to enable the Building Community Assets and Addressing Inequalities Working Group to consider the proposal, the next meeting of the Locality Board was scheduled for January 2024.

An alternative motion was proposed as follows:-

*To delegated authority to the Senior Manager (Safe and Strong Communities) in consultation with the Chair of the South Lakeland Locality Board and the Building Community Assets and Addressing Inequalities Working Group to consider the grant application from Hawkshead Parish Council and to make a decision..*

The motion was seconded.

Members expressed their strong support for the proposal and noted the need to ensure that the criteria for success and any lessons learnt were set out if the funding was to be approved.

A vote was taken and the recommendation was approved.

Members were asked to consider recommendations 2.8 (i) and (ii) as follows:-

*2.8 (i) Agree to the establishment of a Community Transport Grants Panel to award grants (including bus grants) to community transport providers. The Director of Thriving Places in consultation with the Chair of the Locality Board is given the delegated authority to determine the relevant schemes and criteria to distribute the investment for community transport grant awards*

*2.8 (ii) If 2.8(i) is agreed, to nominate five members to form this Community Transport Panel as described in (paragraph 3.7 of the report).*

Following a query on the total budget the panel would have if members were minded to approve, Senior Manager (Safe and Strong Communities) explained that the Locality Board could decide the amount to allocate to the panel. The Cabinet Member for Highways and Assets clarified that the legislation around Community Transport was complicated and that where members had projects that should be put forward to the panel, discussions with officers would take place.

A motion to agree the amended recommendation at 2.8 (i) was proposed and seconded, a vote was taken and it was unanimously approved.

Members were then asked to nominate five members to the Community Transport Panel as set out at 2.8 (ii). Councillors M Brereton, R Audland, V Hughes, E Hennessy and I Mitchell were nominated.

A motion to agree the five nominated members was proposed and seconded. A vote was taken and it was unanimously approved.

**RESOLVED, that:-**

- (1) the award of £15,500 from the 0-19 budget to Brathay Trust be approved, to cover the essential delivery costs required to maintain the various delivery strands of the Youth Matters project in Year 2 for the reasons set out in the report;
- (2) it be noted that the following grant awards from the 0-19 budget and the 11-19 universal services budget that have been made under the delegation from the Locality Board on 18 July 2023 to the Senior Manager Safe and Strong Communities in consultation with the Chair Vice Chair and the relevant ward members and in accordance with the criteria in the Cabinet Guidance agreed by Shadow Cabinet in February 2023:
  - £4,470 from the 11-19 universal services budget to Youth Presence for open access youth provision in Kendal
  - £2,436 from the 0-19 budget to Bowness & Windermere Community Care Trust to contribute to a pilot project with primary school children to address the gap in literary education due to COVID, using Comic Art.
  - £4000 from the 0-19 budget to Cumbria Youth Alliance for the delivery of the Dreamscheme project in South Lakeland.
- (3) decisions on grant awards up to £5,000, in respect of the South Lakeland Building Community Assets Budget (to be administered as set out in this report) be delegated to the Senior Manager Safe and Strong Communities in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Building Community Assets and Addressing Inequality Working group the Chair and Vice Chair of the South Lakeland Locality Board and the relevant ward Members;

- (4) decisions on grant awards up to £5,000 in respect of the Climate Action and Increasing Biodiversity budget (to be administered as set out in this report) be delegated to the Senior Manager Safe and Strong Communities in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Climate Action and Increasing Biodiversity Working group the Chair and Vice Chair of South Lakeland Locality Board and the relevant ward Member/s;
- (5) the award of £30,000 from the devolved Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) Household Support Fund (HSF) to Action for Children be approved for the reasons set out in this report;
- (6) decisions on grant awards up to £5,000 from the Department of Work and Pensions Household Support Fund (to be administered in accordance with the DWP criteria for that funding) be delegated to the Senior Manager Safe and Strong Communities in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of South Lakeland Locality Board and the relevant ward Member/s;
- (7) The Senior Manager (Safe and Strong Communities) in consultation with the Chair of the South Lakeland Locality Board and the Building Community Assets and Addressing Inequalities Working Group be delegated authority to consider the grant application from Hawkshead Parish Council and to make a decision.
- (8)
  - (i) the establishment of a Community Transport Grants Panel to award grants (including bus grants) to community transport providers be agreed and that delegated authority be given to the Director of Thriving Places in consultation with the Chair of the Locality Board to determine the relevant schemes and criteria to distribute the investment for community transport grant awards; and
  - (ii) the following members form the Community Transport Grants Panel as described in 3.7:-
    - 1) Councillor M Brereton
    - 2) Councillor V Hughes
    - 3) Councillor R Audland
    - 4) Councillor E Hennessy
    - 5) Councillor I Mitchell
- (9) in respect of the full Community Grant fund, decision making be delegated in relation to grant awards of up to £5,000 per award to the Senior Manager Safe and Strong Communities in consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and relevant ward members, in accordance with the Community Grant Scheme Guidance approved by Cabinet on 12 September 2023, for the reasons set out in paragraph 3.8; and
- (10) the Summary Budget Position as set out in Appendix V be noted.

### **30. HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP REPORT**

The Area Highway Network Manager introduced a report which set out the Action Notes of the Highways Working Group (the Working Group), held on 13 September 2023.

Members were provided with details of the Action Notes as attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Chair invited Councillor R Audland, the Chair of the Working Group to provide an update on the work done by members at the first two meetings.

Members were informed that the two meetings had set the scene for the work done by the Working Group and had provided valuable discussion.

It was requested that the papers for the Working Group be shared to all Members as it would provide useful information and avoid repetition of questions to officers. A further request for training on Traffic Regulation Orders for Town and Parish Councils was made.

Members reiterated the Chair of the Working Group's comments and thanked officers for an informative meeting.

**RESOLVED**, that the Actions Notes of the Working Group meeting of 13 September 2023 at Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

### **31. BRIDGE RESTRICTIONS TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER - HIGH CUNSEY AND RIGMADEN**

The Traffic Management Team Leader introduced a report, which set out the responses to the statutory consultation and advertising of the Order as set out in the report.

The Council had been requested by the Bridges and Structures Team to consult upon weight and traffic restrictions for High Cunsey and Rigmaden Bridges respectively within the South Lakeland Area. Full details of the proposal were set out in the report and attached appendices.

The report included:-

- the statutory notice used for advertising and consultation as attached at Appendix 1 to the report;
- plans as attached at Appendices 2a and 2b to the report;
- the Councils' statement of reason for proposing to make the order as attached at Appendix 3 to the reports; and
- a summary of responses to the consultation, as set out at Appendix 4 to the report (Appendix 4 had been circulated as a late document to all members of the Locality Board).



Members expressed their support for the proposals and noted that it was important that diversion routes were clearly set out. It was highlighted how important repairing both bridges was, as large detours would increase carbon emissions and travel time.

Officers and the Cabinet Member for Highways and Assets were thanked for their hard work and leadership in ensuring the repairs were completed.

A motion to approve the recommendation as set out in the report was proposed and seconded. A vote was taken and it was

**RESOLVED**, that, having taken into account the representations, which were received during the statutory consultation and advertisement and having also 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 8.1 of the Report, the Westmorland and Furness Council (C5028 High Cunsey, near Far Sawrey) (Prohibition of Heavy Commercial Vehicles over 7.5 Tonnes Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight) and (C5080 Rigmaden Bridge, near Barbon) (Prohibition of All Traffic) Order 2022 (<“the Order”>) be approved and be brought into operation as advertised.

## **32. LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND**

The Senior Manager – Safe and Strong Communities introduced a report, which presented Members with a list of schemes which the South Lakeland Locality Board – Building Community Assets and Addressing Inequalities Working Group had recommended approving to utilise the Local Sustainable Travel and Transport Fund (the Fund) allocation.

The report set out the funding for the Local Sustainable Travel and Transport Fund, as agreed by Cabinet at its 6 June 2023 meeting as well as the process and funding delegations for considering any bids from relevant groups which would be submitted to a South Lakeland Community Transport Grants Panel for approval. Members were being asked to endorse the first phase of schemes as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, which had been presented to the South Lakeland Locality Board Building Community Assets and Addressing Inequalities Working Group.

Members were informed of a bid to the Fund from the Friends of the X112 Community Group for a grant of £5,000 to support the operational costs of this community run service until March 2024 with an additional request being considered by the Furness Locality Board for support of £1,750, which reflected the passenger usage in the locality.

Following a query from Members, the Senior Manager (Safe and Strong Communities) provided clarity on the progress on the list of issues raised by Members during the 'walk the ward' sessions. He informed Members that the list had been disaggregated across the different areas of the Council to assign them to the most appropriate area and that the organised list of proposals would be brought to the December Working Groups.

***Note - Cllr I Mitchell left the meeting at 19.50***

Members welcomed the inclusion of the list of schemes at Appendix 1 and commented on the positive impact that the schemes would have when implemented across the South Lakeland area. It was noted that Town and Parish Councils could provide valuable knowledge on their local areas and would be keen to take an interest in any future works.

Following a request from Members, the Chair requested that officers share the list of issues raised in the 'walk the ward' sessions. It was also noted that Members would have the opportunity to put any further ideas forwards.

A motion to approve the recommendation in the report was proposed and seconded. A vote was taken and it was

**RESOLVED**, that the Director of Thriving Places, in consultation with the Chair of the Locality Board be recommended to agree the list of recommended schemes to utilise the Local Sustainable Travel and Transport fund, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

### **33. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Legal, Governance and Democracy Senior Specialist (Solicitor) introduced the report and noted that the Council had been approached by Ulverston Business Improvement District (BID) to request that an appointment be made to the Ulverston BID by the South Lakeland Locality Board.

Councillor V Hughes nominated Councillor H Irving as the representative on Ulverston BID and was seconded by Councillor M Brereton.

No further nominations were received/ repeat as above.

**RESOLVED**, that Councillor H Irving be appointed as the Council's representative on Ulverston BID.

### **34. OUTSIDE BODIES**

Members provided verbal updates following Outside Body meetings they had attended.

Feedback on the Council's Armed Forces Board, the Climate Conversation held in Barrow, the Brewery Arts Centre Trust and the National Park Authority were received.

Members requested that communication on the functions of the Locality Board be circulated to residents and community groups to ensure that they were aware of the work done and opportunities provided by the Locality Board.

Following a query raised by Members, the Legal, Governance and Democracy Senior Specialist (Solicitor) provided an update on a request from members at the last meeting of the Locality Board for further information on the role of members who had been appointed to Outside Bodies. Members were informed that this was an ongoing process and that an update had been circulated to all members of the Locality Board with information that had been provided by the Outside and Other Bodies.

### **35. URGENT ITEMS**

There were no Urgent Items for consideration.

### **36. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the South Lakeland Locality Board is scheduled for Thursday, 25 January 2024 at 6 p.m. The meeting will be held in the District Council Chamber at Kendal Town Hall.

The meeting ended at 8.07 pm