

Decisions of the Environment Committee

27 January 2015

Members Present:-

Councillor Dean Cohen (Chairman)
Councillor Brian Salinger (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Maureen Braun Councillor Joan Scannell
Councillor John Hart Councillor Alan Schneiderman
Councillor Dr Devra Kay Councillor Agnes Slocombe
Councillor Graham Old Councillor Laurie Williams

Also in attendance

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Claire Farrier

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2014 be approved.

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

Councillor Clair Farrier.

3. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

In relation to Item 8, Parking Policy, at Council meeting on 15 July there were a number of dispensations for members agreed in order to allow to them to fully participate in certain matters where otherwise they may have a DPI (Disclosable Pecuniary Interest); one of the dispensations agreed related to matters to do with 'an allowance, travelling expense, payment or indemnity' and as such made it possible for Members to fully participate on this item. It was recommended and agreed that the general dispensation applies until the next election.

Councillor	Agenda Item	Nature of Interest
Brian Salinger	8 – Implementation of New Parking Policy	Non-disclosable pecuniary interest as the owner but who does not live in Controlled Parking Zone
	9 - Highways Planned Improvement	Non-disclosable pecuniary interest as Chairman of

	Programme 2015/16, Appendix A	Governors at Moss Hall
	10 - Highways Planned Maintenance Programme	Non-disclosable pecuniary interest as he owns a property that is on one of the roads listed for repaving.
Dean Cohen	8 – Implementation of New Parking Policy	Pecuniary as Councillor Cohen holds a Members parking permit.
		Non-disclosable pecuniary interest as the owner of a hybrid car.

4. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (IF ANY)

There was none.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS (IF ANY)

There were none.

6. MEMBERS' ITEMS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. ENVIRONMENT, FEES AND CHARGES

The Interim Commissioner for Environment presented the Environment Fees and Charges report.

Following discussion and consideration of the item, the Committee

RESOLVED - That the Environment Committee recommend the fees and charges set out in the report to be presented to Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

8. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PARKING POLICY

The Interim Commissioner for Environment presented the Implementation of Parking Policy report.

Following discussion and consideration of the item;

Councillor Schneiderman, seconded by Councillor Dr. Devra Kay moved the following amendments:

- 1. To the proposed April 2015 date for implementation Emission Based Permits:**

That in the interest of fairness the proposal is postponed for a year in order to give residents', if they so wish, the opportunity to change their car for a lower emission based one or change their behaviour.

The amendment was put to the vote. Votes were recorded as follows:

For	4
Against	6
Absent	1

The amendment was declared lost.

2. To paragraph 1.12, page 22:

That any changes to the charges of the bays are postponed pending the chance to look at the data on how people are applying for the suspension bays.

The Infrastructure and Parking Manager explained that rational for changing from the flat rate arose due to a legal challenge from one of the utility companies. As a consequence officers have reviewed the basis of the current charges and this has included identifying all relevant tasks involved in dealing with a successful bay suspension application. This exercise has established that the costs involved in processing and implementing an application is significantly higher than the current charge for a one day suspension; however the on-going daily rate currently charged is higher than the costs incurred. Based on this finding the charge has been adjusted to ensure that costs are appropriately recovered and as such will stand up to scrutiny when and if challenged in the future. .

In order to assist members in understanding the initial application charge he further explained the different elements involved in processing and implementing a successful application

- A review of the application received and checking the maps to confirm that there is bay/bays at the required location and hence whether a suspension is required.
- Reviewing the impact of suspending the number of bays requested
- Calculating the applicable charge based on the number of bays and number of days the suspension will apply
- Providing the cost to the applicant in writing
- Processing the payment
- Preparing and issuing instructions to the contractor to produce and place the suspension on site
- The contractor manufacturers the required signs specific to the location
- The contractor travels to the relevant site and installs the signage
- The contractor returns to the site at the end of the suspension period and removes the signage
- The enforcement contractor monitors the site for compliance during the suspension period
- The enforcement contractor enforces any identified non-compliance and/or adjusts the signage where it has been vandalised

In light of the above, Councillor Schneiderman withdrew his amendment

Recommendation 3 as set out in the report was withdrawn as Committee requested further detail relating to the actual costs of carrying out the proposed works. The Committee requested that this is brought back to the next meeting of the Committee with details of the following:

- The list of proposed roads/footways
- The cost of carrying out necessary works
- What potential impact (if any) the proposals will have.

RESOLVED -

1. That the Environment Committee consider and recommend the parking permit charges set out in this report to be presented to Policy and Resources Committee for approval.
2. That the Environment Committee agrees the action plan for all activity to implement the new Parking Policy.
3. That the Environment Committee considers the proposed capital investment that is not currently included in any agreed capital programme or highways capital programme and agree to request additional funding of £1.57m from the Policy and Resources Committee.

Votes were recorded as follows:

For	6
Against	2
Abstentions	2
Absent	1

The recommendation was declare carried.

4. That the Environment Committee note the proposed new parking client team structure and agree its implementation in accordance with the Council's current HR policies.

Additional Recommendation

5. The a report is brought back to the next meeting of the Committee with details of the following:
 - The list of proposed roads/footways
 - The cost of carrying out necessary works
 - What potential impact (if any) the proposals will have.

The recommendations were declared carried.

9. HIGHWAYS PLANNED IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME 2015/16

The Interim Commissioner for Environment presented the Highways Planning Improvement Programmed Report 2015/16.

Following discussion and consideration of the item;

The Interim Commissioner for Environment clarified regarding recommendation 2 that they seek the Committee's approval to adjust the list i.e should there be need to reprioritise based on needs assessment basis or a referral from the Area Committees. But that where a scheme is delayed or drops off the programme any new proposals for a new scheme have to come back to the Environment Committee for approval.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Committee approve the programme of work set out in Appendix A, including the prioritised programmes of Traffic Management & Accident Reduction Schemes, School Travel Plan Schemes, Parking Review Schemes and 20mph schemes set out more fully in the report and appendices, for introduction using Local Implementation Plan (LIP) or other funding as available, subject to approval of the relevant budgets through Policy and Resources Committee.
2. That authority to adjust the detailed programme and funding for individual proposals as they develop be delegated to the Commissioning Director for Environment.

10. HIGHWAYS PLANNED MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

The Interim Commissioner for Environment presented the Highways Planned Maintenance Programme report.

Following discussion and consideration of the item;

The Committee amendment the percentages listed in table 5.2.3 should be adjusted as follows

Asset	Proposed Approximate Percentage Spent
Carriageways (Resurfacing 15%, Micro Asphalt 20% & Surface Dressing 25%- approximately)	60% 40%
Footways	30% 50%
Structures, Drainage, Signs and Road Markings	10%
Total	100%

Members were concerned that there appeared to be a number of duplications and errors with regards to the roads listed in the programmed. As such the Committee requested that officers re-check the information and bring the list back to Committee in March for final ratification before final implementation.

Councillor Cohen with the agreement of the Committee moved the following to amendment to recommendation 2,

Where Ward Members or members of the public feel that their road has been overlooked and needs to be assessed and considered for implementation for whatever the required treatment is, that it is looked at by officers and decided on its merits

RESOLVED

1. That the list of roads for carriageway resurfacing, footway relay and other highway maintenance works in the Borough for 2015/2016 and subsequent years; as listed in Appendix A attached to this report, be approved.

That subject to the overall costs being contained within agreed budgets, the Commissioning Director for Environment be authorised to instruct Re to :

- i) give notice under Section 58 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 of the Council's intention to implement the highway works shown in Appendix A by advertising and consulting as necessary with public utility companies and Transport for London (TfL) for schemes proposed to be implemented during 2015/2016;
 - ii) implement the schemes proposed in Appendix A by placing orders with the Council's term contractors or specialist contractors appointed in accordance with the public procurement rules, and or the Council's Contract Procedure Rules as appropriate;
 - iii) commission condition assessments of carriageways and footways within all constituent areas to determine the overall condition and appropriate measures to be considered in future programmes;
2. That the Committee agree that changes to the priority listing where a new assessment highlights a higher priority including new entries will be delegated to the Commissioning Director and reported back to the next available Environment Committee.
Where Ward Members or members of the public feel that their road has been overlooked and needs to be assessed and considered for implementation for whatever the required treatment is, that it is looked at by officers and decided on its merits.

11. REVIEW OF STREET CLEANSING METHODS

The Interim Commissioning Director for Environment introduced the Review of Street cleansing methods report.

Following discussion and consideration of the item;

RESOLVED -

1. That the Environment Committee approve the revised approach to delivering street cleansing services with effect from 1 April 2015.
Votes were recorded as follows:

For	6
Abstentions	4
Absent	1

2. That the Committee note the second phase of service developments to deliver behaviour change and drive down service demand that are to be delivered as part of the Council's Financial Strategy 2015 – 2020.

Votes were recorded as follows:

For	6
Abstentions	4
Absent	1

12. PROVISION FOR AN EFFECTIVE APPEALS SERVICE TO LONDON MOTORISTS IN RELATION TO PARKING ON PRIVATE LAND

The Interim Commissioning Director for Environment introduced the report and the addendum.

Following discussion and consideration of the item;

RESOLVED –

1. It is recommended that the Committee review the detailed report attached and agree to:
 - (a) formally confirm that the exercise of functions delegated to TEC to enter into the arrangement with the British Parking Association were and continue to be delivered pursuant to section 1 of the Localism Act 2011;
 - (b) formally resolve to expressly delegate the exercise of section 1 of the 2011 Act to the TEC joint committee for the sole purpose of providing an appeals service for parking on private land for the British Parking Association under contract; and
 - (c) take all relevant steps to give effect to the matters set out in (a) and (b) above through a formal variation to the TEC Governing Agreement

13. COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Subject to the amendments made to the work programmed, the Committee noted the report.

14. ANY ITEM(S) THAT THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES IS URGENT

There were none.

The meeting finished at 9.25 pm