

Decisions of the Environment Committee

9 September 2020

Members Present:-

Councillor Dean Cohen (Chairman)
Councillor Peter Zinkin (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Elliot Simberg	Councillor Alan Schneiderman
Councillor Laithe Jajeh	Councillor Jo Cooper
Councillor Alison Cornelius	Councillor Laurie Williams
Councillor Felix Byers	Councillor Geof Cooke

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting that took place on 30 June 2020, be approved.

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

None.

3. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None.

4. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (IF ANY)

None.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS (IF ANY)

The Environment Committee noted the detail of a public question that had been submitted and circulated. Ms Janette Evans had the opportunity to ask a supplementary question which was responded verbally to by the Intimin Executive Director for Environment.

6. MEMBERS' ITEMS

Councillor Alan Schneiderman – Tackling fly tipping

Councillor Alan Schneiderman was invited by the Chairman to introduce the item. Councillor Schneiderman gave a summary of the issue and requested that the Committee supported his item.

Councillor Sara Conway was in attendance to speak in favour of the item.

During the consideration the Chairman outlined his support for the item and requested that a report be submitted to the next meeting on 25 November 2020.

Resolved:

- That the Environment Committee noted the Members Item
- That the Environment Committee agreed that a report be submitted to the next meeting on 25 November 2020.

Councillor Jo Cooper – Making it easier to get cycle hangars installed

Councillor Jo Cooper was invited by the Chairman to introduce the item. Councillor Cooper gave a summary of the issue and requested that the Committee supported her item.

Councillor Anne Clarke was in attendance to speak in favour of the item.

Resolved:

- That the Environment Committee noted the Members Item
- That the Environment Committee agreed to support the item and noted that developments as outlined verbally by the Interim Executive Director for Environment were subject to funding.

Councillor Geoff Cooke – Cutting speeds on residential side roads

Councillor Geoff Cooke was invited by the Chairman to introduce the item. Councillor Cooke gave a summary of the issue and requested that the Committee support his item.

The Interim Executive Director for Environment spoke in support of the item and thanked Councillor Cooke for bringing this matter to the Committee. He stated that side roads will be considered when a road limit is under consideration.

Resolved:

That the Environment Committee noted the report and agreed to support the item.

Councillor Laurie Williams – Action to cut litter and boost recycling

Councillor Laurie Williams was invited by the Chairman to introduce the item. Councillor Williams gave a summary of the issue and requested that the Committee support his item. He stated that bins in parks and town centres should be emptied more frequently. He also suggested that solar power bins should be tested in the Borough.

The Chairman said that he agreed that bins in parks should be emptied regularly. He said that bins had in fact been frequently emptied and requested to know if this was not the case. The Interim Executive Director for Environment, Mr Mee spoke in support of compacting bins and said that a trial could commence if the Committee were in favour of the suggestion.

Resolved

- That the Environment Committee noted the report. The Chairman, Councillor Dean Cohen requested that Members inform him in the event that bins are not emptied frequently.
- That the Environment Committee agreed that a trial can take place in East Barnet Ward.
- That the Environment Committee agreed to pilot a solar powered compacting recycling bin.

7. BARNET LONG TERM TRANSPORT STRATEGY

The report was introduced by the Interim Executive Director for Environment. He provided a full outline of the report and requested that the Committee give consideration to the report and the recommendations. Members of the Committee had the opportunity to consider the report and raise questions to the Interim Executive Director for Environment.

During the consideration of the item there was a request from Councillor Alan Schneiderman that recommendations 1-5 be voted on separately, this was put to the vote.

Resolved:

1. That the Environment Committee noted the Consultation Report (Appendix B), the Updated Initial Equality Analysis (Appendix C) and the Health Equity Assessment (Appendix D).
2. That the Environment Committee agreed to adopt the Long Term Transport Strategy 2020-2041 (at Appendix A to this report)
3. That the Environment Committee delegated authority to the Executive Director for Environment to make any subsequent non-material changes to the Long Term Transport Strategy 2020-2041 and its supporting documents.
4. That the Environment Committee authorised officers to implement the Delivery Plan (as set out in Appendix A - Section 5 of the Long Term Transport Strategy 2020-2041).
5. That the Environment Committee authorised officers to explore both the internal and external funding streams available to support the delivery of the Strategy.

The vote recorded for recommendation 1-5 only was:

For – 6
Against – 0
Abstained – 4

During the consideration of the item Councillor Schneiderman moved that recommendation 6 be amended. This was unanimously agreed.

6. That the Environment Committee delegated authority to the Interim Executive Director for Environment, in discussion with the Chairman of Environment Committee, to undertake procurement activities related to the implementation of the Delivery Plan, including undertaking feasibility studies. The Environment Committee requested that the Committee Members receive regular updates and receive reports that relate to key decisions for consideration.

8. REPORT HIGHWAY ASSET MANAGEMENT

The report was introduced by the Assistant Director for Highways, Mr Jamie Cooke. He provided a full outline of the report and requested that the Committee give consideration to the report and the recommendations.

During the consideration of the item Councillor Cooke moved an amendment to amend recommendation 2 to include that 50% expenditure be on footways and 40% on Carriageways. This was seconded by Councillor Schneiderman. The Chairman requested this be voted on. The vote recorded was:

4 – for the amendment

6 – against the amendment

This amendment was lost.

The Chairman then moved to the vote and the Environment Committee unanimously:

Resolved:

1. That the Committee approved the capital expenditure of £6 million for the delivery of the 2021/22 Highway Network Recovery Plan (NRP) Work Programme consisting of carriageway and footway renewal works, carriageway patching and associated works.
2. That the Committee agreed the proposed investment proportions detailed in paragraph 5.2.2 of this report.
3. That the Committee authorised officers to undertake consultation on the Work Programme.
4. That the Committee approved the development of a Highways Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (HIAMP).

9. STREET CLEANSING ENHANCEMENT

The report was introduced by the Street Scene Director, Mr Craig Miller. He provided a full outline of the report and requested that the Committee give consideration to the report and the recommendations.

Having considered the report the Chairman moved to the vote and the Environment Committee unanimously:

Resolved:

1. That the Environment Committee noted the contents of the report and the further investment of £600,000 per annum in the service.
2. That the Environment Committee endorsed the Street Cleansing enhancements proposed and the implementation of an area based operating model.
3. That the Environment Committee requested that the Interim Executive Director for Environment reports back to the Committee in 12 months detailing the progress of full year benefit realisation from the proposed service enhancements.

10. WORK PROGRAMME

Councillor Alan Schneiderman noted that two items that had been resolved at the last meeting had not been reported or featured in the work programme. These items were in relation to Green recovery and 20Mph zones.

The Executive Director for Environment gave a verbal response to confirm that these topics will be featured within reports.

Resolved:

That the Environment Committee noted the work programme

That the Environment Committee requested that the above items be listed and reported to the Committee when possible. The Committee noted that a further item in regard to sustainability will be added to the Work Programme.

That the Environment Committee requested that the description for car parks and charging be amended

11. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

The meeting finished at 19:46