

North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

17 October 2017

Feedback from the Area Committees

1.0 Purpose of the Report

To bring to the attention of the Executive specific issues considered at the recent meetings of the County Council's:-

- ◆ Ryedale Area Committee - 13 September 2017
- ◆ Selby Area Committee - 18 September 2017
- ◆ Craven Area Committee - 21 September 2017

2.0 Ryedale Area Committee - 13 September 2017

2.1 Appointment of Area Committee Co-opted Members

The Committee appointed Leah Swain of Community First Yorkshire and Parish Councillor Philip Chapman as non-voting Co-opted Members, to serve until the Committee's meeting which follows the Annual Meeting of the County Council in 2018.

2.2 Appointment to Outside Bodies

The Committee resolved as follows:

That Mr M Dickinson and Mrs Julia Bretnam, be appointed to the John Stockton Education Foundation (Kirbymoorside) and Mrs M Gamble to replace Mrs E Capstick, each to serve until a replacement is appointed.

The Committee asked the Clerk to contact each of the Outside Bodies they had been asked to appoint to and ask them to contact the relevant County Councillor to explain the function of the Outside Body.

That a decision be deferred to a future meeting of the Area Committee concerning the appointment to the following: Amotherby Educational Foundation, Christopher Wharton Educational Foundation, Lady Lumley's Educational Foundation (Pickering), Old Meeting House Trust in Helmsley, Oswaldkirk and Ampleforth Education Foundation, Poad's Education Foundation (Newton upon Rawcliffe) and Rev James Graves' Foundation at Thorpe Bassett.

2.3 Community First Yorkshire

The Committee received a presentation from Leah Swain (Chief Executive of Community First Yorkshire) about the work of Community First Yorkshire and Members said that they look forward to working with the organisation.

2.4 Update on the A64 from Highways England

The Committee received an update on the Barton Hill scheme from Russell Mclean, the Service Deliver Manager from the operational side of Highways England ,

delivering schemes on the A64 including the forthcoming Barton Hill junction improvement. The Committee were informed that the aim of the scheme is to improve safety and reduce the number of accidents. The Committee were given a plan of the scheme which showed changes to the existing staggered junction which should remove the conflict for right turners and improve visibility at the junction east bound. The scheme will also widen the central reservation. Work is expected to begin in early November 2017 running until April 2018, and local residents will receive a letter and leaflet outlining the scheme. The Committee also received an update on work at Scotchman Lane - following a Road Safety Audit Stage 3, the identified bollards would be removed to address concerns raised regarding visibility.

During Members' discussion, the following clarifications and comments were provided:-

- The need to keep disruption for visitors - especially to Castle Howard - to a minimum at the Barton Hill Scheme.
- Following a question on changes for pedestrians and cyclists, Members were informed that existing footpaths would not be affected.
- Pleased to see, following the Road Safety Audit, the removal of the bollards at Scotchman Lane, however, when turning right when another vehicle is alongside it was difficult to see oncoming traffic.
- Thanks were recorded for the work taking place in Sherburn on the drains and the positive site meeting which had taken place - could this be extended to Rillington and Staxton Willerby?
- Concerns were expressed regarding children using the pedestrian Islands at Rillington Fields and Staxton Willerby with 60 mph traffic both sides.

The Committee agreed, now that the new technical drawings and report had been produced for the Hopgrove Scheme, it is appropriate to invite the Major Projects Manager for the Scheme to the November to talk through the options.

2.4 Stronger Communities

The Committee received an update on the work of the Stronger Communities programme in the Ryedale area.

2.5 North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

Community safety activities and providing an update regarding other issues from within the Ryedale District.

Danny Westmoreland updated the Committee on the Police and Crime Commissioners business case to take over responsibility of the Fire Authority.

The Committee thanked Danny Westmoreland for attending and presenting reports to the Committee over recent years, and wished him well on his retirement. The Committee welcomed Marc Warren his successor.

2.6 North Yorkshire Police on initiatives currently being undertaken within the Ryedale District

During Members' discussion, the following clarifications and comments were provided:-

- Were the rural community surgeries well published? Inspector Dennison advised that apart from on the internet, there was information in the local Gazette and posters and leaflets in the weeks preceding the surgeries.

- It would be useful for residents of Kirby Misperton to understand the Police presence, are there any Police cameras to help local residents? Inspector Dennison advised that the Police have deployed a number of resources to the area which he was unable to divulge.
- Speeding in smaller villages and the presence of Traffic Officers. A Member was aware of 40 visits to one village whilst other villages had none. Inspector Dennison explained the rationale behind approving a site for speed monitoring. He explained that there needs to be a minimum of 6 recruited speed watch volunteers in villages who are equipped to undertake speed checks. There had been a lot of interest but some villages were finding it difficult to find 6 volunteers.
- A Member commented that speed vans could do a lot of damage to the Police' reputation, he asked whether the money raised via speeding fines is really about road safety or just a way of raising funds. Inspector Dennison said that it was his understanding that the primary purpose of speed camera vans is to ensure safety on the roads.

2.7 Ryedale Highways Office – Update

The Committee received an oral report from James Malcolm, Highways Area Manager which included advice that 250,000 square metres of surface dressing had been carried out this summer in Ryedale at a cost of £1 Million and the 2017/2018 Winter Service/Maintenance period will commence in October. The highway contract with Ringway allows for the provision of the replacement of the gritter fleet dependant on age, therefore this season there will be 10 new gritters countywide replaced; the Tour de Yorkshire will be over 4 days next year. The Richmond to Scarborough stage on the Saturday will go through the Ryedale area; WSP are working on the Norton Level Crossing HGV ban and have been asked to carry out a re-design of some of the proposed signage in relation to the HGV order coming into place. Currently the Authority are looking at how the exception permits will be introduced and enforced; WSP are also working on the Kirkham Bridge signs design and liaising with Highways England on the specific A64 signage. A report will have to be taken to BES Executive in relation to the single outstanding objection.

3.0 Selby Area Committee - 18 September 2017

3.1 Membership of the Area Committee - Appointment of Co-opted Members

The following Co-opted Members were appointed to serve until the first meeting of the Area Committee following the Annual Meeting of the County Council in 2018:-

Parish Council Representatives:-

Rita Stephenson (Fairburn Parish Council) - Selby South
Elizabeth Johnston (Brayton Parish Council) - Selby North

Selby District Council Representatives:-

Councillor Ian Chilvers
Councillor David Hutchinson
Councillor Brian Marshall
Councillor Chris Metcalfe

Selby - Community First Yorkshire:-

Mark Hopley

3.2 **Appointment to Outside Body**

Bea Rowntree was appointed to a vacancy on the Oglethorpe and Dawson Educational Foundation

3.3 **Highways Update**

The following issues were highlighted:-

- Delivery of the programme of work for the 2017/18
- Progress with design in relation to the 2018/19 programme
- The winter maintenance season would commence on 2 October 2017
- The completion of the Cawood Bridge works
- Phase 3 of the A63 Selby By-pass works and the pursuit of costs in relation to this
- The gritting of school routes and residential areas leading to primary routes
- The condition of non-adopted roads at Staynor Hall, Selby

3.4 **Development and Infrastructure in the Selby District**

The Head of Network Strategy at NYCC, the Chief Operating Officer for the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP and the Director of Economic Regeneration and Place at Selby District Council attended the meeting and assisted Members with discussions relating to development and related infrastructure in the Selby District, following on from the in-depth analysis undertaken by the Committee previously.

The following issues were highlighted as part of those discussions:-

- The cohesive and co-ordinated approach being undertaken in relation to the development of business growth and an industrial strategy for the Selby District
- The need to develop better quality, higher paid employment rather than just creating jobs
- Ensuring that available grant funding was fully utilised
- Utilising existing infrastructure and ensuring appropriate infrastructure is in place for future development
- Future development – Sherburn 2, Energy Corridor, Olympia Park
- Unpicking the blockages to create connectivity throughout the Selby District to enable access to employment opportunities and development
- The development of appropriate transport links to other areas, including public transport, and transport hubs
- Ensuring that the district had adequate and appropriate flood defences in place
- Developing and enhancing the local skills base to encourage better quality employment to come into the area

3.5 **Bus Services in the Selby District**

The Assistant Director, Waste Management, Waste and Countryside Services provided an update on the provision of bus services in the Selby District following the recent liquidation of Utopia Travel a major bus contractor for the area.

The following issues were highlighted:-

- The liquidation of Utopia Travel had happened quickly and without warning, therefore, there had been a major impact on Integrated Passenger Transport services at NYCC
- Services that had been under direct contract to NYCC (no. 37 service and school services) had been re-introduced by the County Council as quickly as possible through re-tendering.
- A skeleton service was being provided by the County Council in respect of the loss of commercial services and it was hoped that a commercial operator would come in to provide the services that had been lost, however, this cannot be guaranteed.
- Local Members and residents outlined the difficulties they were encountering resulting from the loss of the bus services, with elderly and infirm residents facing significant problems in respect of access to services and the expense being incurred to address this.
- Concern was expressed by Members of the Committee and public regarding the Policy of the County Council not to assist in providing subsidised transport access to employment locations and opportunities, as they considered this contradicted earlier discussions on connectivity. It was noted that, potentially, developer contribution funding could be utilised to address this.
- Particular concern was expressed in relation to the loss of the no. 42 service.
- Members noted the extremely difficult situation that Integrated Passenger Transport had faced and praised the response provided.
- The Assistant Director met with local residents to further outline the current situation at the conclusion of the meeting.

3.6 Selby District Council Air Quality Action Plan

Members were provided with a copy of the draft Plan and invited to participate in the forthcoming consultation.

4.0 Craven Area Committee - 21 September 2017

4.1 Public Questions or Statements

Mrs Joyce addressed the Area Committee regarding a fatal accident on the Alms Houses access on A682 Long Preston. She had attended the inquest where the need for better signage and the realignment of the exit been acknowledged. Whilst stressing the need for urgent action to be taken to reduce the risk of further accidents, she acknowledged the complexities of any compulsory purchase which may be necessary to facilitate such change.

4.2 Area Committee Membership - Appointment of Co-opted Members

The following Co-opted Members were appointed to serve until the first meeting of the Area Committee following the Annual Meeting of the County Council in 2018:-

Craven District Council Alan Sutcliffe

Voluntary Sector

Community First Yorkshire Mark Hopley
Craven Voluntary Sector Hazel Chatwin

Parish/Town Councils

Bradley Parish Council Veronicka Dancer
Carleton Parish Council John Waterhouse
Bentham Parish Council Marion Swales

It was also agreed that Marion Tweed-Rycroft, Stronger Communities Delivery Manager Craven, will seek a nominee for the remaining voluntary sector vacancy, to be reported to the following meeting.

4.3 Appointment to Outside Bodies

The Committee appointed the following as the County Council's representative on that outside body indicated, to serve until a replacement is appointed:

Boyle and Petyt Foundation (Bolton Abbey)	Mrs M Longden
Hargraves and Green Educational Foundation (Giggleswick/Austwick)	Mr C Fryer
Horton-in-Ribblesdale Exhibition Foundation Governors	Mr J Davis Mrs S Ireton
Horton-in-Ribblesdale Foundation Governors	Mrs L Booth

4.4 Update regarding Policing in Craven

The detailed performance report provided by Inspector Geoff Crocker was noted, and the incidence of burglary, particularly in South Craven, was discussed. Andy Tooke spoke of the work of speed camera vans and motorcycles explaining that the aim of such deployment is to seek to detect various vehicle related offences, whether drivers failing to wear seatbelts, speeding, or the use of mobile phones whilst driving. Enforcement of this type leads to a reduction of around two thirds in the incidents of speeding is over time. There was discussion of enforcement action against speeding motorcyclists who obscure their number plates to try and evade prosecution, this can result in imprisonment for the perversion of course of justice, a much weightier sanction than an £85 speeding ticket.

4.5 Future Options for Services following the Temporary Closure of Castleberg Hospital

A presentation was delivered by Dr Colin Renwick and his colleagues from NHS Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven CCG - Sue Pitkethly and Lynne Scrutton, and also Karina Dare of the NHS Property Service. The background to the unexpected temporary closure of the hospital in April 2017 was explained and the future options for the future delivery of end of life and terminal care in the locality. These options are the subject of public consultation and feedback from this will inform the recommendation to be made by the Clinical Executive Group to the Governing Body in April or May 2018 – the final decision will be taken at a public meeting of the Governing Body. Members expressed concerns about the approach to maintenance of all NHS buildings, and some scepticism was evident regarding the timing of the closure during the purdah period before the County Council election in May 2017. Sue Pitkethly and Karina Dare assured Members that the decision was a response to circumstances arising out of the blue.

4.6 Stronger Communities

The Committee received an update on the work of the Stronger Communities programme in the Craven area covering recent grants, forthcoming events, and future projects which included details of a collaboration to bring a building into community use.

4.7 Highways Update

James Malcom, Area Highways Manager, gave an update covering:

- Petition follow-up: request to speed limit on Gargrave Road to 20mph to address the road traffic issues and to find sustainable solutions to school transport and parking.
- Coniston Bridge
- Long Preston Alms Houses
- Completion of the resurfacing programme
- Replacement of gritter fleet
- Tour de Yorkshire 2018

4.8 A59 Kex Gill Realignment Update

The Committee noted progress of work on a scheme to realign the A59 at Kex Gill and the arrangements for public consultation. The A59 is a key trans-Pennine route between Skipton and Harrogate which has a long history of land instability and movement of land above the A59 to the west of Blubberhouses at Kex Gill. The County Council wishes to develop a business case to enable it to submit a bid for funding to the DfT for the delivery of a realigned route.

The key information reported to the Committee's meeting was as follows:-

- Key objectives for the alignment had been identified and a document setting out consultation information had been produced.
- Sixteen potential alignment options had been developed for the diversion of the A59 at Kex Gill. 12 of the 16 potential options had been discounted. The four which remained formed the 'Consultation Corridor' which was reported to the Committee.
- The current cost estimates range between approximately £33m and £40m. However, there was a small risk that the final scheme cost could be up to £57m.
- Public consultation on the proposed Consultation Corridor alignment takes place between late August and early October 2017, including three consultation events to be held within the scheme study area and opportunities to respond to the consultation via paper and on-line questionnaires.
- Alongside the work on consultation, officers were progressing technical aspects of scheme development, including ground investigation, environmental assessment, and discussions with key landowners and statutory bodies.

Members were highly supportive of the work being undertaken and requested that the following resolution be reflected in the minutes of the meeting and also be forwarded to the Executive as a formal recommendation:

It is a recommendation to the Executive:-

That the A59 Kex Gill Realignment Update report is noted and strongly supported by Craven Area Committee who urge the Executive to approve the final proposals when they are submitted, to improve this strategically significant route in terms of North

Yorkshire County Council's transportation priority east – west connectivity. The Area Committee also support the closure old road in view of the ongoing risk of landslip.

4.9 Kildwick Level Crossing Delays/Signalling Refurbishment/Upgrade

Graham North, Policy Support Officer – Rail, appraised the Committee of the frequent delays and consequent disruption to road users being experienced at Kildwick Level Crossing. A member of the public present advised that on occasion the barriers are down for 50 minutes out of an hour, with a wait of up to 7 minutes for a train to pass, creating huge traffic tailbacks. Graham North advised that this problem may be alleviated if proposed improvements are undertaken at Crosshills - a separate report on this issue is to come a future meeting of the Committee. Members were assured that the problem is being addressed by both Craven District Council and the County Council - it has an impact on Craven as a whole. It was also noted that both Councils are part of Rail North. Thanks to access funding, improvement work is to be undertaken by Craven District Council at Skipton station through which over a million passengers passed in the last year – reflecting the popularity of the line.

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 That the report be noted.

5.2 From Craven Area Committee

It is a recommendation to the Executive:-

That the A59 Kex Gill Realignment Update report is noted and strongly supported by Craven Area Committee who urge the Executive to approve the final proposals when they are submitted, to improve this strategically significant route in terms of North Yorkshire County Council's transportation priority east – west connectivity. The Area Committee also support the closure of the old road in view of the ongoing risk of landslip.

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton

9 October 2017

Background Documents: the published agendas and reports for each of the meetings identified in the headings in this report.