

PETITIONS & REPRESENTATIONS BOARD
Wednesday 18th April 2018
At 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor Rowlands (Chair), Councillors J. Taylor (Vice Chair), Petts, Skepelhorn and D. Taylor

OFFICERS PRESENT: Lawrence Pratt Highways Services Manager
 Angela Fraser Democracy & Scrutiny Team Leader

Ward Franks & Hopkins
 Councillors (item 6.2)

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of Councillors Riaz and Simmons.

		ACTION:
3	Minutes (Ref: 2.1)	
	Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 st February 2018 be agreed as a true record and the chair be authorised to sign them.	
4	Residents Parking on Erin Close, Luton – UPDATE (Ref: 6.1)	
	<p>The Chair informed Members that the report provides an update on the concerns raised at the last meeting which had now been resolved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds had been allocated from the Central Area New Homes for Luton Fund and agreed by Ward Councillors for the introduction of a residents parking scheme in Erin Close which is currently programmed for implementation in the 2018-19 financial year programme of works. • The ‘no waiting at any time’ at the junction of Erin Close and Douglas Crescent would also be introduced at the same time. • The Enforcement Team investigated the issue of fly 	

		ACTION:
	<p>tipping and no further problems had arisen. Patrols will continue at the location and the Police were aware of the street sex workers/drug user problems in that area which will continue to be monitored. Any further incidents reports to be made through the 101 service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The installation of a spring loaded door to the bin enclosure had been included in the housing projects scheme of works for 2018-19. <p>Resolved: (i) That the Board noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The allocation of funds for the introduction of a residents parking scheme in Erin Close from the Central Area New Homes for Luton Fund programed for implemented in the 2018-19 financial year. • The 'No Waiting at Any Time' at the Junction of Erin Close and Douglas Crescent be introduced at the same time. • The Enforcement Team will continue to monitor the area for incidents of fly tipping • Police awareness of the street sex workers/drug user problem which will continue to be monitored and for incidents to be reported through the 101 service. • The spring loaded door to the bin enclosure be included in the housing projects scheme of works for 2018-19. <p>(ii) That the Service Director Public Realm be instructed to advise the petitioners of the outcome.</p>	
4	<p>REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CALMING AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES OLD BEDFORD ROAD, LUTON (REF: 6.2)</p>	
	<p>The Chair informed Members the lead petitioner, S. M. was unable to attend but had submitted a written submission which was read out by Councillor Hopkins, Ward Councillor for Barnfield.</p> <p>Cllr Hopkins further advised that she had experienced cars speeding along Old Bedford Road and seen students driving dangerously trying to overtake larger vehicles. The petition requests speed cameras or alternative preventative measures be put in place to prevent speeding. She acknowledged a speed survey had been carried out during the bad weather of snow and ice and recommends a further survey be carried out before the College Summer break to get a more accurate reading of speeding along Old Bedford Road.</p> <p>Cllr Franks, Ward Councillor for Barnfield further added the results of the survey were not surprising but what was alarming was that 30% of the vehicles were recorded speeding in ice. He endorsed the request made by Cllr Hopkins for a further survey to be carried out either before the College summer break or in September at the start of the new term. Cars clocking speeds of over 50 mph were overtaken vehicles travelling along Old Bedford Road and there needs to be more pedestrian stoppage areas and at least two fixed cameras along</p>	

		ACTION:
	<p>Old Bedford Road. He requested Officers let the Ward Councillors have cost estimates for installing additional pedestrian refuges which will be discussed with other Ward Councillors in that area.</p> <p>The Chair invited the Highways Services Manager, Laurence Pratt to respond. He informed Members that the petition had been received and signed by 48 local residents which requested traffic calming and pedestrian facilities in Old Bedford Road.</p> <p>Old Bedford Road already has 7 controlled pedestrian crossing points in the form of pedestrian phases at traffic signals, puffin and zebra crossings and 8 pedestrian refuges. The speed survey carried out in January this year found 85% of vehicles were travelling around 34mph with 10% travelling at 35mph and over. Luton Community Speed Watch also carried out a survey in March this year where 14 vehicles were clocked exceeding the speed limit and those vehicles were reported to the Police. The number of accidents analysed in the last 4 years have been 32 injuries with 1 classed as serious. The Council routinely monitors injury accidents on main routes within Luton to prioritise them for Local Safety Scheme works using a three year accident data. Currently section 1 of Old Bedford Road between Hucklesby Way and Stockingstone Road is 33rd on the Local Safety Scheme list and section 2 between Stockingstone Road and Cromer Way is 49th on the list.</p> <p>The Council operates a request list to prioritise resident's request in a fair and equitable way and this financial year's work programme and budget is fully committed. An item was added to the list February this year for speed restraint measures between Stockingstone Road and Bradgers Hill Road.</p> <p>The Board was asked to the consider the following options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) To recommend to Executive to introduce average speed cameras at a cost of £230k plus an annual calibration cost of about £25k. This would be hard to justify on accident and speed grounds and not recommended. b) To note the programme of works for 2018/19 is fully committed and support the introduction of pedestrian refuges in Old Bedford Road be considered alongside all other requests for a future programme of works. This is the recommended option to ensure fair and equitable selection of schemes. c) Request the Executive considers introducing traffic calming measures in the form of pedestrian refuges in Old Bedford Road within the programme of works for 2018/19 by dropping another scheme. This is not recommended as priorities for the financial year had already been set and substituting a scheme already agreed for implementation in the 2018/19 programme with a proposed scheme for Old Bedford Road would be contentious. The residents of the deferred scheme may have high expectations on the delivery timescales as they would also consider their scheme to be a priority for them. 	

		ACTION:
	<p>Members debated the issues and agreed the following resolution:</p> <p>Resolved: (i) That the receipt of the petition be noted.</p> <p>(ii) That the Executive be requested to consider option C above to introduce traffic calming measures of additional pedestrian refuges in Old Bedford Road.</p> <p>(iii) That Officers be requested to provide cost estimates for additional pedestrian refuges in Old Bedford Road to the Barnfield Ward Councillors in order to part fund the additional traffic calming measures.</p> <p>(iv) That Officers be requested to carry out a further speed survey in Old Bedford Road before the college summer break or in September at the start of the new term.</p> <p>(iv) That the Service Director, Public Realm advises petitioners of the outcome.</p>	

(Note: The meeting ended at 6.32pm)