

Time commenced 6.00pm
Time finished 7.50pm

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 14 JUNE 2010

Present: Councillor Batey, in the Chair
Councillors Berry, Harwood, Barker, Shanker, Repton, S Khan

1/10 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.

2/10 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

3/10 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4/10 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 9 March 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5/10 Call-in

There were no items for call-in.

6/10 Councillor Call for Action

There were no items.

7/10 Responses of the Council Cabinet to any reports of the Commission

Minute 197/09 – Review of Heritage Assets and the Management of Historic Environment

The Commission received a minute extract from the Council Cabinet meeting on 16 March and a written update from Councillor Holmes. It was reported the intention was to broadly accept the Commission's report and its recommendations. Councillor Holmes would be meeting with the appropriate officers to take these recommendations forward. However, members were informed that there was potential resource implications relating to the Commission's recommendation on Heritage Open Days, and that this proposal would need to be examined more closely

before a decision was made. Councillor Holmes also suggested that he and the Commission might jointly visit Salford, which had been the example quoted by English Heritage regarding Heritage Open Days.

The Commission noted the update.

Items for Discussion

8/10 Commission Review on Highways and Footways

The Commission considered a report of the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods, responding to the Commission's 2008 review on Highways and Footways Maintenance.

Members were provided with an update on the Council's participation in a national survey of public perceptions on highway and transport services, comparing Derby with 75 other authorities nationally, including specific comparison with 30 other unitary authorities. It was noted by members that Derby compared favourably with other authorities in some areas but poorly in others. The Head of Highways suggested that public perceptions would be likely to become less favourable as work on projects such as Connecting Derby continued, but more favourable in the longer term as these projects were completed, resulting in improvements to the roads network achieved. Graphs were shown giving ward-by-ward examples of public perspectives

It was reported that contact had been made with the better performing authorities in those areas where Derby's ranking had been less favourable, with a view to learning from others.

The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Councillor Poulter, commented that his Group's priorities as an administration included highways and transport. Reference was made to a three month trial of new methods for effecting highway repairs which could be swifter and more efficient.

Resolved to:

- 1) Note the work undertaken so far and support the benchmarking work being undertaken**
- 2) Request that an update on this work be brought to a future Commission meeting.**

9/10 Bus station

The Commission received an oral update from the Passenger Transport Coordination and Strategy Team Leader. The officer updated members on a variety of issues that had been previously raised, as detailed below

Removal of redundant bus shelters

It was reported that the first five had been removed, including the four closest to the new bus station which had been considered most problematic. Members asked

whether the shelters would be reallocated and were invited to put forward additional suggested locations to add to the existing list of site requests . Members were informed that erecting shelters was not necessarily straightforward as there could be objections from residents.

Removal of redundant road markings

It was reported that those in the Morledge would be removed as part of a pending improvement scheme. A rolling programme would also involve removal of those in Full Street, Corporation Street and Derwent Street.

Buses stopping outside bus station and requiring passengers to alight

Members were informed that the bus companies had been reminded on a number of occasions that passengers should be able to alight in the bus station rather than outside.

Rough ground to the left of the bus station entrance

It was reported that this had been part of a works access for the continued development work on the site. Members were advised that the ground would be made good as part of the works to the Morledge commencing on 28 June 2010 and due for completion in late January.

Shop unit inside bus station

Members were advised that the shop was planned to open on 28 June 2010.

Queuing across the bus station concourse

It was reported that a temporary marked dividing line between the concourse area and queueing area would shortly be put in place in an attempt to tackle this, with a view to making the line permanent should it prove successful. Members questioned whether this was foreseen. It was reported that in other cities, such as Leeds, no such issue appeared to exist.

Public toilets within bus station

It was reported that there had been no issue with the toilets and that the issues of vandalism that blighted the toilets in the old bus station had fortunately not resurfaced.

Additional issues

Members asked whether it was too late to consider re-siting the coach parking at the Morledge end of the bus station to reduce the walking distance for users, who were often more elderly passengers. The Head of Traffic explained that the number of bus users was significantly more than the number of coach users and that this had been considered in drawing up the original layout.

Resolved to note the update.

10/10 Remit and work programme

Members discussed possible items for discussion in the year ahead, including:

- The Local Development Framework, with particular reference to Derby's housing needs. It was noted that housing itself came under the remit of the Community Commission but that there could be room for overlap by examination of the LDF.
- Connecting Derby, with particular reference to the potential need for a bus service to the Royal Derby Hospital

The related report referred to a possible re-configuration of the scrutiny function. It was understood that a motion originally submitted for the May Annual Meeting would be considered by Council on 7 July. Members agreed to forward any more ideas to the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordination Officer to be raised and considered at a future meeting of this or successor commissions.

11/10 Matters referred to the Commission by Council Cabinet

There were no items.

12/10 Retrospective Scrutiny

Members resolved to consider the effectiveness of the Kedleston Road bus lane, as part of the work programme, dependent upon how the Cabinet proposed to evaluate the current trial

13/10 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

Members reviewed the June Forward Plan. It was decided not to scrutinise the City of Derby Local List of Buildings of Historic or Architectural Importance following a dialogue with Harry Hopkinson, Team Leader - Built Environment.

Resolved to consider the Draft Residential Intensification Supplementary Planning Document (ref 85/09) as part of the consultation process.

14/10 Call-in

The Commission received documentation on the Call-in process. Members were encouraged to attend the Member Development Day on 22 June entitled 'getting the most out of overview and scrutiny' when call-in would be covered in more depth. There were no specific items for call-in.

15/10 Councillor Call for Action

The Commission received the Protocol on the use of Councillor Calls for Action. There were no specific items.

MINUTES END