



LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE Thursday 17 July 2014 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor Perrin (Chair), Councillor Mashari (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Moher and McLennan

Also present: Councillors Butt and Mahmood

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Denselow.

1. Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests

None at this meeting.

2. Appointment of Vice Chair

RESOLVED:

that Councillor Mashari be appointed as the Vice Chair for the municipal year 2014-15.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 March 2014

RESOLVED:-

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 March 2014 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising

Tony Antoniou, Head of Transportation, in reference to the petition for the development of a traffic management policy strategy for Chamberlayne Road, confirmed that Ark Franklin (Kensal Rise) and Princess Frederica Primary Schools had active travel plans in place. It was identified that Manor (SEN) School had no active travel plan in place.

5. Deputations

None at this meeting.

6. **Petition for the withdrawal of double yellow lines and introduction of a loading bay /short-term parking on Berkeley Road NW9 near its junction with Kingsbury Road**

The Committee considered a report that informed of a petition requesting the withdrawal of double yellow lines and introduction of a loading bay/short term parking on Berkeley Road NW9 near its junction with Kingsbury Road and the suspension of parking tickets issued by CCTV camera 226. Tony Antoniou, Head of Transportation, in setting out the background stated that local traders had expressed concerns that their vehicles and suppliers were experiencing difficulties in unloading due to 'no waiting at any time' (double yellow lines) and no loading restrictions currently in place. In addition to the request for the removal of the double yellow lines and the provision of loading bay and short term parking, the traders have requested the suspension of penalty charge notices issued by CCTV camera 226.

The Head of Transportation explained that currently there were "no waiting at any time" restrictions at the location and there were loading restrictions in place. In his view, whilst it would be feasible to provide a formal loading bay for 2 vehicles for up to 20 minutes, the 'no waiting at any time' and loading restrictions be retained and "no loading" restrictions should be introduced at the junction to reduce congestion and to improve road safety. He drew members' attention to additional parking facilities in the area including 'pay and display' parking in Kingsbury Road and 78 car parking spaces in the local car park to the rear of the shops opposite. He added that camera 226 should continue to be used in order to monitor and ensure compliance with traffic orders. In respect of parking enforcement notices (PCNs) issued, the Head of Transportation advised that registered keepers were entitled to make representations to the council and officers would consider each case based upon its own merits.

Mr Bharat Mistry, in presenting the petition stated that the parking and loading restrictions and the issuing of at least 50 PCNs to staff, customers and suppliers had discouraged customers and affected his business turnover. The severe loss of income was seriously affecting the viability of his plumbing business which had been established in the area for several years. Mr Mistry requested the provision of parking bays for up to 20 minutes, the relaxation of short term parking rules including the cessation of parking fines with immediate effect, the removal of camera 226 and the cancellation of the PCNs.

Councillor Butt, Leader of the Council speaking on behalf of Councillor Kabir, ward member stated that although the current provisions in the area were affecting the viability of local businesses, the Council had a statutory duty to ensure that the roads were clear hence the CCTV camera. He welcomed the recommendations in the report particularly the consultation on the provision of loading bays which could take up to 4 vehicles on Berkeley Road. In respect of the PCNs issued, Councillor Butt endorsed the officer's view that each case would be decided on its own merits, if the registered keeper made representations to the Council.

In response to members' questions, the Head of Transportation stated that he would endeavour to commence with the consultation within 4 weeks after the meeting however, the statutory consultation for Traffic Regulation Orders and implementation would take approximately 6 months.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the contents of the petition and the issues it raises be noted;
- (ii) that officers be instructed to consult on the provision of a loading bay on Berkeley Road near its junction with Kingsbury Road through its 'short sections' for 'waiting and loading' programme 2014/15;
- (iii) that, subject to the outcome of the scheme consultation, the Head of Transportation be authorised to undertake statutory consultation, to consider any objections or representations and to implement the necessary Traffic Management Orders and associated signing and road marking works required to implement the changes, or to report back to the Highways Committee if objections are substantial;
- (iv) that it be noted that officers would consider waiting and loading in the area as part of the planned Kingsbury Town Centre – Public Realm Improvements and Collision reduction scheme that would be developed in 2014/15 and 2015/16;
- (v) that it be noted that CCTV enforcement at this location would continue as it enabled the Council to improve compliance with waiting and loading restrictions, providing a safer and less congested network;
- (vi) that the CCTV at this location be checked to ensure it was operating correctly in regard to parking enforcement;
- (vii) that officers provide the petitioner with a clear description of the restrictions on parking, waiting and loading on the current double yellow lines in Berkley Road;
- (viii) that officers consider lengthening the proposed loading bay to help accommodate larger vehicles;
- (ix) that the main petitioner be informed of the outcome of the Highways Committee decisions in regard to this matter.

7. Petition requesting the Council not to carry out a review of the controlled parking zone (CPZ) SH recommended by the October 2013 Highways Committee

Members considered a report which informed them of a petition requesting the Council not to carry out the review of the controlled parking zone (CPZ) SH in Fernbank, Maybank and Rosebank Avenues, Sudbury. Tony Antoniou (Head of Transportation) reminded members that the SH CPZ scheme was implemented in order to prevent commuter and long term parking from the area, improve road safety, reduce the level of traffic and regulate on-street parking whilst attracting more customers to local businesses by allowing greater turnover in parking spaces. The operational hours agreed with residents and businesses were from 8.00am to 6.30pm Monday to Saturday excluding bank holidays.

He continued that following a petition, the Highways Committee decided on 10 October 2013 to instruct officers to carry out a review of the SH CPZ scheme. It was further to the Committee's decision that a subsequent petition had been received requesting the Council not to carry out the review.

In responding to the petition, the Head of Transportation stated that the consultation and survey results provided by the lead petitioner petition were not in accordance with the Council's normal consultation process and expressed a view that the questionnaire might not be representative of the views of the local community. He continued that the Council had replaced visitor scratch cards with daily virtual permits to prevent abuse of the system and that issues about the on-line parking service would be reviewed taking into account user feedback. He therefore recommended that members instruct officers to proceed with the consultation on the review of parking control operational times in accordance with the decision made in October 2013 and the results of the consultation reported back to the Committee.

Mr Yasir Hai, the lead petitioner presented his comprehensive survey results and spoke to the petition. Mr Hai stated that his survey results demonstrated that 63% would like the SH CPZ scheme to remain unchanged, 95% wanted the retention of the scratch card system and that 90% of residents believed that the on-line payment system was not user friendly. In the light of the above results, Mr Hai stated that there was no need for the Council to review the SH CPZ scheme and asked members to withdraw their decision made in October 2013.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the contents of the petition and the issues it raises be noted;
- (ii) that the Head of Transportation be authorised to proceed with consultation on a review of the controlled parking zone SH in 2014/15 as previously approved by the Highways Committee at the meeting on 10 October 2013;
- (iii) that the Head of Transportation reports the results of the consultation to a future Highways Committee with recommendations on whether or not to proceed with any amendments to existing restrictions;
- (iv) that if the results of the consultation do not support changes, that no further review be considered within 2 years of the date of decision by the Highways Committee;
- (v) that the main petitioner be informed of the outcome of the Highways Committee decisions in regard to this matter.

8. Date of next meeting

Noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday, 20 October 2014 at 7:00pm

9. Any other urgent business

None.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

K PERRIN
Chair