



LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE Tuesday, 18 October 2011 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor J Moher (Chair), Councillor Powney (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Beswick, Jones and Long

Also present: Councillors Mrs Bacchus and Butt

1. **Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests**

None declared.

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 July 2011**

RESOLVED:-

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 July 2011 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting subject to the following amendments:

In minute 7 last paragraph, replace after 2010 "had been called in to scrutiny but no one had raised objection".

3. **Matters arising (if any)**

Pay and Display Controls in Bridge Road and Preston Road

Tim Jackson, Head of Highways, updated members that the pay and display machines had been installed in Bridge Road but not yet activated and that the machines for Preston Road would be installed within the next three weeks. The machines for both areas would be switched on around the end of November. He confirmed that he was working in partnership with local businesses, ward members and residents' groups on how to enhance the usage of the Preston Road car park and with that in view, he had convened a meeting for November 2011.

National Transport Awards

The Head of Highways informed the Committee that Brent Council had won the award for best local authority in the road safety, traffic management and enforcement category at the National Transport Awards that took place on 17 October 2011. He added that Brent won the award for its success in driving down road accidents and casualties over the past five years, having achieved the biggest reduction in **"ksi"** casualties in the whole of London.

4. **Deputations (if any)**

None

5. **Petitions**

(a) ***Harrow Road Pedestrian Crossing***

The petition received from Brent Muslim Association requesting the introduction of a pedestrian crossing along Harrow Road, south of Aldbury Avenue junction stated as follows:

"We the undersigned Brent residents who send their young children to Islamic cultural centre, 72 Harrow Road, Wembley, middx. HA9 6PL. Every evening the elderly and disabled people use the Islamic cultural centre every day for their social and cultural activities. The users of Islamic cultural centre are very concerned for their safety and wellbeing while crossing the very busy Harrow Road. We humbly request to have a pedestrian crossing point along Harrow Road, south of Aldbury Avenue junction".

The lead petitioner was not present to address the Committee but submitted a statement which informed members about the dangers faced by pedestrians crossing Harrow Road to the Islamic Cultural centre in particular, young children and about 600 worshippers on Fridays. He urged members to consider a crossing that would allow pedestrians to cross safely without obstruction to the flow of traffic.

(b) **Reduction of operational times of GM CPZ - Ivy Road NW2**

The petition received from the residents of Ivy Road requesting the reduction of operational times of GM CPZ (Ivy Road) area stated as follows:

"We the undersigned residents of controlled parking zone GM, Cricklewood, NW2 are in favour of a reduction of the duration of the parking restrictions enforced in zone GM"

Mr Hassan Zubair addressed the Committee. He stated that most local residents in Ivy Road no longer supported the current operating times of 10:00am to 9:00pm Monday to Saturday as they were inconsistent with nearby roads where controlled parking ended at 3:00pm. The charges for permit parking were not only excessive but also discouraged visiting by family members. He emphasised the need for a review of the operating times.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the petition by Brent Muslim Association requesting a pedestrian crossing be noted;
- (ii) that the petition by the residents of Ivy Road requesting the reduction of operating hours of GM CPZ area be noted.

6. **Response to petition -introduction of pedestrian crossing on Harrow Road**

Members received a report from the Head of Highways that informed them about a petition from Brent Muslim Association seeking the introduction of a new pedestrian crossing on Harrow Road, south of Aldbury Avenue. The petition which was signed by 84 residents expressed their concern about access to Islamic Cultural Centre for the elderly, the disabled and children.

Tim Jackson, Head of Highways informed members that a pelican crossing was already located about 60 metres southeast of the centre near Monks Park, with inset parking bays located between them. In addition, a bus stop was situated opposite the Aldbury Avenue junction with a southeast bound bus lane and a vast majority of residential properties within the area had vehicular crossovers. He continued that following a review of the situation in the light of the above issues, he would not recommend changes to the current arrangements for the following reasons:

- (i) There was no significant personal injury accident (pia) evidence to support the introduction of a new pedestrian crossing in the area.
- (ii) A pelican crossing already existed within 60metres of the Cultural Centre.
- (iii) Physical constraints on the public highway including a bus lane and vehicular crossovers would restrict the introduction of additional pedestrian facilities.

The Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Butt, ward member and a trustee of the Islamic Cultural Centre in addressing the Committee expressed his opposition to the introduction of a pedestrian crossing on that part of Harrow Road. He added that the Centre had submitted a planning application which if agreed would make unnecessary a pedestrian crossing in that part of Harrow Road.

Councillor Mrs Bacchus, ward member endorsed the views expressed by Councillor Butt. Councillor Beswick, Lead Member for Crime and Public Safety in endorsing officers' views added that the police had not expressed a need for a pedestrian crossing on that part of Harrow Road.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the contents of the petition and the review of the implemented scheme be noted;
- (ii) That no changes be made to the existing arrangement for pedestrian crossing facilities along this section of Harrow Road.

7. **Response to petition - reduction of operational times of GM CPZ - Ivy Road**

Tim Jackson, Head of Transportation, introduced the report on the petition signed by 146 residents requesting a reduction in operational times of the GM CPZ from 10.30am to 3pm, Monday to Friday. He reminded members that the results of the 2003 survey responses received from residents of Ivy Road indicated that the

majority of residents (that responded to the consultation) were in favour of the existing (more extensive) CPZ operational hours.

He continued that whilst the current operational hours may have an impact on car users within the zone, the Council needed to balance the needs and expectations of groups of residents in one part of the zone with those in another part in a way that avoided confusion for visitors to the area and enabled the zone to operate efficiently. As Ivy Road was some distance away from Cricklewood Broadway and therefore not subject to the same intensive pressures on parking space, there was no evidence to suggest a need for a review or reduction in operational hours.

The Head of Transportation advised members that in order to ensure fairness, changes to CPZ operational hours for any particular area were made after consultation with residents and businesses within the whole CPZ zone. In addition, the review should be contained within the Council's CPZ work programme for the financial year and subject to approval by Committee before the beginning of the financial year. He added that as part of the Council's budget setting process, the CPZ programme for 2011/12 was reduced significantly with no revenue funding for undertaking reviews or introducing new CPZs in 2012/13 or beyond. Additionally, no external source of funding (typically developer contribution) had been identified for a review of the GM CPZ area.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the contents of the petition received from residents of Ivy Road, Cricklewood, NW2 be noted;
- (ii) That the response of officers to the petition that they would be unable to take any action in regard to this matter at this time be noted.

8. Meeting with Transport Commissioner for London

Members received a report that summarised the discussions that took place on 16 September 2011 at a meeting between the Transport Commissioner for London, the Leader, Chief Executive, Lead Members and relevant officers of each London Council. Tim Jackson, Head of Transportation, gave the summary and the action points for the respective items discussed as follows:

1. High Speed 2 (HS2) and Old Oak Common hub station

The representatives of Transport for London (TfL) noted the Council's views and agreed to work with the Council to influence HS2 and explore opportunities to provide appropriate surface and rail connectivity to the Old Oak Common hub station.

2. Key rail station issues (Wembley Central & Willesden Junction stations)

TfL noted the Council's concerns in relation to Wembley Central station and agreed that an attractive, fit for purpose concourse was necessary (in advance of the Olympics) in the event that the station development was not progressed in tandem with Network Rail's project. They agreed to work with the Council to ensure that

Network Rail understood the Council's concerns and were making appropriate contingency/interim plans to address those concerns.

TfL noted the Council's concerns over the state of Station Approach (Willesden Junction) and shared the Council's need for improvements. They intimated that they had been advised that Network Rail had investment plans for the Approach and undertook to work with the Council to determine the extent and timing of those plans. They undertook to arrange a meeting of the three parties involved (the Council, TfL and Network Rail) to discuss the situation further.

3 UEFA Champions League final 2013

TfL acknowledged that the environment in which the planning for the 2011 event had taken place had changed and the opportunity to consider a different approach for 2013 when the UEFA final would return to Wembley National Stadium. The officer de-briefing note circulated as a supplementary paper to the report amplified the steps taken by Brent to ensure success of the event in May 2011 and which encouraged UEFA to return to Wembley for the cup final match in 2013. It was noted that the steps identified for improvement from the 2011 event would be factored into the planning for the 2013 Cup Challenge final.

4 Harlesden Town Centre scheme

TfL acknowledged the good progress made in developing the scheme so far and were particularly impressed by the way the Council had engaged the local community. They confirmed their support for the scheme.

5 Transport infra-structure in growth areas

TfL acknowledged the scale of development within Brent and the need for close working to ensure that the transport infrastructure and services were in place to support the scale of development. In response to concerns that TfL bus planners took a less than pro-active approach, they invited the Council to write to the Commissioner with details of the Council's key priorities/concerns in relation to bus operations so that a meeting could be set up to consider how those concerns could be best addressed.

RESOLVED:-

That the summary of discussions and action points of the meeting with the Transport Commissioner for London be noted.

9. **Proposed extension of HY CPZ**

Members considered a report that informed them about the results of the consultation recently carried out with residents in a number of streets within Harlesden ward on extending the existing HY Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ).

Tim Jackson, Head of Transportation advised the Committee that the latest consultation was a repeat of the consultation undertaken in 2010 because the current emission based resident permit regime had not been formulated at the time

of the original consultation. He continued that a total of 1444 addresses (17 streets) were consulted and a good (21.4%) response was received. Overall 52% of respondents supported the proposals, referring to the road by road analysis of the responses received attached as appendix "B" to his report. He recommended the extension of the HY CPZ into all streets consulted subject to the completion of the statutory consultation. He then referred to concerns raised by schools in the area and a locally based charity about the impact of the proposals on the parking arrangements for their staff.

The Head of Transportation informed members that Leopold Primary School, St Joseph's RC Junior School and Curzon Crescent Nursery School had been advised that their staff (teachers) would be entitled to special parking permits (maximum 10) if the proposed controlled parking zone was implemented subject to their school travel plans being updated. In response to concerns expressed by The Samaritans Charity based in Leopold Road, it had been agreed the Charity would be allowed to purchase a limited number of business permits which would allow staff to park within the extended zone.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the results of the most recent consultation into a proposal to extend the HY CPZ be noted and the CPZ extended into all streets consulted, subject to the completion of the necessary statutory consultation;
- (ii) that the Head of Transportation be authorised to consider any objections and representations to the statutory consultation and to report back to Committee if there are significant or substantial objections or concerns raised, otherwise to implement the extension of the HY CPZ.

10. **Progress report 2011/12 Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) programme**

Tim Jackson, Head of Transportation provided members with an update on the following CPZ schemes for the 2011/12 CPZ work programme:

The consultation on proposals to extend the existing HY CPZ had been completed and the proposals agreed by Committee (see minute item 9).

Work on the possible introduction of controlled parking in the Logan Road, College Road, Carlton Avenue East, Grasmere Avenue area East of Preston Road would not take place until developer contributions to meet the anticipated costs of consultation and the introduction of controls were secured.

Consultation on the extension of GA CPZ to include Anson Road and Tracey, Henson and Gardiner Avenues was programmed to take place in November 2011 with a view to implementing the extension before April 2012 if the results of consultation were positive.

In view of the objections raised to the proposed amendment the existing operational times for CPZ MW (Monday – Saturday, 8am-6.30pm) would be retained.

Consultation on the possible introduction of a new CPZ in the vicinity of the Brent Civic Centre was programmed to take place during November and December 2011. Preliminary proposals had been developed and consultation arrangements were currently being finalised with the Civic Centre project team.

Consultation on the possible introduction of controlled parking in the area bounded by Ealing Road, Carlyon Avenue, Abbeydale Road and Queensbury Road had been delayed whilst preliminary proposals were being developed. It was now anticipated to take place in late 2012.

Consultation on the possible introduction of controlled parking in the area south of Kinsbury Station (eg Valley Drive, Mersham Drive, Old Kenton Lane, Crundale Avenue) had been delayed whilst work to identify the extent and scale of local problems and a possible source of funding was taking place.

Work on the adjustment and replacement of signage within a number of CPZs had taken place during 2011/12. This work had focussed on improving signage (and ensuring consistency with existing Traffic Orders) in the C and W CPZs.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that progress on the 2011/12 CPZ work programme be noted;
- (ii) that the objections received to CPZ MW review be noted and it be agreed that the existing parking restrictions of Monday – Saturday, 8am-6.30pm be retained.

11. Any Other Urgent Business

None.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13 December 2011 at 7:00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

J MOHER
Chair