

DELEGATED DECISIONS BY CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT (INCLUDING TRANSPORT)

MINUTES of the meeting held on Thursday, 29 June 2017 commencing at 10.00 am and finishing at 10.46 am

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Yvonne Constance OBE – in the Chair

Officers:

Whole of meeting G. Warrington (Law & Governance); Director for Infrastructure Delivery, D. Tole & A. Kirkwood.

The Cabinet Member for Environment considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting, and decided as set out below. Except as insofar as otherwise specified, the reasons for the decisions are contained in the agenda and reports, copies of which are attached to the signed Minutes.

7/17 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda No. 3)

<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Item</i>
Alison Scott	6. Proposed 30 mph Speed Limit – Foxcombe Road, Sunningwell and Wootton
Dr John Sharp – Chair East Hendred Parish Council Mark Beddow - Resident) 8. Proposed 30 mph Speed Limit) and Puffin Crossing – A417 East)Hendred

8/17 PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION ON A423 OXFORD SOUTHERN BYPASS AND ADJACENT ROADS

(Agenda No. 4)

The Cabinet Member for Environment considered responses received to a statutory consultation to introduce a 50 mph speed limit on the A423 Oxford Southern Bypass and 30 mph limits on roads linking the bypass to Kennington and Oxford.

The Cabinet Member for Environment recognised that although the police had not objected to the proposals for the A423 itself they had done so with regard to the linking roads. Therefore, having regard to the arguments and options in the report which reflected their concerns by recommending further consultation on appropriate limits for the linking roads, she confirmed her decision as follows:

to approve the proposal for a 50 mph speed limit on the A423 Oxford Southern Bypass as advertised but that further consultation be carried out on revised proposals for the linking roads as set out in paragraph 10 of the report CMDE4.

Signed.....
Cabinet Member for Environment

Date of signing.....

9/17 PROPOSED 50MPH SPEED LIMIT - A41 BICESTER - BLACKTHORN

(Agenda No. 5)

The Cabinet Member for Environment considered (CMDE5) responses received to a consultation to introduce a 50 mph speed limit on the A41 between (and including) its roundabout junction with A421 Bicester Eastern Perimeter road and the existing 50 mph limit by the Blackthorn Bridge.

Referring to the considerable level of development in this area and the context of the 2 objections received Mr Tole confirmed that the proposals met Department for Transport guidelines for setting local speed limits on lower quality roads and with regard to concerns regarding the necessity for a restriction on a road which was often congested officers considered that although traffic flow was heavy at peak times outside those times it was usually free flowing..

Noting the police response and the support of Cherwell District Council the Cabinet Member for Environment, having regard to the arguments and options set out in the report before her along with the officer comments made at the meeting with regard to the objections received confirmed her decision as follows:

to approve the proposals as advertised.

Signed.....
Cabinet Member for Environment

Date of signing.....

10/17 PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT - FOXCOMBE ROAD, SUNNINGWELL AND WOOTTON

(Agenda No. 6)

The Cabinet Member for Environment considered (CMDE6) responses to a consultation to introduce a 30 mph speed limit on Foxcombe Road including a short length of the road within Wootton parish in place of the existing 40 mph limit.

Alison Scott expressed her concern regarding the levels of risk facing pedestrians, cyclists and the elderly when crossing this open stretch of road which encouraged speed. Action was needed urgently to prevent an accident.

Mr Tole reported an email from Colin Weyer on behalf of Sunningwell parish council who had proposed and funded the scheme. It was accepted that although there were difficulties for residents egressing properties along the road there was, however, no great safety case to be addressed although the perception of safety to residents was important particularly when many drivers saw speed limits as targets to be reached. There was also the potential for further development in the area. Further monitoring work funded by the parish council, which would include speed surveys, would be carried out by the county council with information shared with the police, parish council and local member.

Having regard to the argument and options set out in the report before her and the representations received at the meeting the Cabinet Member for Environment confirmed her decision as follows:

to approve the proposal as advertised with further speed monitoring and survey work carried out.

Signed.....
Cabinet Member for Environment

Date of signing.....

11/17 PROPOSED EXTENSION OF 30MPH SPEED LIMIT , BUS STOP CLEARWAYS AND ROAD NARROWING - A415 WITNEY ROAD & OXFORD ROAD, KINGSTON BAGPUIZE

(Agenda No. 7)

The Cabinet Member for Environment considered CMDE7 responses received to a consultation extending the 30 mph speed limit on the A415 Witney Road at the north end of Kingston Bagpuize, introducing two bus-stops (and associated clearways) on Witney Road and narrowing a section of Oxford Road in conjunction with residential development on the east side of the A415.

Mr Tole reported 2 objections not specifically included in the report. The first sought clarification regarding the bus stop clearway and how it might affect bus services and the second referred to the narrowing of the carriageway on Oxford Road to provide a

footway. He confirmed that the bus stops as a new provision would not affect current services and issues regarding narrowing of the carriageway had been covered in the report.

Referring to the objection from the parish council that the roundabout should also be subject to a 30 mph restriction he confirmed that that had not been included in order to make a clear distinction between driving conditions on the A420 and the A415.

The proposed carriageway after narrowing would be equivalent to the provision made for distributor roads. The footway would be pedestrian use only.

Having regard to the arguments and options set out in the report and the representations made to her at the meeting the Cabinet Member for Environment was satisfied that there were coherent reasons for the proposals and confirmed her decision as follows:

to approve the proposals as advertised.

Signed.....
Cabinet Member for Environment

Date of signing.....

12/17 PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT AND PUFFIN CROSSING - A417 EAST HENDRED
(Agenda No. 8)

The Cabinet Member for Environment considered (CMDE8) responses to a consultation to introduce a 30 mph speed limit and ‘puffin’ signalled crossing on the A417 at East Hendred in connection with and as a charge on a residential development to the north side of the A417 east of its junction with White Road.

Whilst expressing support for the proposal Dr Sharp for the parish council added that they wanted to see the limit extended westwards to include the Allins Lane junction and eastwards to include the Featherbed Lane junction. Challenging the accident figures in the report he confirmed that in a 5 year period between 2008 and 2013 there had been 17 accidents over a 2km length of road with 1 fatality and other incidents since then. It was accepted that while normal criteria for a 30 mph speed limit were not met with the regard to the extension to the west the accident figures which he had quoted suggested special circumstances might exist which merited its provision and could help alleviate conditions between Woods Farm Lane and the western end of the Hendred dip where there was a recognised black spot. The parish council supported the proposed crossing but would continue to campaign for a wider footpath/cycletrack.

Mark Beddow expressed concern over the specification for the crossing which he considered only met minimum visual standards. While the Pye 3 development itself was regrettable every effort should now be made to improve and ensure high levels of safety on this section of road.

Mr Tole confirmed that the proposed new crossing had been located to best fit with the design of the estate and had received general support despite some concerns regarding its proximity to White Road and the width of footway. However, a pedestrian link was seen as essential in providing a link between the new development and the village over what was a busy road with some hgv use. However, the prime issue remained the speed limit. Officers felt an extension all the way to the west of Hendred as proposed by the parish council would reduce its effectiveness and considered that the current 40 limit was consistent with Department for Transport guidance.

Mr Kirkwood confirmed that police reports as at March 2017 showed one minor accident at the Allins Lane junction in the last 5 years. The fatality referred to by Dr Sharp had occurred 200m east of Allins Lane with no highway factors involved. There had been 1 injury accident at White Road.

Dr Sharp confirmed that the figures he had quoted had been collated over a longer period of time and longer stretch of road but that Hendred Dip was nevertheless a recognised accident black spot.

With regard to the potential to extend eastwards Mr Jenkins confirmed that due to land issues there was no firm date for the improvement scheme at the Featherbed Lane end.

The Cabinet Member for Environment accepted that delays to the Featherbed Lane improvement scheme would, for the time being, constrain any possible extension eastwards. There were also constraints on extending to the west not least the character of the road itself. However, accepting the concerns expressed by the parish council regarding the Hendred Dip and having regard to the arguments and options set out in the report and the representations made at the meeting she confirmed her decision as follows:

to approve the proposals as advertised and ask county officers to investigate the scope and options for extending the 30 mph limit at its western end to cover the Allins Lane junction as requested by the parish council.

Signed.....
Cabinet Member for Environment

Date of signing.....

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