

ROADS SAFETY FORUM

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 2, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 12 March 2019

Chair:

Councillor Julia Marrs

Councillors Present:

Councillor Walter Brogan, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Margaret Cowie, Councillor Mark Horsham, Councillor Margaret B Walker, Councillor Jared Wark

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Janine Calikes, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Collette Stevenson

Attending:

Community and Enterprise Resources

S Laird, Traffic and Transportation Engineer; A Martucci, Parking Unit Team Leader; C Park, Engineering Manager; C Smith Engineering Officer

Finance and Corporate Resources

A Livingstone, Public Relations Officer; T Slater, Administration Officer

Also Attending:

Police Scotland

Sergeant T Flynn, Local Authority Liaison Officer

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Roads Safety Forum held on 10 October 2018 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Forum decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3 Minutes of Special Meeting

The minutes of the special meeting of the Roads Safety Forum held on 15 January 2019 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Forum decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

4 Review of Residents' Parking Permit Zones (RPPZs)

A report dated 25 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the progress of the review of the Council's Residents' Parking Permit Zones (RPPZs).

There were significant RPPZs in East Kilbride, Hamilton and Rutherglen. To park in those zones, residents, or their visitors, were required to display a permit, however, this did not mean that there would always be a parking space available.

At its meeting on 21 August 2018, the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee agreed that:-

- ◆ the Roads Safety Forum be authorised to review the current policy in relation to RPPZs
- ◆ in order to alleviate the significant parking issues at certain locations, the following action be taken:-
 - ◆ that Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) be promoted to extend the current RPPZs at Montrose Crescent, Hamilton and The Murray, East Kilbride
 - ◆ that consultation be undertaken with local residents in relation to the introduction of new RPPZs at Cambuslang and Hairmyres Railway Stations

At its meeting on 22 January 2019, the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee further agreed that a consultation exercise be undertaken in relation to residential parking pressures at Station Road, Blantyre.

Following consideration at its special meeting on 15 January 2019, the Forum further considered points 1 to 9, detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the report, with particular focus on points 4, 7 and 8.

In relation to point 4, the Forum was advised that all elected members had been consulted on whether they considered that there were other areas of high demand where RPPZs should be seen as a priority for implementation. Feedback was received proposing additional areas for consideration for the introduction of RPPZs. Those locations would be considered following the conclusion of the review of RPPZs.

In relation to point 7, the Forum was advised that all elected members had been consulted on the proposed criteria for the introduction of RPPZs agreed by the Forum at its special meeting on 15 January 2019. No additional feedback was received.

In relation to point 8, the Forum was advised that all elected members had been consulted on whether a fee should be charged for parking permits within RPPZs. Limited feedback was received, with one proposal suggesting that a £10 fee should cover a 3-year period.

Following discussion, the Forum:-

- ◆ agreed the information outlined in the report was an accurate reflection of the Forum's position in relation to points 1 to 9
- ◆ considered a range of possible charges for parking permits tabled by the Resource in comparison with charges levied by other authorities

After consideration of all aspects of the introduction of a parking permit charge, including the impact on residents, enforcement and cost, the Forum agreed on the principle of introducing a charge for parking permits and proposed the following options:-

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| Option 1 | a charge of £10 per permit for a period of 2 years |
| Option 2 | a charge of £20 for the first permit and £10, thereafter, for a period of 2 years |
| Option 3 | a charge of £20 for the first 2 permits with an ascending scale, thereafter, for a period of 2 years |

It was agreed that a further report would be submitted to a meeting of the Forum in August 2019 outlining recommendations for submission to the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee on the review of the RPPZs policy.

The Forum decided:

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) that relevant officers consider, in detail, the issues discussed and report back to a future meeting of the Forum with recommendations for submission to the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee.

[Reference: Minutes of the special meeting of 15 January 2019 (Paragraph 2) and Minutes of the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee of 21 August 2018 (Paragraph 13) and 22 January 2019 (Paragraph 12)]

5 Restricted Roads (20mph Speed Limit) (Scotland) Bill

A report dated 22 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the proposed Restricted Roads (20mph Speed Limit) (Scotland) Bill.

The Scottish Parliament had launched a consultation inviting views from the public and stakeholders on whether they would support a change in the law to introduce a 20 mile per hour speed limit in built up areas throughout Scotland. This was intended to encourage a change in social and cultural attitudes towards roads safety.

Information was provided on:-

- ◆ the proposals and implications of the Bill
- ◆ how 20mph speed limits were currently enforced
- ◆ the Council's Local Transport Strategy 2013 to 2023 which supported and encouraged driving at 20mph or below in residential areas and outside schools
- ◆ the Council's response to the consultation, attached as an appendix to the report

While the Council was supportive of the principles of the Bill, there were costs and practicalities surrounding the proposed changes which required further detailed consideration and those concerns were outlined within the response to the consultation.

Members of the Forum also expressed concerns in relation to the potential costs associated with implementing any changes and requested that officers continue to highlight those issues when responding to future stages of the consultation.

The Forum decided: that the contents of the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 5 November 2015 (Paragraph 5)]

6 Road Accident Casualty Statistics 2018

A report dated 22 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the road accident casualty statistics for the Council area during 2018. The statistics highlighted that:-

- ◆ the total number of fatal casualties had increased between 2017 and 2018 from 7 to 13
- ◆ the total number of serious casualties had decreased between 2017 and 2018 from 86 to 55
- ◆ there had been 1 fatal child casualty during 2018

- ♦ the total number of child serious casualties had decreased between 2017 and 2018 from 15 to 7
- ♦ the total number of slight casualties had increased between 2017 and 2018 from 418 to 421

Although the targets within the Scottish Government's 'Go Safe on Scotland's Roads it's Everyone's responsibility: Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020' were challenging and, year on year, reductions had become harder to achieve and maintain, based on the 2018 figures, South Lanarkshire was on course to achieve the targets.

The Forum decided: that the road accident casualty statistics for 2018 be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 27 February 2018 (Paragraph 4)]

7 Priority Road Safety Engineering Projects 2019/2020

A report dated 22 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Priority Road Safety Engineering Projects 2019/2020.

At its meeting on 5 December 2017, the Forum was advised of the Council's approach to identifying, assessing and prioritising locations for the introduction of accident reduction measures. The Scottish Government had set targets for casualty reductions to be achieved by 2020 and the Council's Local Transport Strategy 2013 to 2023 identified a number of road safety policies and actions to contribute towards the achievement of those targets.

The Council targeted resources and improvements where 3 or more injury accidents had occurred in the previous 3 years, or on routes that had an injury accident rate greater than the national average for the type of route. As a result, the Council delivered annual prioritised road safety improvements at identified accident locations/routes/areas.

Information was provided on:-

- ♦ the completion of route action plan assessments for rural class A and B routes, with 13 locations, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, identified for detailed investigation
- ♦ the completion of single site assessments, with 15 locations, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, identified for detailed investigation
- ♦ other road safety initiatives which were developed following the identification of the levels of funding available

The projects identified would be developed through the following funding allocations:-

- ♦ Scottish Government Grant – Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets (£520,000)
- ♦ Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (£580,000)
- ♦ the Council's Roads Investment Plan for improved infrastructure (£500,000)

The Forum decided: that the contents of the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 5 December 2017 (Paragraph 5)]

8 Pass Plus

A report dated 7 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the subsidised Pass Plus initiative within South Lanarkshire.

The initiative, which had been launched in July 2007, aimed to assist newly qualified drivers gain driving experience and, therefore, reduce injury accidents.

In 2018, there had been 49 injury accidents in South Lanarkshire, resulting in 73 casualties where the driver of the vehicle causing the accident was in the 17 to 25 year old age group.

At its meeting on 15 May 2018, the Forum had agreed that, due to the declining numbers of participants, a proposal to increase the subsidy of the Scheme from £75 to £100 be submitted to the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee for consideration. This proposal was approved by the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee on 21 August 2018.

To further encourage increased uptake, the initiative was also promoted on the Council's Facebook and Twitter accounts and this had generated a sustained increase in applications in 2019. To date, 79 people had signed up to the initiative, with approximately 60 expected to complete the course by the end of the financial year. Given this increase, a greater uptake was expected during the next financial year.

Information was provided on the:-

- ◆ number of newly qualified drivers who had participated in the Scheme since its inception
- ◆ findings from the annual evaluation of the Scheme

The Forum decided: that the contents of the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 15 May 2018 (Paragraph 6) and Minutes of the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee of 21 August 2018 (Paragraph 12)]

9 Kerbcraft Road Safety Training Initiative

A report dated 11 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the progress of the Kerbcraft Road Safety Training Initiative within South Lanarkshire.

The Kerbcraft Road Safety Training Initiative was an on-road pedestrian training scheme which had been introduced to the Council in 2004.

Initial funding for this Initiative was provided for schools within the Hamilton and Blantyre Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) area. However, this required to be re-evaluated due to changes, where SIP areas had been replaced by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation's worst 15% of areas in South Lanarkshire. In addition, consideration had also been given to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) areas, the priorities identified in the Area Wide Accident Action Plan and reported road traffic accidents involving primary aged children.

7 schools had completed the Kerbcraft Training during the period January to June 2018. 6 schools had participated between August and December 2018 and a further 7 schools had commenced their training in January 2019.

Information was provided on proposals which would allow new schools to be included in the Initiative, which included:-

- ◆ making the Initiative school-led with parents/teachers being trained by officers from the Traffic and Transportation Section of Community and Enterprise Resources and a member of staff at the school being identified to co-ordinate the training sessions and be the main contact for the helpers
- ◆ introducing a condensed training programme where the length of the training would be reduced from 12 to 6 weeks

The condensed programme would be reviewed after 12 months of training delivery.

The Forum decided: that the Kerbcraft Road Safety Training Initiative being undertaken in South Lanarkshire, as detailed in the report, be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 15 May 2018 (Paragraph 7)]

10 Police Scotland - Lanarkshire Division Road Safety Update

A report dated 18 February 2019 by the Local Authority Liaison Officer, Police Scotland was submitted on national and local road safety campaigns.

A verbal update was given on the following initiatives:-

- ◆ Festive Drink and Drug Driving Campaign
- ◆ Speed, Seatbelt and Mobile Phone Campaign
- ◆ Vulnerable Road Users – Cyclists and Pedestrians
- ◆ Motorcycle Safety Campaign (Launch)
- ◆ Motorcycle Weekend of Action 1
- ◆ New Driver Early Intervention Scheme

The Forum decided: that the report and verbal update be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 10 October 2018 (Paragraph 6)]

11 School Crossing Patroller Assessments

A report dated 7 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on requests for school crossing patrols at 7 locations within South Lanarkshire.

The locations had been assessed and failed to meet the Council's approved criteria. It was, therefore, recommended that the requests for school crossing patrols at the following locations be refused:-

- ◆ Bosworth Road, East Kilbride
- ◆ Crosshouse Road, East Kilbride
- ◆ New Road, Cambuslang
- ◆ Overton Road, Cambuslang
- ◆ Woodland Crescent, Cambuslang
- ◆ Glenafeoch Road, Carluke
- ◆ Eastfield Road, Carluke

Further information was provided on those locations that had met a significant proportion of the criteria and members' comments were noted. Members were also assured that further assessments would be undertaken when required.

The Forum decided: that the refusal of the requests for crossing patrols at the 7 locations detailed above, which had failed to meet the Council's criteria, be supported.

[Reference: Minutes of 15 May 2018 (Paragraph 8)]

12 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.