

COPELAND HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a Meeting of the Copeland Highways Working Group held on Wednesday, 15 February 2023 at 10.00 am on Teams

PRESENT:

Mr K Hitchen (Chair)

Mr MS Barbour
Mr M Hawkins
Mr FI Morgan

Mr CP Turner
Mr CJ Whiteside

Also in Attendance:-

Mrs L Davis	-	Democratic Services Officer
Mr M Reeves	-	Traffic Management Team Leader
Mr M Taylor	-	Local Area Network Manager (Copeland)
Mr P Telford	-	Development Management Officer

21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received for the meeting.

22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2022 be agreed as a true record of the meeting.

23 LOCAL AREA NETWORK MANAGER REPORT

Members received a report from the Local Area Network Manager giving an update on Highway Network matters following the last group meeting in December.

Members noted that the next meeting of the A595 Liaison Group was due to take place on 16 February 2023 where a further update from National Highways on the upcoming Moresby Embankment project would be given. It was reported that National Highways had allocated £100,000 for the improvement of the County Council's road network ahead of the work to make improvements to mitigate the expected influx of traffic onto the network. Cumbria Highways had carried out surveys of the network and were working with National Highways to develop these works and aim to deliver them before the first closures of the A595 on 12 May 2023.

Members discussed the upcoming work. Concerns were raised on the influx of traffic on the planned diversion routes and the remedial work that would be necessary before work commenced. The Local Member for Cleator Moor West had

and continued to stress the importance of pre planning and asked if National Highways had programmed in the temporary car parks on the A5086 to house displaced HGVs. In answer to safety concerns around the Moresby Park area, the Local Member for Howgate confirmed that he had raised these at numerous meetings in order for them to be addressed. Members agreed to invite Shadow Authority Copeland members to future meetings of the A595 Liaison Group as the work was due to commence after the new Authority's vesting day.

The Local Area Network Manager informed the Group that as part of the Energy Coast Resilient Routes bid made by the County Council in July of 2022, the Government had granted Cumbria the sum of £18,000,000 for the repair and upgrade of 30km of the highway network. It was noted that Copeland had been allocated £12,850,000 of the amount to be spent on the A595 between Duddon Bridge and Calder Bridge and A5086 between Egremont and Lamplugh. The money would be used for surfacing and improving sections of carriageway and the improvement of 21 bridges in the area. The Local Area Network Manager agreed to circulate details on the use of the allocation, when known, to members.

To conclude the Traffic Management Team Leader – Copeland updated members on the Copeland TROs. Members noted that the work from the Copeland Remainder TRO would be implemented by the end of March. Members were asked to raise items for the Whitehaven TRO review with the Team. A list of items already submitted to the Team would be circulated to members in due course.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

24 CRASH GROUP

Members received a CRASH Update from the Traffic Management Team Leader. It was noted that a meeting of the CRASH group had taken place the day before where eight Copeland issues had been discussed. The officer made special mention of two actions agreed:- a new speed camera van site on Frizington Road and increased van visits and another potential site on the A5086, Cleator.

The officer agreed to provide the results from data surveys carried out on Gallows Lonning/Rosehill area to the Local Member for Howgate. Members were informed that Zoe Martin had been appointed to the position of Parking Services Team Leader (West).

Requests were made for action at the junction of Sneckyeat and Holmwood Road following a number of accidents. The officer confirmed that this had been discussed at the Crash meeting and it had been agreed that the Police Collision Officer undertakes a "deep dive" of the accident reports to look at causing factors.

To conclude, the Development Management Officer advised of the improvement work implemented at the Keekle Meadows junction and agreed to investigate whether tactile paving had been installed on the pedestrian crossing.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

25 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the meeting was the last one in the life of Cumbria County Council.

The meeting ended at 10.50 am