

STREETS AND WALKWAYS SUB (PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION) COMMITTEE

Monday, 16 September 2013

Minutes of the meeting of the Streets and Walkways Sub (Planning and Transportation) Committee held at Bassinghall Suite, via the Art Gallery on Monday, 16 September 2013 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Jeremy Simons (Chairman)
Marianne Fredericks (Deputy Chairman)
Randall Anderson
Brian Harris (Ex-Officio Member)
Michael Hudson
Sylvia Moys
Deputy Michael Welbank

Officers:

Katie Odling	- Town Clerk's Department
Anna Simpson	- Comptrollers and City Solicitor's Department
Paul Monaghan	- Assistant Director Engineering
Steve Presland	- Department of the Built Environment
Victor Callister	- Department of the Built Environment
Ian Hughes	- Department of the Built Environment
Kay English	- Department of the Built Environment
Patrick Hegarty	- Open Spaces Department
Alan Rickwood	- City Police

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Dennis Cotgrove, Alderman Alison Gowman, Oliver Lodge, Barbara Newman and Deputy John Owen-Ward.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2013 be approved as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

Beating the Bounds – Members were informed that approximately 300 people had signed up to the event so far, which was much less than expected and therefore it was likely that road closures would not be required. Furthermore, the event would now start at 11am. Officers agreed to provide a verbal update on the event at the November committee meeting.

Road Danger Reduction Plan in Shoe Lane, Stonecutter Street and Little New Street – Members noted that the Gateway 7 report would be submitted to the Committee in November.

Riverside Walk Millennium Bridge – Members were informed that work was being undertaken on the metal that had been found whilst drilling and a further update would be provided at the next meeting.

4. ISSUE REPORT – 72 FORE STREET

A report of the Director of the Built Environment was considered regarding 72 Fore Street.

Members noted that 72 Fore Street was fully funded by the developer.

RESOLVED – That the phasing of the project to deliver improvements to the footways immediately adjoining the 72 Fore Street development site to coordinate with the building's launch as Phase 1 of the project and evaluation/delivery of wider area improvements at a future date as Phase 2 of the project be approved.

5. OUTLINE OPTIONS APPRAISAL – LUDGATE HILL CROSSING REVIEW (30 OLD BAILEY)

A report of the Director of the Built Environment was considered in respect of Ludgate Hill crossing review (30 Old Bailey).

In response to a question, Members were informed that recent research had shown that the hard barriers that were commonly used to separate pedestrians from vehicles had resulted in more serious collisions and injuries. As a result of this research, most of the hard barriers had been removed.

During discussion, the following points were raised –

- The previous proposal for a signalled crossing at the junction with Ave Maria Lane was found not to be feasible as the success of this option was dependent on the relocation of adjacent bus stops and servicing activity and this was not considered practical within the scope of this project.
- A Member expressed concern that light pollution from the traffic signals might affect the illumination of St Paul's Cathedral.
- One Member considered there were issues caused as a result of tourist buses slowing down to allow their passengers to take photographs of St Paul's.
- Some Members considered that the trial should not take place, as traffic modelling had shown that signals would not be beneficial to the flow of traffic.
- Transport for London were keen to pursue the trial to establish the reasons for the delays to buses.
- One Member suggested that Transport for London might wish to fund the trial.

Members noted Officers support for the implementation of a 12 month trial of a signalled crossing.

RESOLVED – That,

- a) Option 1 be progressed on a trial basis for a period of 12 months provided that officers were successful in seeking funding from Transport for London, in order to allow Officers to monitor the performance of the signalised crossing and the results reported to Members in due course.

- b) If funding was not forthcoming from Transport for London, Officers be requested to report back to a future meeting with a proposal based on the use of Section 106 funding.

6. OUTLINE OPTIONS APPRAISAL (GATEWAY 3) - FLEET & PLUMTREE COURT PUBLIC REALM AND SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS

A report of the Director of the Built Environment was considered relative to the Fleet Building and Plumtree Court public realm and security improvements.

Further to a discussion, it was agreed that Officers would investigate whether the number of bollards could be reduced as part of the design development and report this back at Gateway 4. Members were informed that discussion with the developers, Farringdon Street Partners Limited, would continue in respect of S106 and S278 arrangements.

RESOLVED – That,

- a) the proposed security and public realm design contained within the report (Appendix 2) and progression to the detailed design stage (Gateway 4) (implementation to be subject to the necessary Traffic Management Orders) be approved (the outcome of the investigation as to whether the number of bollards could be reduced to be reported at Gateway 4);
- b) the development of highways options for Shoe Lane, Stonecutter Street, St Andrews Street and Plumtree Court be approved; and
- c) the Comptroller and City Solicitor be authorised to enter into legal discussions, under Section 106 and Section 278 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1980, with Farringdon Street Partners Limited.

7. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB COMMITTEE

Road works and traffic congestion - Members were informed that the gas repair works being undertaken at London Wall were due to be completed by 7 November and daily progress reports were being received to ensure the project was not delayed any further.

Bank Station – In response to a question, Members were informed that the traffic signals at Bank Station were being adjusted to improve traffic flow. It was agreed that in the interest of safety, particularly as Bank was a busy junction, a note regarding cycling in the City would be published on the Corporation's website.

20mph – It was confirmed that prohibited right turns were being reviewed as part of the 20mph project. It was agreed that a briefing note regarding next steps and the position on Transport for London streets would be circulated to all Members. The Committee were informed that it was anticipated the revised speed limit would come in to effect in June/July 2014.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

It was agreed that the Streets and Walkways Sub Committee meeting on 2nd June 2014 would be moved to 9th June 2014.

9. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

10. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 17 June 2013 be approved.

11. **QUESTIONS ON NON-PUBLIC MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SUB COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 3.15 pm

Chairman

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