

## **STREETS AND WALKWAYS SUB (PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION) COMMITTEE**

**Monday, 22 April 2013**

Minutes of the meeting of the Streets and Walkways Sub (Planning and Transportation) Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 22 April 2013 at 11.00 am

### **Present**

#### **Members:**

Jeremy Simons (Chairman)  
Deputy John Barker  
Marianne Fredericks  
Alderman Alison Gowman (Ex-Officio Member)  
Alderman Robert Hall (Ex-Officio Member)  
Brian Harris (Ex-Officio Member)  
Michael Hudson  
Sylvia Moys  
Deputy John Owen-Ward  
Deputy Michael Welbank (Ex-Officio Member)

#### **Officers:**

Katie Odling	- Town Clerk's Department
Esther Sumner	- Town Clerk's Department
Deborah Cluett	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Anna Simpson	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Victor Callister	- Department of the Built Environment
Iain Simmons	- Department of the Built Environment
Ian Hughes	- Department of the Built Environment
Patrick Hegarty	- Open Spaces Department
Alan Rickwood	- City Police
Nigel Lefton	- Remembrancer's Department

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

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

There were no declarations of interest received.

#### **3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2013, were approved as a correct record.

#### ***MATTERS ARISING –***

City of London (Various Powers) Bill (Item 6) – The Remembrancer informed the Committee that it was likely some amendments could be made to the Bill in relation to

enforcement powers and an update will be provided once the Bill has completed its next stage.

Questions on matters relating to the work of the Committee (Item 7) – Cycling – Members were informed that pedal cycles were not subject to maximum speed limits (maximum speed traffic signs applied to motor vehicles) and that the police could only issue fixed penalty notices to cyclists travelling in a dangerous manner, for example at over 40mph. In addition, Members noted there had been a number of bicycle thefts in the city recently.

Blackfriars Bridge – Members were informed that the results of the third stage audit following changes to the road layout at the north end of Blackfriars Bridge had still not yet been released by TfL. An update would be provided at the next meeting.

#### **4. REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT :-**

##### **4.1 Holborn Circus Area Enhancement**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of the Department of the Built Environment regarding the Holborn Circus Area Enhancement scheme.

A Member questioned whether lorries would be able to turn right safely at the new junction between St Andrew Street and New Fetter Lane immediately south of Holborn Circus. It was noted that the main loading bay for the New Street Square estate was in Bartlett Court, although there were plans for a loading bay for the new Goldman Sachs building which would create lorry movements on St Andrew Street. The Director confirmed that a post implementation review would be undertaken. The Director confirmed that an Equality Impact Assessment had been undertaken and although this was not explicit in the report, this practice was followed on all schemes. Clarification would be sought on whether pedestrian count down timers would be installed at the Holborn Circus junction and members informed.

RESOLVED – That.

- 1) Officers be authorised to commence construction on the Holborn Circus Area Enhancement Project, subject to the granting of the remaining consents by TfL and LB Camden and to the making of necessary traffic regulation orders which were subject to separate statutory processes;
- 2) Officers be authorised to enter into an agreement under Section 8 of the Highways Act 1980 to carry out works on LB Camden highway;
- 3) Any necessary approvals to change budgets be delegated to the Director of the Department of the Built Environment and the Chamberlain, subject to this not affecting the overall scheme scope and budget; and
- 4) Any necessary approvals to change to total scheme budgets be delegated to the Director of the Department of the Built Environment and the Chamberlain, provided that the external funder agrees to fully fund the additional costs.

##### **4.2 Special Events on the Public Highway - Beating of the Bounds**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of the Built Environment regarding the Beating the Bounds event which would be held in October 2013.

Members expressed their concern regarding vehicle idling, air quality issues and enforcement. The Director confirmed these issues would be addressed as part of a

more detail discussion with the event organisers as well as colleagues in Environmental Services and the Highways Division.

Members also considered that the name of the event should perhaps be changed as it did not properly reflect the purpose. Officers advised however that the name of the event had been branded by the organisers as it linked in with the Lord Mayor's appeal.

RESOLVED – That Members be mindful not to object to the one off charitable event on 13 October 2013, and Officers in the Highways Division be required to work closely with the organiser to deliver the event safely and successfully, at the same time minimising the impact on the highway and on residents and ensuring that air quality within the City is not adversely impacted.

#### **4.3 Issue Report - Subways Re-Use and Minorities**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of the Built Environment regarding the Subways Re-Use and Minorities.

RESOLVED – That,

- 1) the position with the pedestrian subways be noted; and
- 2) the project scope be extended to include improvements to Minorities.

#### **4.4 Issue Report - London Wall / Wood Street junction improvement scheme**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of the Built Environment regarding the London Wall/Wood Street junction improvement scheme.

RESOLVED – That,

1. The footway widening element of the scheme on London Wall be deferred and delivered through the Section 278 Agreement for the London Wall Place Development;
2. The principle of an agreement between the City of London and JP Morgan to extend the scope of the project to include additional streetscape enhancements, to be fully funded by JP Morgan;
3. The undertaking of a structural assessment of the London Wall Car Park roof; and
4. An increase in the pre-evaluation budget to the sum of £107,565.

#### **4.5 Blue Badge Improvement Service**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of the Built Environment in respect of improvements to the Blue Badge Service.

Officers agreed to check the accuracy of the information provided on the website and ensure that where necessary it was consistent with other London Boroughs.

RESOLVED – That,

- 1) changes to the Blue Badge Scheme be agreed; and
- 2) Blue Badges continue to be issued free of charge to applicants and the costs absorbed within the Director's local risk budget.

#### 4.6 **Sculpture in the City–2013 (Year 3)-Progress Report, Gateway 6**

Consideration was given to a Gateway 6 progress report of the Director of the Built Environment regarding Sculptures in the City for 2013.

The Committee received a brief presentation from the Assistant Director (Environmental Enhancement).

Members were encouraged by the shortlist of artwork contained at Appendix D agreeing this was an excellent opportunity for the City. It was suggested that the advertising of the artwork could be linked in with the Lord Mayor's Programme of events and the Director advised that he was working with Colleagues in the Public Relations office to ensure there was a joined up approach.

Members congratulated the Assistant Director on the very high quality of the art works proposed and the success of the scheme to date.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee agree the shortlist of artwork included in Appendix D to the report.

#### 5. **DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk which provided details of an action taken under urgency procedures relative to 72 Fore Street (Outline Options Appraisal, Gateway 3).

RECEIVED.

#### 6. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB COMMITTEE**

St Giles Terrace - A questions was raised regarding the newly installed seating/planters at the Barbican. The Assistant Director (Environmental Enhancement) advised the Committee that after investigation it had become apparent that certain residents felt they had not been fully consulted; therefore a post implementation consultation exercise would be undertaken in order to understand the issues and concerns. The Committee would therefore receive a further update after the consultation had been undertaken as would the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Society who had written to the Director expressing concern.

Water clogged pavements – Officers acknowledged there had been issues around Byward Street as a result of the adverse weather conditions and Transport for London were being consulted on the matter.

Potholes - Further to a question, Members were informed that a full review of the condition of streets was being undertaken to address the issue of potholes.

Monument - In addition to this, Members were informed that Officers would be looking at the cleaning regime around the Monument and a progress report would be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.

Resources for projects – The Assistant Director (Environmental Enhancement) informed the Committee that a report would be submitted to the Planning and Transportation on 14 May setting out the programme for Environmental Enhancement projects for the City. This report would considered implementation of projects which would provide an indication of the resources required to ensure effective delivery.

S106 funding – Hilton Hotel – The Assistant Director advised that progress was being made and Officers were looking to vary the Section 106 funding.

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**  
There were no items of urgent business.

**The meeting ended at 12.55 pm**

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Chairman

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