

STREETS AND WALKWAYS SUB (PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION) COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 8 November 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Streets and Walkways Sub (Planning and Transportation) Committee held at Committee Room 2 - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Tuesday, 8 November 2022 at 10.30 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Graham Packham (Chairman)
John Edwards (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Shravan Joshi
Deputy Randall Anderson
Deputy Edward Lord
Judith Pleasance
Ian Seaton
Paul Martinelli
Oliver Sells KC

Also present:

Deputy Marianne Fredericks (via remote link)

Officers:

Ian Hughes	- Environment Department
Gillian Howard	- Environment Department
Kristian Turner	- Environment Department
Melanie Charalambous	- Environment Department
Clarisse Tavin	- Environment Department
Tom Noble	- Environment Department
Giacomo Vecia	- Environment Department
Samantha Tharme	- Environment Department
Emmanuel Ojugo	- Environment Department
Bruce McVean	- Environment Department
Jayne Moore	- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Alderman Ian David Luder.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, That the public minutes of the meeting of 06 September 2022 be approved as an accurate record of the proceedings.

4. **2-6 CANNON STREET PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS | PHASES 2 AND 3 - ISSUE REPORT**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee

- I. Agree the extension of the project programme from June 2022 to March 2023 to allow time to complete the project within the upcoming planting season and implement Phase 3 works;
- II. Agree that the remaining project budget of £372,163 (including any interest accrued) is revised as set out in the finance tables in Appendix E; to complete the project in accordance with the Section 106 Agreement;
- III. Approve the budget adjustment summarised in table 2 Appendix E;
- IV. Agree that the Corporate Programme Management Office, in consultation with the Chairman of the Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee and Chief Officer as necessary, is to decide whether any project issues or decisions that fall within the remit of paragraph 45 of the 'City of London Project Procedure– Oct 2018' (Changes to Projects: General), as prescribed in Appendix E of this report, are to be delegated to Chief Officer or escalated to the relevant committee(s); and
- V. Note that funding is subject to the capital programme review and that the final decision on whether to proceed will be dependent on the outcome of that review.

5. **BEECH STREET TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC REALM PROJECT**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

A Member asked why Golden Lane was not a school street and sought clarification on the process for achieving school street status. The meeting heard that a combination of traffic mitigation measures and restrictions would be in place, and that the process involved seeking a Traffic Order to close a specific street around school start and finish times. The meeting noted that parents with children were likely to have a view on option 1c and the increased traffic on Golden Lane, and that it was important that those voices be heard.

A Member asked what would be the cost of the consultation under option 1c, noting that many people would be unhappy with the probable rat run that would result from that option. The meeting heard that the consultation exercise would cost around £35K to £40K, noting that the City of London had been criticised in

the past for perceived inadequate consultation on Beech St, and that it was unhelpful to second-guess the outcome of any consultation.

A Member asked whether a timeframe was required in order to align with Healthy Streets and asked whether the Healthy Streets programme would encompass the school street process. The meeting heard that London Borough of Islington (LBI) was reallocating resources to the Healthy Streets programme to prioritise Healthy Streets.

A Member asked how the LBI was able to apparently dictate the consultation options to the City of London, commenting that option 1c was a narrow area of consultation and that the public was being excluded from all options. The meeting heard that LBI was unwilling to support consulting on options 1a and 1b and that LBI would not be implementing the measures set out in those options. The meeting heard that a notification in line with the Traffic Management Act 2004 was being implemented, and that any change to Beech St would need to be submitted to TfL, as Beech St traffic was assigned in line with the Strategic Road Network which would require support from the neighbouring borough.

A Member commented that option 1c was a long way from what was desired by the City of London as it did not provide a traffic-free zone, and there was a risk of a rat run being created.

A Member commented that were option 1c to go ahead following a consultation, a zero-emission street on Beech St would not be achieved but commented that stakeholders' perspectives were welcome, that the City of London was keen to progress the issue, and that future co-operation with LBI would be critical to achieving healthy streets. The meeting noted that option 1c together with making Golden Lane a school street could deliver a palatable outcome.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee agree to proceed with Option 1c for public consultation for a zero-emission scheme on Beech Street that keeps the Golden Lane / Beech Street junction open to all southbound vehicles, noting that the left turn from Beech Street into Golden Lane would only be available to zero emission vehicles.

6. **CITY CLUSTER AREA - PROGRAMME UPDATE**

The Sub-Committee noted the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

On paragraph 12 of the report, a Member noted that it was critical to provide appealing public play spaces for younger children in order to credibly attract families. The meeting heard that there were a few playgrounds in the City already.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee

1. Note the progress update;

2. Note that there is a funding gap for the delivery of future projects within the City Cluster programme and that a capital bid would be required as part of the funding strategy;
3. Approve an increase of funding of £27,000 from the S106 contribution of 40 Leadenhall Street for staff costs, for the management of the City Cluster programme including communications, for the next reporting period. As set out in Appendix 1; and
4. Regarding the St Mary Axe Improvements - Phase 1 project:
 - i. Note and approve that the scope of the work be amended to include widened footways on the western side of St Mary Axe at the junction with Undershaft to shorten the pedestrian crossing distance and improve accessibility.
 - ii. Increase the project's existing approved delegated authority cost limit (inclusive of CRP) to £329,229 from £270,000 (an increase of £122,229), and.
 - iii. Approve the updated funding strategy as shown in Appendix 1 to accommodate the above increase.

7. **FLEET STREET AREA HEALTHY STREETS PLAN**

The Sub-Committee received the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

A few Members commented that a greening element appeared to be lacking in the project that could include planters, and the meeting heard that there was a wish to enhance the greening in the area.

On appendix 3, a Member asked why there was no S106 money from the Salisbury Square Development. The meeting heard that the S106 money was from older developments in the area, and that a different type of contribution was expected from the Salisbury Square Development and that CIL money was expected in the future.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee

1. Note the change in the project name and boundary from Gateway 2 as shown in figures 1 and 2;
2. Note the revised total estimated cost of the project of £276,254 (excluding risk) and the updated funding strategy set out in Table 3 Appendix 3, which includes a contribution from the Fleet Street Quarter BID of £35,000 that is still to be confirmed; and
3. Approve the budget increase of £154,054 from £87,200 to £241,254 to reach the next Gateway, funded from Section 106 receipts as detailed in Table 3 Appendix 3.

8. **MARK LANE PUBLIC REALM ENHANCEMENTS (PHASE 2B) | ISSUE REPORT**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

A Member asked what was being done to ensure that delays were minimised, and whether materials were being pre-purchased to avoid inflationary consequences and subsequent budget adjustments. The meeting heard that materials were purchased early on and in bulk wherever possible, and that the risks were well-understood.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee

- I. Revise the remaining project budget of £244,510 as set out in the finance tables in Appendix 3; including any interest accrued to complete the project in accordance with the Section 106 Agreement;
- II. Approve the budget adjustment summarised in table 2 Appendix 3;
- III. Agree to undertake the Traffic Orders statutory consultation regarding the proposal to relocate up to four new Pay and Display parking bays in the project catchment area, as part of phase 2B public realm measures, as prescribed in Appendix 2. Subject to the outcome of the statutory consultation proceed to implement the relocated bays; and
- IV. Agree that the Corporate Programme Management Office, in consultation with the Chairman of the Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee and Chief Officer as necessary, is to decide whether any project issues or decisions that fall within the remit of paragraph 45 of the 'City of London Project Procedure – Oct 2018' (Changes to Projects: General), as prescribed in Appendix 3 of this report, is to be delegated to Chief Officer or escalated to committee(s).

9. **11 PILGRIM STREET S278**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee

- 1 Authorise officers to negotiate and enter into a S278 agreement with the developer/landowners, to implement the proposals, as detailed in this report. All costs associated with this project are to be fully funded by the developer. Note that this authority must be given by the Streets and Walkways (Sub) Committee; and
- 2 Delegate the following three decisions to the Chief Officer:
 1. Agree to the proposal as detailed in this report
 2. Approve a budget of £153,000 to reach the next Gateway

3. Note the total estimated cost of the project at £166,000 (excluding risk). All costs associated with this project are to be fully funded by the developer.

10. **TRANSPORT STRATEGY REVIEW**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

On the freight targets set out in appendix 1, a Member commented that further work needed to be done to adjust that target. The meeting heard that further consideration was expected to be given to the matter.

Members discussed whether a five-year review cycle might be more appropriate, with some suggesting that there was merit in assessing whether the review cycle was still appropriate once a consultation period had been completed.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee

1. Approve the review (RAG) status of the proposals; noting that those marked 'Green – no change' are not anticipated to be amended unless evidence or views during engagement suggest a need to; and
2. Approve the engagement plan.

11. **ST BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENTS ISSUE REPORT**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

A Member commented that the bollards used should be standard City of London bollards rather than being 'Culture Mile' branded. The meeting heard that the new branding was temporary.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee

- I. Revise the remaining project budget of £241,288 as set out in the finance tables in Appendix 3; including any interest accrued to complete the project in accordance with the Section 106 Agreement;
- II. Approve the budget adjustment summarised in table 2 Appendix 3;
- III. Agree that the Corporate Programme Management Office, in consultation with the Chairman of the Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee and Chief Officer as necessary, is to decide whether any project issues or decisions that fall within the remit of paragraph 45 of the 'City of London Project Procedure – Oct 2018' (Changes to Projects: General), as prescribed in Appendix 3 of this report, is to be delegated to Chief Officer or escalated to committee(s);and

- IV. Note that funding is subject to the capital programme review and the final decision on whether to proceed will be dependent on the outcome of that review and approval by the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee.

12. **TRAFFIC ORDER REVIEW - PHASE 2 DETAILED SCORING SYSTEM**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee agree to the Stage 2 Scoring System as outlined in the report.

13. **CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY, COOL STREETS AND GREENING PROGRAMME - PHASE 4**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

A Member asked whether SuDS measures would be used for the Moor Lane project, and the meeting heard that sustainable drainage was expecting to be incorporated into that design, though there had been some constraints around that.

The meeting noted that the use of permeable paving was an opportunity to align with the Sports Strategy.

RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee

1. Approve Option 2 to include SuDS measures in strategically located sites, noting the locations of the proposed sites; and
2. Approve the budget of £185,000 for design and monitoring infrastructure for Phase 4 *SuDS for Climate resilience* to reach Gateway 4.

14. **OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**

The Sub-Committee received the list of Outstanding References.

On Dockless Vehicles, the meeting heard that existing powers were restricted to managing obstructions and dangers (as a result of vehicles left in inappropriate places) that could be difficult to define. The City of London was engaging with operators on a regular basis, though some commitments on the part of operators had not been met.

A Member asked whether there was a process to withdraw approval, and the meeting heard that operators had the right to continue operating without approval.

Members commented that the current system did not appear to be working well, and that there was merit in incentivising operators and/or users to a

greater extent to ensure bikes were returned to appropriate places. The meeting noted that fines were retained by operators.

A Member asked whether bikes could be seized if they were tantamount to litter, and the meeting heard that the City's powers were limited in that respect and that significant resources would need to be committed to remove bikes for that reason.

Beech St: the matter was discussed at that day's meeting as a separate agenda item.

TfL Experimental Scheme: This is now linked to the Bishopsgate Scheme, and the issue is being handled by the Bridge House Estates Board. The Sub-Committee agreed that there was merit in monitoring traffic displacement, and in keeping abreast of BHE discussions on the matter.

Bank Junction: An update is expected during the first quarter of 2023.

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

A Member asked when the City Walkway would be opened, and whether signage should be provided to guide people until such time as it was opened. The meeting heard that the works were delayed, mainly because of supply issues with the metalwork sub-contractor. It was hoped that the walkway would be completed by early 2023. A Member asked whether a contingency plan was in place in the event that the contractor went out of business, and the meeting heard that the issue appeared to be related to prioritising work rather than any danger of bankruptcy.

A Member commented that a pedestrian crossing and a dropped kerb at Cannon St/King William St was needed for safety, noting that the issue fell within the remit of TfL. The meeting heard that some improvements were planned at King William St that would improve the situation and that TfL were examining options around improvements at that junction.

A Member asked when Arthur St would be reopened, and the meeting heard that the shaft was still in place and therefore the street could not be reopened until agreement with TfL had been reached.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no other business.

17. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED, That the public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

18. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The Sub-Committee considered the non-public minutes of the meeting of 06 September 2022.

19. **REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN BETWEEN MEETINGS**
20. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB COMMITTEE**
21. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SUB COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

The meeting ended at 12.00 pm

Chairman

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