

**ECONOMY AND
ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE**

Minutes - Action Log



This is the updated action log as at 12th December 2016 and captures the actions arising from the most recent Economy and Environment Committee meetings and updates Members on the progress on compliance in delivering the necessary actions.

MINUTES OF THE 15TH JULY 2015 COMMITTEE					
Minute No.	Report Title	Action to be taken by	Action	Comments	Status
140.	NORTHSTOWE PHASE 2 – SECTION 106 HEADS OF TERMS – resolution b) Delegation on making any minor changes	Juliet Richardson	A delegation was agreed giving the Executive Director of Economy, Transport and the Environment in consultation with Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee the authority to make changes to the Section 106 agreements prior to signing.	An update at 12 th December indicated that S106 drafting had now completed and Executive Director and Chairman and Vice Chairman sign off was being sought. Following on from which, engrossment and signing will be followed by the issuing of planning consent.	ACTION ONGOING

MINUTES OF THE 19TH JANUARY 2016 COMMITTEE

Minute No.	Report Title	Action to be taken by	Action	Comments	status
186.	CHERRY HINTON HIGH STREET – APPROVAL TO CONSTRUCT – POLICY GUIDANCE TREE REPLACEMENT	Richard Lumley / Emma Murden	Concern was expressed regarding proposals to plant trees near the highway and there was a request for details on the relevant Policy governing tree planting on / near highways.	The timetable now is for the policy approval to be wrapped up as part of the annual HIAMP review (along with a number of other operational policies). This review is scheduled for 14 February 2017 Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee with the policy initially going to the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee Spokes meeting scheduled for 12 TH January.	ACTION ONGOING
189.	FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT – NOVEMBER 2015 a) land acquisition and licence agreements to allow construction to commence on Yaxley to Farcet cycleway / walkway.	Bob Menzies / Ian Wilson Strategy and Estates	It was agreed an update on the current position would be sought from Legal and a written response provided outside of the meeting to the Norman Cross local Councillors (Councillors McGuire and Henson). At the April Committee meeting it was agreed that Cllrs Henson and McGuire and the Chairman (Cllr Bates) and Vice-Chairman (Cllr Cearns) should receive fortnightly updates on progress.	A recent update from Ian Wilson indicated that the land from the Farcet end has completed, and the SDLT (Stamp Duty Legals and Tax) has been submitted and the application is at Her Majesty's Land Registration. (HMLR) for registration. The completion memorandum has now been sent and the Deed of Covenant on the other area has been sent to the relevant solicitors. Due to the weather, the intention is to start the works in March/April 2017.	ACTION ONGOING

MINUTES OF THE 24TH MAY 2016 COMMITTEE

Minute No.	Report Title	Action to be taken by	Action	Comments	status
224.	ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TRAINING PLAN B) Briefings on Neighbourhood Planning and Infrastructure Bill and the Total Transport Project	Bob Menzies / Rob Sanderson / Dawn Cave	It was suggested that Members should receive a briefing on the Neighbourhood Planning and Infrastructure Bill and the potential impact this could have on the work of the Council and its district partners, as well as a progress update on the Total Transport Project". In discussion it was agreed that both these would be more appropriate for future Member seminars.	A slot for The Total Transport has been added to the March 2017 seminar.	ACTION ONGOING

MINUTES OF THE 9TH JUNE 2016 COMMITTEE

<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Action to be taken by</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Comments</u>	Status
247.	REVIEW OF THE DRAFT 2017-18 CAPITAL PROGRAMME - MEMBER REVIEW ANALYSING COMPLETED CYCLE SCHEMES	G Hughes / Bob Menzies	An issue raised was whether there was the need for a Member Review analysing completed cycle schemes, including the use of floating bus stops and the crossings created for them, to ensure they represented value for money and to give confidence to the public that best practice was being adopted.	A report is included as item 12 on the current agenda and was sent to members as a late dispatch.	ACTION COMPLETE

249.	ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TRAINING PLAN	Bob Menzies /Rob Sanders -on	The need for a training session to explain to Members the legal complications and potential timescale issues that could arise on proposed developments that required the acquisition of additional land. A proviso was that any presentation from Legal should be provided in simple, non-legal lay person's language.	A training session has been set up for 2.00p.m. 2 nd February in the KV Room. See Item 13 on the agenda. Due to the proximity of the local elections in 2017 this training, this will be the last training session organised for the Committee.	ACTION COMPLETE
MINUTES OF THE 10th NOVEMBER 2016 COMMITTEE					
261	PETITION / PUBLIC QUESTIONS	Mike Davies	It was agreed that Wendy Blyth who had presented a public question would receive a written response to the questions she had raised.	A letter was emailed out on 28 th November as set out in appendix 1 to this log.	ACTION COMPLETE

(Responses set out under each section in grey text)

Dear Wendy,

Economy and Environment Committee Meeting Nov 10, 2016

My question today is about seeing cycleway schemes as **streetscape & neighbourhoods** not simply commuter highways and asking you to consider the need for **professional design**. The landscaping of Hills Road, one of the city's main roads has not been a success, a point on which residents, City Council Leader Lewis Herbert and Bob Menzies, who is here today, all agree:

- a) How can the lessons learnt from Phase 1 of the Hills Road scheme and input from residents feed into the design of future cycleway schemes including Queen Edith's Way, Trumpington Road and Hills Rd, Phase 2, which is funded by City Deal, and due to start in February?

Officers have noted a number of areas for improvement following the works at Hills Road. These include having a longer lead in/mobilisation period for the contractor and not using sedum in situations where it is likely to be overrun by vehicles.

- b) Little regard seems to have been paid to the character of Hills Road, which was described in the City Council's Heritage Suburbs and Approaches report as being '**bosky**' with '**softly landscaped boundaries**'. Phase 1 has resulted in a considerable loss of this greenery. There is a lot of unhappiness about the ugliness of the scheme: its casual vandalism, the sedum "ashtrays", the white plastic "cemetery" posts, the red gravel filled trenches, bus shelters with all night illuminated advertising, the 2 years this work has taken, the congestion it has caused, the rubbish left, the flooding of 3 front drives caused by poor workmanship, the fact that vehicles can drive and park in the cycle lanes, the officers references in print to Cambridge residents as "nimbies" & "academics" & "well-connected folk" with "time on their hands" and more recently as "interested parties". Now a number of Hills Road residents have just been informed they will lose hedges and in one case 4 metres of front garden and trees to accommodate phase 2 of the Hills Road cycleway plans:

On 8 July, 2014, Graham Hughes informed the Economy and Environment Committee of Cambridge County Council, Paragraph 3.4 of his Report that:

'in Hills Road Option 2 from the consultation....existing pedestrian refuges would be retained, as would the existing widths of verge and footway in most cases'.

The softly landscaped boundaries of Hills Road have only been marginally impacted by the Hills Road scheme. Where hedges and planting have encroached onto the public highway it has been necessary in some cases to trim this, though no trees have been felled. Grass verges adjacent to properties between Luard Road and Long Road on the west side have been widened. Grass verges next to the carriageway have been removed, but these were in varying condition, with many rutted and in poor condition.

Sedum was introduced as an element of landscaping into the scheme. In places this has not taken well. Posts have been added in a bid to deter vehicles from damaging it. Officers are monitoring the situation carefully.

Backlighting in the bus shelters has been adjusted so that it turns off through the night to address residents' concerns.

There have been a few issues of standing water on driveways which have been addressed through additional drainage works.

An officer made comments at a conference for which an article was then written, as you are aware. This has been the subject of a formal complaint for which responses have been provided at each stage of the complaint.

To enable Phase 2 of the scheme to go ahead a number of residents have been asked to cut back their planting which has encroached onto the public highway. In a number of instances this encroachment is quite significant. The correct process has been followed in terms of notice periods and communications. There is no loss of private space.

d) Can these cycleway schemes benefit from **professional landscape expertise** as officers have advised there were no designs for Hills Road Phase One? City Deal have appointed an **architect for Milton Road**. Phase 2 of Hills Road is City Deal funded.

This expertise is brought in as necessary working with Cambridge City Council in the first instance.

e) The County Council would like to encourage residents and businesses to support gardening maintenance on roads. AstraZeneca is paying £5,000 a year for verge maintenance on the A10 cycleway highway. Portland, Oregon, America's premier cycling city, has pioneered citizen participation in an **exemplary system of environmental stewardship** involving **Green Streets**. Shouldn't Cambridge be doing the same?

Where there is an appetite from residents we are happy to work with them to explore such activity. We need to ensure that such things are sustainable in terms of ongoing activity and that health and safety issues are managed.

Regards,

Ian Bates

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