

HIGHWAYS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE: MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 9th December 2014

Time: 9.05a.m. to 9.30a.m.

Present: Councillors Ashwood, Bates (substituting for Councillor Butcher), Connor, Criswell, Frost, Gillick, Hickford (Chairman), Kavanagh, McGuire (substituting for Councillor Hunt), Mason, Palmer, Reeve (Vice-Chairman), Schumann (substituting for Councillor Rouse), Taylor, van de Ven and Walsh

Apologies: Councillors Butcher, Hunt, Rouse and Tew

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

67. MINUTES – 18TH NOVEMBER 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

68. OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS PLANNING PROPOSALS

[The Chairman for the meeting, Councillor Hickford, agreed to exercise his discretion under Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to allow this report to be considered, even though it had not been dispatched to members five working days before the meeting, for the following reasons:

Reason for lateness: *The content of the paper needed to be informed by the discussions and decisions at the General Purposes Committee, held on the morning of 2nd December 2014.*

Reason for urgency: *Any delay in considering the paper would not enable the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee's views to be fed into the final Business Plan proposals to be submitted to the full Council meeting in February 2015.]*

The Committee received an update on the Business Planning process, including proposed changes resulting from the decision of the General Purposes Committee, which met on 2nd December 2014. Attention was drawn to the proposals for the use of the Committee's element of the £2.5m Business Plan funding, which included winter maintenance, street lighting and community grants in Trading Standards.

The Chairman informed Members of the close work which had taken place between the Highways and Community Infrastructure and Economy and Environment

Committees to utilise the £0.5m to safeguard some services, which would make a significant difference to local communities. However, he reported that it had not been possible to cover all the budget savings. The Committee acknowledged that it had been a difficult process and thanked both Councillors and officers for their hard work.

The Committee noted the proposal to provide £6,000 for street lighting and queried the nature of the liaison with the police and local councils. The Executive Director: Economy, Transport and Environment reported that this funding would provide an opportunity to undertake a simple consultation with parishes, and at the request of the Committee - Area Committees in the City, on the following proposals:

- Retaining the status quo (street lighting until midnight)
- Switching street lights off before midnight (no financial benefit to parishes)
- Extending lighting beyond midnight (to be funded by parishes)

Members were informed that officers were costing the possibility of extending lighting beyond midnight in Cambridge City and the Market Towns in order to serve the night-time economy. Any proposals relating to street lighting would also build in police intelligence. Members were informed that the Central Management System (CMS), which was a tried and tested system, needed to be in place first to allow for this flexibility (80% of the County currently had CMS). It was suggested that any commitment from Town and Parish Councils should be for a set period of time. It was also important to inform them of the need to target funding at the City and the Market Towns, which were used by their residents.

The reinstatement of £300,000 to protect gritting routes was welcomed. One Member raised the need to give cycle routes the same attention as roads. The Executive Director reported that the attention currently given to cycle routes would remain unchanged. Members queried whether the Guided Busway route from Trumpington to Cambridge Station was gritted. The Executive Director agreed to investigate.

It was resolved to:

- a) note the remaining milestones in the Business Planning Process;
- b) confirm the potential use of additional funding identified through the General Purposes Committee on 2 December 2014 as set down in paragraph 3.4 of this report for inclusion in the budget for the Committee to be considered by General Purposes Committee on 27th January 2015.

69. SERVICE COMMITTEE AGENDA PLAN AND APPOINTMENTS

The Committee was asked to review its agenda plan.

It was resolved unanimously to note the agenda plan.

Chairman