

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet Member for City Services held at 3.00 pm on
Wednesday, 25 October 2023

Present:

Members: Councillor P Hetherton (Cabinet Member)
Councillor G Lloyd (Deputy Cabinet Member)
Councillor M Heaven (Shadow Cabinet Member)

Other Members: Councillor J O'Boyle (for Minute 24)
Councillor P Male (for Minute 25)

Employees (by Service Area):

Law and Governance R Parkes, M Salmon, C Taylor

Transportation, Highways and Sustainability C Archer, R Goodyer, J Seddon, M Wilkinson

Public Business

22. Declarations of Interests

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests.

23. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

24. Petition 04/23 - Far Gosford Street - Restricted Parking Issues

The Cabinet Member for City Services considered a report of the Director of Transportation, Highways and Sustainability, which responded to a petition requesting the changes to the waiting restrictions imposed in November 2022, be reversed. The petition was supported by Councillor J O'Boyle, a St. Michael's Ward Councillor who, together with the Petition Organiser, attended the meeting and spoke on behalf of the petitioners.

The petition submitted contained 45 signatures and in accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those related to road safety and parking issues were heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. Councillor O'Boyle requested that a report be submitted in respect of this matter.

A report advised that on 4 November 2022, following consultation, Phase 1 of a traffic management scheme was introduced to try to improve safety and traffic flows through the Far Gosford Street Area. The scheme changed access arrangements, making some roads one-way and making changes to the places where drivers could park and/or undertake loading/unloading. The scheme also introduced a red route along Far Gosford Street, linking into the existing red route corridor which connects the city centre to the M6.

As the proposed changes were significant, to be able to monitor the impact of the changes, the traffic regulation orders (TRO) required to make the changes were implemented as Experimental TROs. This was to provide the opportunity for continued responses from the public to be taken into consideration, and monitoring whilst the scheme was operating.

The objection period was due to close on 3rd November 2023. A petition of 45 signatures had been received 'on behalf of the shop owners and traders of Far Gosford Street' requesting that the changes were 'reversed', details of which had been circulated with the report at Appendix C.

In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with objections to TROs, including Experimental TROs, they are reported to the Cabinet Member for City Services for a decision as to how to proceed.

The cost of introducing and amending TROs, including Experimental TROs, if approved, will be funded from the Highways Maintenance and Investment Capital Programme budget through the Local Transport Plan.

Councillor J O'Boyle and the Petition Organiser spoke in support of the petition, explaining the reasons why the changes should be reversed and raised the following concerns and queries:

- The bus stop on Far Gosford Steet was lengthy and it would be beneficial to shorten it to create more space.
- Were there proposals for any more CCTV cameras on Far Gosford Street and what were the monitoring arrangements?
- Full engagement was required with the traders to keep them up to date with proposals.

Officers responded, advising if the bus stop was shortened and parking allowed, there would be issues with difficulty for the bus getting into the bus stop and for passengers alighting and disembarking; the bus stop could not be shorted from the front as high kerbs have been used to help people getting on and off the bus and these would then be in the wrong location.

The Cabinet Member requested that a Quality Impact Assessment be undertaken as necessary.

Councillor O'Boyle requested the Cabinet Member was kept updated once engagement with the traders had been undertaken and a future monitoring report be brought to Cabinet Member for City Services.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for City Services having considered the petition:

- 1) Consider the petition in objection to the Far Gosford Street Area traffic management scheme.**

- 2) **Subject to Recommendation 1, approve the current Experimental TRO for waiting restrictions the 'City of Coventry (Far Gosford Street Area) (Red Route & Waiting Restrictions) (Experimental) Order 2022 is revoked.**
- 3) **Subject to Recommendation 1, approve that the Traders are consulted on a new Experimental TRO, with the changes as detailed in Appendix C, and subject to a favourable response, implement a new Experimental ETRO.**
- 4) **Subject to Recommendation 1, approve that the Experimental TROs for the one-way system on Vecqueray Street and Bramble Street are retained and monitoring is continued.**
- 5) **Agree that close liaison with the traders is maintained for feedback on the new Experimental Traffic Regulation Order once made.**

25. **Petition E22/22 and 25/22 - Traffic Calming on Alderminster Road**

The Cabinet Member for City Services considered a report of the Director of Transportation, Highways and Sustainability, which responded to petitions requesting traffic calming measures to be implemented on Alderminster Road. The petitions were organised by Councillor P Male, a Woodlands Ward Councillor who attended the meeting and spoke in support of the petitions.

The two petitions submitted contained 183 signatures and, in accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those related to road safety and parking issues were heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. The Cabinet Member had considered the petitions in advance of the meeting and requested that they be dealt with by Determination Letter rather than a formal report being submitted to the meeting.

The determination letter advised that a review of the personal injury collision history for Alderminster Road showed that there were no personal injury collisions reported to the Police on Alderminster Road in the last three years, and therefore that it did not meet the safety scheme criteria. However, the road would continue to be monitored as part of annual citywide review of personal injury collisions.

Upon receipt of the Determination Letter, Councillor Male advised he wanted the issue to be considered at a Cabinet Member for City Services meeting.

The cost of introducing road safety measures is funded from the Highways Maintenance and Investment Capital Programme budget through the Local Transport Plan.

Councillor P Male spoke in support of the petitioners, explaining that there had been a large number of accidents on this road despite the personal injury records not showing this and requested the following:

- Extraction of data from the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on Alderminster Road

- Speed test data collected from the vicinity of the junction with the Ladbrook Road.
- The possible implementation of a mini roundabout situated at the junction with Beausale Croft to break the speed of the traffic.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for City Services, having considered the petition, agreed to defer the petition pending further investigations, including further speed surveys and investigating the possibility (subject to funding) of installing a mini roundabout and providing analysis of the VAS data to Ward Councillors.

26. **Outstanding Issues**

There were no outstanding issues.

27. **Any other items of Public Business**

There were no other items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 4.05 pm)