

Central Dudley Area Committee 10th March 2009

Report of the Director of the Urban Environment

Traffic Management in Netherton Working Group

Purpose of Report

1. Feedback to the Committee of the Netherton Working Group findings.

Background

2. The Netherton Working Group has been set up by the Central Dudley Area Committee to tackle all traffic and transportation related issues within Netherton.
3. The first meeting took place at the Council House on Monday 19 January 2009.
4. Local Ward Members from the Netherton, Woodside, and St Andrew's Ward and the Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood Ward were present along with Dudley MBC Officers from the Directorate of the Urban Environment.
5. A report of the Director of the Urban Environment setting out the background to current traffic management issues relevant to the Netherton Town Centre area was the main item on the agenda for the meeting.
6. The results of preliminary investigations of Traffic Regulation Orders and Minor Highway Improvement Schemes by the Transportation team were shared with members for their feedback and direction.
7. The main issues raised and outcomes were as follows:

Netherton Town Centre Parking

8. Traffic associated problems regarding Halesowen Road, Cradley Road, Northfield Road, Marriott Road, Recreation Street, Arch Hill Street, Crossley Street, and Castleton Street were identified by the group.

9. It is the aim of the Working Group to have possible Traffic Order measures designed and ready for public consultation in the very near future.

Northfield Road

10. Due to the accident history at the junction of Northfield Road and Halesowen Road, the Working Group has commissioned a detailed investigation to be carried out for a minor junction improvement scheme involving signalisation and realigning the junction.

Castleton Street

11. Local residents have requested the closure of Castleton Street to through traffic, however on consideration it was agreed that from an operational point of view it would be very difficult to achieve this and continue to maintain services to the frontages.
12. The concerns of residents and members were noted and a traffic study into improving the safety for pedestrians and motorists will be investigated with possible recommendations to be shared in a future meeting.

Cinder Bank

13. It has been agreed to revisit the possible signalisation of the Cinder Bank Island along with improvements to the Pear Tree Lane junction for further consideration by the Working Group.

Law

14. The Council is empowered to improve highways under Section 62 of the Highways Act 1980.
15. Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, enables the Council to do anything that is likely to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of the Borough.
16. Traffic signs are provided under powers contained in Section 64 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, subject to regulations made by the Secretary of State for Transport.
17. Pedestrian crossing facilities are provided under powers contained in Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, subject to Regulations made by the Secretary of State.
18. Traffic Regulation Orders are made under Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

19. The Traffic Calming Act 1992 amends the Highways Act 1980 to allow works to be carried out to promote safety and to preserve or improve the environment.
20. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 authorises the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the exercise of any of its functions.

Finance


21. There are no direct financial implications associated with this report at present.

Equality Impact

22. The proposal contained within this report complies with the Councils equal opportunities policy.

Recommendation

23. It is recommended that the contents of this report be noted.



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