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MARPLE AREA COMMITTEE

Meeting: 31 July 2024

At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Geoff Abell (Chair) in the chair; Councillor Shan Alexander (Vice-Chair);
Councillors Steve Gribbon, Colin MacAlister, Micheala Meikle and Aron Thornley.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 19 June 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors and officers were invited to declare any interests they had in any of the items on the agenda for the meeting.

The following interest was declared: -

Personal Interest

Councillor

Interest

Aron Thornley	Agenda item 5 (i) – ‘DC089427: Land off Middlewood View, High Lane, Stockport’ as a neighbouring property was owned by a relative.
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3. URGENT DECISIONS

No urgent decisions were reported.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

(i) Chair's Announcements

The Chair on behalf of the Area Committee informed the Marple residents of the following:
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- The draft Local plan and the related public consultation would be held from 2 September to the 28 October 2024. Public events will be held to engage residents and stakeholders including an event before the next meeting of the Marple Area Committee on 11 September 2024.
- The Marple Food and Drink Festival was due to be held on 21 September and residents were encouraged to attend.
- Kevin Murray (local resident) informed residents of the launch of the Marple Carnival Community Fund.
- Cadent were currently conducting gas works in the area.

- A 'Sing Out' festival was due to take place at The Ridge Methodist Church on 17 August.

(ii) Neighbourhood Policing

The Chair reported that a representative of Greater Manchester Police had been unable to attend the meeting, but welcomed any neighbourhood policing questions or issues to be raised.

It was commented that although a representative of Greater Manchester Police was not in attendance at the meeting, they were due to attend the next meeting on 11 September 2024 which was welcomed by members.

(iii) Public Question Time

Members of the public were invited to submit questions to the Chair of the Area Committee on any matters within the powers and duties of the Area Committee, subject to the exclusions set out in the Code of Practice.

Two public questions were submitted as follows, relating to: -

- Station Road, Marple – proposed puffin crossing.
- Market Street, Marple – growth of weeds.

RESOLVED – That the Director of Place Management be requested to respond to the questioners in writing.

Two additional public questions were submitted relating to the Marple Hub as follows: -

- The Hub, Marple – bat survey
- The Hub, Marple – overspill parking

Both of these questions were responded to during the consideration of Item 5(iii) DC091420: Marple Library, Memorial Park, Stockport, SK6 6BA.

(iv) Petitions

Members of the public and community groups were invited to submit any petitions.

A petition was submitted by Madeleine Stevens relating to 'Traffic issues on Compstall Road' with 115 signatures, requesting the Council to address the significant speeding issue on Compstall Road and take measures to make the road safer to cross.

RESOLVED – That the petition be referred to the Director of Place Management for investigation and response.

(v) Open Forum - Marple District Centre Action Plan

Richard Daniels attended the meeting to provide an update on delivering the Marple District Centre Action Plan including recent successes and priorities for the next 6 months.

The following comments were made/issues raised: -

- Members expressed thanks for work that had already been undertaken and the positive relationships that had been developed with local businesses.
- A new logo had been launched for the Marple Vision Group.
- The availability of public toilets and expanding the scheme into High Lane.
- Raising public awareness of the 'voluntary scheme' locally and plans to develop a physical map of Marple to put on public display and to upload to social media.
- Members enquired as to whether there were limits on the uses for the UKSPF. In response, it was stated that funding was to be used for events and small-scale improvements.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

(vi) Ward Flexibility Funding - Greater Manchester Independent School (Marple)

A representative of the Assistant Director for Legal and Democratic Governance submitted an application received on behalf of Greater Manchester Independent School (Marple) for a grant of £500 from the Ward Flexibility Budget (£250 from each ward allocation) towards the cost of installing a defibrillator on the outside of the school to provide a valuable community resource.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to an application from Greater Manchester Independent School (Marple) for a grant of £500 from the Ward Flexibility Budget (£250 from each ward allocation) towards the cost of installing a defibrillator on the outside of the school to provide a valuable community resource.

(vii) Ward Flexibility Funding - Stockport Armed Forces Breakfast Club

Paul Lomas attended the meeting and submitted an application received on behalf of Stockport Armed Forces Breakfast Club for a grant of £55.88 from the Ward Flexibility Budget (£27.94 from each ward allocation) towards the cost of materials for use in fundraising, publicity and raising awareness of the club, which aims to tackle isolation and loneliness in veterans.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to an application from Stockport Armed Forces Breakfast Club for a grant of £55.88 from the Ward Flexibility Budget (£27.94 from each ward allocation) towards the cost of materials for use in fundraising, publicity and raising awareness of the club, which aims to tackle isolation and loneliness in veterans.

5. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Development applications were submitted.

(NOTE: Full details of the decisions including conditions and reasons for granting or refusing planning permission and imposing conditions are given in the schedule of plans. Deputy Chief Executive is authorised to determine conditions and reasons and they are not therefore referred to in committee minutes unless the committee makes a specific decision on a condition or reason. In order to reduce printing costs and preserve natural

resources, the schedule of plans is not reproduced within these minutes. A copy of the schedule of plans is available on the council's website at www.stockport.gov.uk/planning. Copies of the schedule of plans, or any part thereof, may be obtained upon payment of the Council's reasonable charges).

A representative of the Assistant Director for Legal & Democratic Governance outlined the procedure approved by the Council for public speaking on planning applications.

(i) DC089427 : Land off Middlewood View, High Lane, Stockport

In respect of plan no. DC089427 for the erection of 1 no. dwellinghouse with proposed access from Windlehurst Court with associated parking and private amenity space.

a member of the public spoke against the application; and

a representative of the applicant spoke in support of the application.

It was then,

RESOLVED – That planning permission be granted subject to completion of a Section 106 agreement.

(ii) DC090869 : 2 Cross Lane, Marple, Stockport, SK6 6DJ

In respect of plan no. DC090869 for the change of use from dwellinghouse (Use Class: C3) to supported residential care home (Use Class: C2) for up to 3 children (Retrospective).

a member of the public spoke against the application; and

the applicant spoke in support of the application.

It was then

RESOLVED – That the application be deferred until the next meeting to allow comments from Greater Manchester Police to be obtained.

(iii) DC091420 : Marple Library, Memorial Park, Marple, Stockport, SK6 6BA

In respect of plan no. DC091420 for the demolition of existing Marple Library, Marple Clinic and Marple Police Station buildings and erection of leisure and community building (Use Class E, F1, and F2) with associated parking, landscaping, drainage, pedestrian and highways improvements and other supporting infrastructure.

the applicant spoke in support of the application.

It was then

RESOLVED – That the Planning & Highways Regulation Committee be recommended to grant planning permission subject to conditions.

6. APPEAL DECISIONS, CURRENT PLANNING APPEALS AND ENFORCEMENTS

A representative of the Assistant Director for Legal and Democratic Governance submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) listing any outstanding or recently determined planning appeals and enforcements within the area represented by the Heatons and Reddish Area Committee.

The Committee were informed that the appeal relating to Bowden House had now been dismissed.

Members enquired about the 'Lomber Hey Farm' application that had been granted for a temporary period of one year about 12 months ago and requested that it be reviewed.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the Deputy Chief Executive be requested to submit the 'Lomber Hey Farm' application to the Area Committee for a review following the application that had been granted for a temporary period of one year.

7. REVIEW OF OUTCOMES TOUR

A representative of the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) detailing a proposal to hold the Annual Review of Outcomes Tour on Friday 4 October 2024.

Members suggested that Northwood Close and Church Street would be the proposed sites.

RESOLVED – (1) That Northwood Close and Church Street be nominated to be included on the list of sites to be inspected on the 2024 Annual Review of Outcomes Tour.

(2) – That no members be nominated as a result of two members of the Marple Area Committee being members of the Planning and Highways Regulation Committee that attends the Annual Review of Outcomes Tour.

8. BUS PINCH POINTS - ZEBRA CROSSING, COMPSTALL ROAD, MARPLE BRIDGE

A representative of the Assistant Director for Legal and Democratic Governance submitted a report of the Director of Place Management (copies of which had been circulated) detailing the findings of a consultation exercise for the proposed Compstall Road, Marple Bridge, Zebra Crossing funded by the Government's City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS).

The following comments were made/issues raised: -

- It was commented that concerns had been raised regarding loss of parking spaces, however, road safety must be taken into account.
- Members expressed a desire to work with local residents to minimise the impact of loss of parking amenity.

- It was noted that the proposal could include four short stay parking bays during the day-time and one bay designated as a disabled parking bay on Compstall Road or to extend the existing disabled parking bay on Cote Green Lane.
- It was suggested that the crossing would be of even greater value in winter when darker evenings would result in poorer visibility.

RESOLVED (5 For, 1 Against) – (1) That the Cabinet Member for Parks, Highways and Transport Services be recommended to approve the following Zebra Crossing scheme and progress legal advertising of the associated TROs.

(2) That the Cabinet Member for Parks, Highways and Transport Services be recommended to consider the proposal for four short stay parking bays during the day-time and one bay designated as a disabled parking bay on Compstall Road and/or to extend the existing disabled parking bay on Cote Green Lane.

9. MARPLE AREA CYCLING AND WALKING STRATEGY (MACAWS)

A representative of the Assistant Director for Legal and Democratic Governance submitted a report of the Director of Place Management (copies of which had been circulated) presenting the findings of a public consultation exercise for the Marple Area Cycling and Walking Strategy (MACAWS) which took place from 4th September to 9th October 2023, on a package of potential highway measures in Marple Town Centre under the name of Marple Area Cycling and Walking Strategy, or MACAWS for short.

The following comments were made/issues raised: -

- It was suggested that continuous 20mph zones are better to implement than staggered sections. In response, it was stated that the scheme could afford to support 20mph speed limit areas which will include repeater signs.
- It was requested that the 'crossing' on Brabyns Brow be investigated to be included in the scheme.
- Members expressed concern that the results of the public consultation had not been fully considered and that the junction of Church Lane and Hibbert Lane be re-visited. It was commented that the proposed measure was not funded, so additional consultation was possible.
- It was commented that traffic may flow better with fewer traffic signals and members would request a trial period with some traffic signals switched off on the junction of Church Lane and Hibbert Lane.

RESOLVED – (For 5, Against 1) That the Cabinet Member for Parks, Highways and Transport Services be recommended to approve measures C, D, and Additional Measures 1, 2 and 3 for future funding bids.

10. COUNCIL MEETING PROCEDURE RULE 9 (DURATION OF MEETING)

At this stage in the proceedings (10.00 pm) the Chair informed the Area Committee that the provisions of Council Meeting Procedure Rule 9.1 (Duration of Meeting) would be invoked unless the Area Committee wished the meeting to continue.

It was then

RESOLVED – That the provision of Council Meeting Procedure Rule 9.1 (Duration of Meeting) be not invoked and that the Area Committee continues.

11. RESIDENT PARKING SCHEME CONSULTATION RESULTS - MARPLE DISTRICT CENTRE

With the consent of the Area Committee, the item was withdrawn.

12. PROGRESS ON AREA COMMITTEE DECISIONS

A representative of the Assistant Director for Legal and Democratic Governance submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing an update on progress since the last meeting on decisions taken by the Area Committee and detailing the current position on ward flexibility funding. The report also included the current position on the highway and traffic management delegated budget.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 10.09pm.