

## **TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT**

DECISIONS made by the Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment, Councillor M Lock on 28 July 2008 at County Hall, Lewes.

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Councillor Ensor spoke on items 7 and 11 (see minutes 22 and 26)  
Councillor Freeman spoke on item 9 (see minute 24)  
Councillor O'Keeffe spoke on items 5, 6 and 8 (see minutes 20, 21, 22 and 23)  
Councillor Ost spoke on items 7 and 8 (see minutes 22 and 23)  
Councillor Rogers spoke on items 7 and 8 (see minutes 22 and 23)  
Councillor St. Pierre spoke on items 7 and 9 (see minutes 22 and 24)  
Councillor Webb spoke on items 7, 11 and 14 (see minutes 22, 26 and 29)  
Councillor Whetstone spoke on item 4 (see minute 19)

### 16. MINUTES

16.1 Councillor Lock approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2008.

### 17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

17.1 Councillor Lock declared personal, non-prejudicial interests in the following agenda items:

- (a) item 7 (Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Procedure) as a Member of Hastings Borough Council;
- (b) item 8 (C7/324 Local Area Transport Strategy) as a joint Vice Chairman (and currently joint Acting Chairman) of the South Downs Joint Committee;
- (c) item 9 (Draft Water Resources Management Plans) as a member of the Environment Agency Regional Environment Protection Advisory Committee;
- (d) item 11 (Local Transport Plan 2: Air Quality) as a Member of Hastings Borough Council; and
- (e) item 14 (Prohibition of Vehicles on Upper Clarence Road and Clarence Road, St. Leonards) as a Member of Hastings Borough Council.

17.2 Councillor Ensor declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 7 (Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Procedure) as some of the pedestrian crossing sites were in his Ward or Division.

17.3 Councillor O'Keeffe declared personal, non-prejudicial interests in item 7 (Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Procedure) both as a resident of Mountfield Road, Lewes and a governor of Wallands School; and item 8 (C7/324 Local Area Transport Strategy) as a member of the Steering Group overseeing the development of the Strategy.

17.4 Councillor Ost declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 8 (C7/324 Local Area Transport Strategy) as a member of the Environment Agency Kent and Sussex User Forum and as a local resident having to use the C7/324.

17.5 Councillor Rogers declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 8 (C7/324 Local Area Transport Strategy) because the site is within his Division and as a Member of Lewes District Council.

17.6 Councillor St. Pierre declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 7 (Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Procedure) as a governor of Ringmer Community School.

17.7 Councillor Webb declared personal, non-prejudicial interests in the items relating to Hastings (see 17.2 (a), (d) and (e) above) as a Member of Hastings Borough Council.

## 18. REPORTS

18.1 Copies of the reports referred to in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.

## 19. PETITION REGARDING HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND ASSOCIATED RELIEF ROAD AT EAST GRINSTEAD

19.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. Mr N Manger addressed the Lead Member on behalf of the petitioners.

### DECISION

19.2 To (1) advise the petitioners that the County Council does not object per se to the housing development proposed at East Grinstead, but has used, and continues to use, its best endeavours to oppose any associated road proposals at East Grinstead that would add significantly to traffic problems in Forest Row; and

(2) request the Director of Transport and Environment to work closely with West Sussex County Council in addressing the implications for this issue of the recently issued Government housing allocation figures and report back to the Lead Member in due course.

### Reason

19.3 The County Council does not object to housing development per se at East Grinstead. Its primary concern is to oppose any proposals that would lead to traffic growth in excess of 5% in East Sussex. As yet none of the proposals for housing and a relief road at East Grinstead that have been presented would restrict traffic growth below this level. East Sussex officers are continuing to work with the West Sussex authorities to try and find a solution that would meet this East Sussex objective. The County Council continues to use its best endeavours to oppose the development and associated road proposals that do not meet this objective.

## 20. PETITION REQUESTING A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON BRIGHTON ROAD, LEWES

20.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

### DECISIONS

20.2 To advise the petitioners that this location does not meet the County Council's current criteria for the provision of a pedestrian crossing.

### Reason

20.3 Surveys have shown that this site does not meet the minimum criteria to be considered further for the provision of a pedestrian crossing.

21. PETITION REQUESTING TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES ON BARONS DOWN ROAD, LEWES

21.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. Mr D Evans addressed the Lead Member on behalf of the petitioners.

DECISIONS

21.2 To (1) advise the petitioners that (a) this location does not, at present, qualify for assessment as a potential site for traffic calming; and (b) a review of parking restrictions will be undertaken and residents' comments on this issue will be considered as part of that work; and

(2) request the Director of Transport and Environment to arrange for "Kill Speed" signs to be erected in Barons Down Road.

Reason

21.3 Based on its excellent safety record, with no casualties recorded in the last three calendar years, Barons Down Road should not be considered further, at the present time, for the provision of traffic calming measures. However, residents' comments will be sought on a review of parking restrictions which may address some of their concerns.

22. PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

22.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. .

DECISIONS

22.2 To (1) approve the revised Policy Statement as set out in Appendix C to the report and the resultant priority listing set out in Appendix E which is to be used as the basis for the future provision of pedestrian facilities; and

(2) authorise the Director of Transport and Environment to initiate detailed investigations in priority order, according to the funds available.

Reason

22.3 The recommended revisions to the assessment procedure are designed to ensure that the relative priority of pedestrian crossing requests reflects all the issues that can be influenced by the provision of pedestrian crossing facilities rather than a simple demand led approach. The retention of the pre-qualification criteria and policy on the conversion of zebra crossings is intended to ensure the appropriate allocation of resources to the provision of new facilities.

23. C7/324 LOCAL AREA TRANSPORT STRATEGY

23.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISION

23.2 To (1) approve the Local Area Transport Strategy for the C7/324;

(2) note that the Local Area Transport Strategy will automatically become a daughter document to the Local Transport Plan and will be used to inform allocations of funding that reflect a prioritised package of local integrated transport schemes and to provide a framework to assess planning proposals to ensure that they complement Local Transport Plan objectives; and

(3) request the Director of Transport and Environment to ensure that the South Downs Joint Committee is given an opportunity to comment on the Strategy.

Reason

23.3 The implementation of the C7/324 will improve travel choice and safety and encourage more people to make more of their journeys on foot, by bicycles and on public transport.

#### 24. DRAFT WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLANS

24.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISION

24.2 To (1) welcome the opportunity to comment on the Water Resource Management Plans; and

(2) agree the comments set out in full in the appendices to the report, and summarised in paragraph 3.3 of the report, for submission to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs as the County Council's views on the draft Water Resource Management Plans, subject to the last sentence of paragraph 58 in Appendix 1 being amended to seek also the publication of the assessment of all alternative reservoir options to Clay Hill that were considered.

Reason

24.3 This is a new formal statutory process for planning for water that is designed to ensure a robust balance between the demand for and the supply of water at all times up to 2035. There are many uncertainties in seeking this balance, but the companies aim to strike it in the most sustainable and cost effective way.

24.4 However, there are choices and the uncertainties need to be managed. It is important that the County Council gives its views on the consultation proposals as its residents need secure water supplies and the environmental impact of proposals need to be mitigated and opportunities they may present seized. The comments set out in the Appendices are the County Council's response to the consultation. There is further work to be done, in particular on the new reservoir proposals, to which the County Council is prepared to contribute.

#### 25. TRAVEL PLAN GUIDANCE FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS

25.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISION

25.2 To defer consideration of the report until the next Lead Member meeting on 1 September 2008.

## Reason

25.3 The 'Guidance on Travel Plans for New Development' was not available for consideration with the report.

## 26. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2: AIR QUALITY

26.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

## DECISIONS

26.2 To (1) approve the Second Air Quality Progress Report on the Second Local Transport Plan for submission to the Government; and

(2) request the Director of Transport and Environment to arrange a seminar for County Council Members, senior officers and District and Borough partners to raise awareness and understanding of air quality.

## Reasons

26.3 The Air Quality Progress Report reflects the difficulties in achieving the air quality targets in the Second Local Transport Plan and shows the progress made towards the Plan's air quality outcome targets. A joint seminar with Borough and District colleagues will help the development of a more co-ordinated approach to the issues relating to Air quality.

## 27. REVISION OF THE MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME AND SAVING OF WASTE LOCAL PLAN POLICIES

27.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

## DECISIONS

27.2 To (1) approve the Revisions of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme;

(2) authorise the Director of Transport and Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member for Transport and Environment, to finalise any drafting changes arising from the Government's consideration of the Revisions of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme, and, to resolve to bring the revised Scheme into effect; and

(3) authorise the Director of Transport and Environment to apply to the Secretary of State to save Waste Local Plan policies beyond the statutory minimum of three years (i.e. beyond February 2009).

## Reasons

27.3 The County Council needs to revise its three year Minerals and Waste Development Scheme in the light of Government changes to legislation affecting plan making. A new 'Options Testing Dialogue' stage will be introduced for the Waste & Minerals Core Strategy with further dialogue commencing in July 2009 on the way forward and the broad outline of locations for strategic developments. Formal stages will follow this and the whole programme will be completed with adoption intended in January 2011. The revised Minerals and Waste Development should be submitted to Government and, with any necessary changes, be brought into effect.

27.4 The Waste Local Plan provides the statutory decision making framework used to judge future applications for planning permission for waste developments in the County. As replacement policies will not be developed for some time under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, the Council needs to apply to the Secretary of State for these policies to be saved beyond February 2009.

## 28. REVIEW OF SUB REGIONAL ALLOCATION OF LAND-WON AGGREGATES

28.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

### DECISIONS

28.2 To respond to the Regional Assembly that the County Council:

(1) welcomes a more rounded approach to sub-regional apportionment. However, the methodology proposed is too inflexible to deal with the particular circumstances of East Sussex/Brighton & Hove which has low production, remote reserves; and a high dependence on marine dredged aggregates;

(2) does not support any of the Options put forward and would prefer that East Sussex/Brighton & Hove is treated as a special case and omitted from the sub regional apportionment exercise; and

(3) does not support splitting the apportionment to identify soft sand separately.

### Reasons

28.3 The particular characteristics of East Sussex/Brighton & Hove having low production, reserves mainly on the Kent border and most of the County served by marine dredged aggregates, needs to be recognised as a special case. The 3 Options would all involve an unacceptable increase that could not be realistically met. The methodology proposed is inflexible and probably cannot be adapted to incorporate our unusual circumstances. It is suggested that East Sussex/Brighton & Hove is treated as a special case and excluded from the apportionment exercise. The separate split for soft sand is also not supported.

## 29. PROHIBITION OF VEHICLES ON UPPER CLARENCE ROAD AND CLARENCE ROAD, ST. LEONARDS

29.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. He noted that the recommendation should refer to closing part of Upper Clarence Road and part of Clarence Road to vehicular traffic between the hours of 8.00pm and 8.00am rather than 8.00am and 8.00pm.

### DECISION

29.2 RESOLVED – to instruct Hastings Borough Council to seek a permanent Traffic Regulation Order under sections 1, 2 and 3 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1994 to close part of Upper Clarence Road and part of Clarence Road to public vehicular traffic between the hours of 8pm and 8am.

### Reason

29.3 The basis and reasons for the earlier agreement on 31 March 2008 to seek a permanent Traffic Regulation Order Agreement, as set out in the Appendix to the report, remain valid. Therefore, the extent of the Traffic Regulation Order, as shown on the plan attached to the report, should be confirmed.

