

**Minutes of: BURY WEST TOWNSHIP FORUM – HIGHWAYS
SUB GROUP**

Date of Meeting: 10th October 2012

Venue: Bury Town Hall

Present:

Councillors: Councillor R. E. Walker (In the Chair); S. Southworth

Advisory Group Representatives:

Trevor Eastlands-- Brandlesholme Residents Association

Officers:

Les Watts – Principal Engineer
Julie Edwards – Democratic Services
Christine Maksymowski – Township Co-ordinator

BWTF-HSG.05 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence

BWTF-HSG.06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

BWTF-HSG.07 MINUTES

It was agreed:

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd July be approved as a correct record.

BWTF-HSG.08 HIGHWAYS RE-SURFACING WITHIN BURY WEST

Les Watts, Principal Engineer, reported that the Highways Department had been unable to provide a Highways officer to attend the meeting. The Principal Engineer reported he would liaise with the department to clarify the situation with regards to funding of resurfacing on minor roads

It was agreed:

A highways officer would attend a future meeting of the Highways sub group.

BWTF-HSG.09 20MPH SPEED LIMITS ON STREETS WITHIN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Highways sub committee considered a report on the introduction of 20mph speed limits within residential areas. The Report contained the following information:

The Department for Transport's consultation "A safer way" contained proposals for improving road safety beyond 2010. The consultation suggested the amendment of guidance on speed limits, recommending that Highways Authorities might introduce 20mph zones or speed limits into streets that are primarily residential in nature and which are not part of any major through route.

The Principal Engineer reported that the greatest benefit would be gained by considering those estates where the potential for casualty reduction would be greatest. Priority would therefore be given primarily to residential estates containing sensitive properties such as schools. 19 schools in the Borough would be currently located within existing 20mph zones or on streets subject to a 20mph limit. The proposed strategy would be to increase that number to 58.

The Principal Engineer reported that whilst there is no direct financial gain to the council from these schemes, evidence from other studies show they are beneficial to society as a whole.

The strategy promotes the introduction of 20mph speed limits or 20mph zones as appropriate. Entry points to these areas would be emphasised, where existing mean traffic speeds exceeds 25mph than the road would have to be altered in order to achieve the required reduction in speed.

The Principal Engineer reported that proposals for introduction of 20mph speeds would be advertised as appropriate and all residents would be invited to take part in consultations in relation to these schemes. In addition, proposed changes to a speed limit currently require the publication of a formal notice in the press with a three-week period being allowed for objections to be submitted. The level of consultation would be dependent on the measures proposed for a particular street.

In response to a member's question, the Principal Engineer reported that, every residential street would be reviewed as to its suitability for a 20mph zone.

The Principal Engineer reported that £245,000 would be made available in the first year, £250,000 in year 2 and £205,000 year for the introduction of the 20mph schemes.

In response to a Member's question, the Principal Engineer reported that letter would be sent to individual Councillors notifying them of the proposed schemes in their wards.

It was agreed:

Members would consider at the next meeting of the Bury West Highways

Sub Committee, the roads within the Township that are to be considered for a 20 mph zone.

BWTF-HSG.10 HIGHWAYS ISSUE WITHIN BURY WEST

The A58 Bury and Bolton Road has undergone a speed limit review and it is proposed that the speed limit between Starling Road and Watling Street should be reduced from 40mph to 30 mph. The position of a vehicle-activated sign would have to be reviewed in light of the decision to allow planning permission for 191 new homes on the Spen More site.

The consultation exercise regarding a proposed road safety scheme on Ainsworth Road has been completed. The council propose to install a vehicle-activated sign, narrower running lanes (including an east-bound cycle lane) and two pedestrian refuges. The programme for the work is dependent on funding availability and may be carried out in phases. The provision of the vehicle-activated sign has already been approved. The Principal Engineer reported that the consultation responses have not yet been reviewed, but once completed would be discussed at a future meeting of the Highways sub committee.

In response to a member's question, the Principal Engineer reported that, work on Garside Hay Road had been delayed due to a decision by the developer to commission the service from the Council.

Trevor Eastlands reported that there continues to be a problem with cars parking on double yellow lines on Brandlesholme Road near the Mace shop.

It was agreed:

1. Les Watts would provide members with an update in relation to work for Garside Hay Road.
2. Les Watts, Principal Engineer would request that enforcement of the waiting restrictions on Brandlesholme Road outside and opposite the shops particularly between 3.00 and 7.00pm would be undertaken.

BWTF-HSG.10 URGENT BUSINESS

It was agreed:

The next meeting of the Highways sub group would take place on Tuesday 8th January 2013 commencing at 4pm

COUNCILLOR R. E. Walker
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 4.00pm and ended at 5 pm)