



NORWICH HIGHWAYS AGENCY COMMITTEE

10.00 a.m. – 11.50 a.m.

23 September 2010

Present:	County Councillors:	City Councillors:
	Adams (Chair) (V)	Altman
	Gunson) (V)	Bremner (V)
	Bearman	Morphew (to item 10)
	Shaw	Read (V)

*(V) – Voting Member

Apologies County Councillor Scutter

1. CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON THE COMMITTEE

The Chair referred to the City Council representation on the committee and welcomed Councillors Altman and Bremner. He added that Councillor Macdonald would also represent the City but could not attend this meeting

The Chair thanked Councillor Lubbock, who was no longer a member for the contribution she had made to the work of the committee.

RESOLVED that the committee officer writes to Councillor Lubbock, expressing member's gratitude for her contribution to the work of the committee.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve the accuracy of the meeting held on 22 July 2010.

3. TOURIST VEHICLES - USE OF PEDESTRIAN STREETS

Mr Agombar, operator of the Sightseeing Tour of Olde Norwich, explained the background to his operation and the reasons why he was requesting access to King Street and St Georges Street and the problems he encounters with pedestrians when making a three point turn near St Andrews Hall and Dragon Hall. He also queried what he considered to be misinformation that he had received in a telephone conversation with the Transportation Planner. The Transport Manager explained the reason for the comments made by the Transportation Planner to Mr Agombar.

Discussion ensued in which members expressed support for officer recommendations and considered with the amount of pedestrians in these areas vehicles should be regulated.

RESOLVED to:-

- (1) decline the request to allow The Sightseeing Tour of Olde Norwich to be allowed access through the road closures on King Street and St Georges Street;
- (2) ask the Head of Transportation to inform all current and future tourist operators in the City that no exemptions will be made to allow them to use pedestrianised streets unless there is a material change of circumstances to the current road network
- (3) ask the Head of Transportation to consider access to Timberhill as part of any pedestrianisation of Westlegate.

4. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN THE VICINITY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Mr Jary, member of Eaton Park Pitch and Putt Club said the proposed 2½ hour waiting time limit restriction would severely disrupt activities for club members as they would not be able to complete the course in the time. Councillor Lubbock supported Mr Jary's concerns and suggested a 3 hour limit would allow the club to participate as well as addressing the issue of all day parking by the UEA students. Councillor Gunson said the members of the Pitch and Putt club should not suffer because of students parking everywhere.

Ani Barker, resident of Fairfax Road said once Eaton Park restrictions came into force resident parking on Fairfax Road would get worse. She explained there was an issue on the bend of Fairfax Road where it was difficult for residents to park. The Transportation Manager said the residents of Fairfax Road had been given the opportunity to be included in the permit parking scheme as part of the previous consultation but very little support had been received.

Discussion ensued in which members referred to the no waiting at any time restrictions on Cunningham Road and George Fox Way. Members also asked whether double yellow lines could be considered on the bend in Fairfax Road. The Transportation Manager advised that these should be considered as part of the next report on the agenda.

Councillor Read moved and Councillor Gunson seconded that the waiting time limit restrictions to the Eaton Park western off-street car park be increased to allow a maximum stay of 3 hours

RESOLVED to:-

- (1) the UEA controlled parking zone extensions as shown on Plan No PL/TR/3584/424;
- (2) grass verge restriction outside No22 Wilberforce Road as shown on Plan No. PL/TR/3584/424;

- (3) no waiting at any time restrictions adjacent to the proposed controlled parking zone area as shown on Plan No. PL/TR/3584/424;
- (4) waiting time limit restrictions to the Eaton Park western off-street car park to allow a maximum stay of 3 hours, 9am – 3pm, Monday to Friday, from the third Monday in September to the last Friday before the late May bank holiday

5. WAITING RESTRICTION REQUESTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN 2011/12

Mr Wood, Castle Promotions, Burnet Road, circulated photographs showing parked vehicles which resulted in obstruction for premises and road safety concerns. He fully supported officer recommendations.

Councillor Bearman asked whether there was a conflict between with the removal of the loading bay on Pottergate and the recent approval for tables and chairs in Pottergate. In response the Transportation Manager said the proposal was just to overcome an anomaly in the restrictions in Pottergate whereby loading was allowed along the length making a loading bay an irrelevance.

Councillor Bremner welcomed the bus stop clearways proposed for North Park Avenue. In response to Councillor Shaw's question the Head of Transportation confirmed that it was proposed to remove the 3 vehicle parking area on Valley Side Road because of heavy good vehicles experiencing problems delivering to the shops and causing operational difficulties.

During discussion, members supported adding Fairfax Road to Traffic Regulation Order for waiting restrictions.

RESOLVED to:-

- (1) authorise the Head of Transportation and Head of Legal and Democratic Services to carry out the necessary statutory procedures to introduce waiting or loading restrictions at the following locations as detailed on attached plans in appendix 2.

Waiting restriction proposals

Location	Plan number
1. Chapel Field East	PL/TR/3329/722/14
2. Drayton Road	PL/TR/3329/722/10
3. Ives Road	PL/TR/3329/722/15
4. North Park Avenue	PL/TR/3329/722/5a & PL/TR/3329/722/5b
5. Pottergate	PL/TR/3329/722/7
6. Pyes Yard	PL/TR/3329/722/8
7. Heyford Road	PL/TR/3329/722/12
8. Silver Road	PL/TR/3329/722/13
9. St Saviours Lane	PL/TR/3329/722/11
10. Valley Side Road	PL/TR/3329/722/9

11. Fairfax Road – Double yellow lines on the bend on both sides of the road outside No's 6-12 Fairfax Road

Norwich Car club proposed new parking bays

Location	Plan number
1. Avenue Road	PL/TR/3329/722/22
2. Christchurch Road	PL/TR/3329/722/21
3. Greyfriars Road	PL/TR/3329/722/23
4. Marlborough Road	PL/TR/3329/722/16
5. Northcote Road	PL/TR/3329/722/17
6. Park Lane	PL/TR/3329/722/20
7. Patteson Road	PL/TR/3329/722/19
8. Spencer Street	PL/TR/3329/722/18

- (2) Agree that additional waiting restrictions should be considered in the in Sweet Briar Industrial Estate, and ask the Head of Transportation and Head of Legal and Democratic Services to carry out the necessary statutory procedures to introduce waiting or loading restrictions at the following locations

Location	Plan number
1. Albertine Close	PL/TR/3329/722/3
2. Frensham Road	PL/TR/3329/722/1 & PL/TR/3329/722/2 (southern & northern ends)
3. Burnet Road	PL/TR/3329/722/4

- (3) ask the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Head of Transportation to confirm Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) descriptions of waiting restrictions at the following locations:

- I. Aylsham Road (near Boundary shops)
Correction of TRO to change 20minute limited waiting bay (no return in 40 minutes) to 30 minute bay (no return in 1 hour). Confirmation of the single yellow line in bay. Both operational Monday to Saturday 8am – 6.30pm, no restrictions at other times.
- II. Paxton Place
Amendment of TRO to include Paxton Place as a street within the South Western controlled parking zone and as an address eligible for the issue of parking permits.
- III. Plumstead Road
Make minor administrative changes to the description of the no waiting at any time restrictions for these roads.
- IV. Northfields experimental TRO
Make minor administrative changes to the description of Schedule numbers
- V. Tombland
Make minor administrative changes to the description of the pedestrian zone, access and speed restriction order for Princes Street to include the length of road which includes Tombland.

- VI. Bakers Road
Make minor administrative change of description of a no waiting at any time restriction
- VII. Elmdon Court & Tudor Court
Amendment of TRO to add these addresses as eligible for parking permits.

6. AWARD FROM CIVITAS

Councillor Shaw informed members that Norwich had been awarded a CIVITAS award for the school run park and ride scheme. This was an incentive to encourage pupils from some private schools in Norwich to travel to school from Thickthorn Park and Ride at a cost of 50 pence for a single trip and £1 return, accompanied parents would pay one pence. Various posters were being distributed to other schools the take up had doubled in 6 months.

Members congratulated the staff involved.

RESOLVED to note the CIVITAS award.

7. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO CAR PARK FEES AND CHARGES

RESOLVED, having considered the report of the Head of Transportation, to note the revised fees and charges as set out in Appendix C and D of the report, to take effect from 8 November 2010. .

8. REVIEW OF ON STREET PARKING FEES AND CHARGES

The Transportation Manager pointed out that the purpose of the business permits was for operational needs for those businesses that were constantly in and out of the office or that were visiting clients in their homes in CPZs. Councillor Morpew said many people use these permits for all day parking and not for operational purposes, which was upsetting to residents this should be stressed to those purchasing business permits. Councillor Read said people should be encouraged to use alternative means of transport into the City.

During discussion, Councillor Gunson said he did not agree with going years without increasing charges in line with inflation, he proposed a steady rise and a small profit. The Transportation Manager said if charges are increased there would be a risk of motorists parking at non council car parks. Councillor Read supported this and said people should be discouraged from using off street parking.

RESOLVED –

- (1) ask the Head of Transportation bring a further report to the next committee proposing an increase in Monday to Saturday daytime on street charges
- (2) no charge should be made for blue badge holders;

- (3) agree in principle that charges should be made for on street parking on Sundays and in the evening, and ask the Head of Transportation to bring a further report to a future meeting;
- (4) increase the cost of parking dispensations to £5 for a single voucher and £20 for 5 vouchers, with a condition that no more than 4 books of 5 vouchers can be purchased at any one time;
- (5) agree that parking dispensations can only be used on commercial vehicles, and cars that have a business livery;
- (6) ask the Head of Transportation to investigate the possibility of charging for pay and display bays that have been suspended;
- (7) agree to widen the definition of those eligible to a Statutory Q permit to include any organisation with a legitimate business use in any CPZ other than the City Centre, and allow the Head of Transportation and Landscape to approve these permits when it is not practical to use other parking facilities in the area;
- (8) increase the cost of parking permits for the controlled parking zone as detailed in appendix 1;
- (9) agree that the number of free parking permits issued in CPZs should be reviewed, and ask the Head of Transportation to bring a further report to a future meeting.

9. REVIEW OF NORWICH WINTER MAINTENANCE SERVICE

During discussion, Councillor Read said he considered clearing of roads during the bad weather were prioritised for the benefit of the motorist rather than the cyclist or pedestrians. Both Councillors Bremner and Shaw said that the public should be made aware that they were not liable if they clear footpaths where they live. The Head of Transportation said there was insufficient money to treat every footway or cycleway, treatment used on the roads rely on vehicle movement to spread to the footpaths, with the exception of the city centre footpaths where they were salted. He informed members there would be publicity going out in October around what residents could legally do during bad weather.

RESOLVED to note the report.

10. BUS SHELTER PROVISION IN NORWICH FROM JULY 2011

RESOLVED, having considered the report of the Head of Transportation, to note the report.

11. FUTURE OF SAFETY CAMERA FUNDING

Councillor Read said he regretted that Norfolk County Council had voted to back the proposal to switch off Norfolk's safety cameras. This was also re-iterated by some other members of the committee.

The Chair said although he did not support the removal of speed cameras, cuts had to be made and the Government had made the decision to stop the funding. Councillor Gunson said the County Council could not afford to take on the cost funding the cameras when there were not sufficient funds for road maintenance etc.

Members discussed the implications of the options proposed, during which Councillor Bremner said that safety cameras work and the authority had a duty of care to the people of Norfolk. Councillor Read was concerned the effects that the switch off of cameras would have on children from deprived areas.

RESOLVED with 2 members voting in favour (Councillor Adams and Gunson), 2 members voting against (Councillors Bremner and Reid) and on the casting vote of the Chair to report Norwich Highways Agency Committee's recommendation of option 1 to Norfolk County Council.

12. ON STREET PARKING ENFORCEMENT MONITORING REPORT

Councillor Bremner asked if there were ways of enforcing on street parking with instant tickets on Prince of Wales Road. The Head of Transportation agreed to discuss this with Councillor Bremner

RESOLVED to note the report.

13. HIGHWAY PERFORMANCE MONITORING OF THE HIGHWAYS AGENCY AGREEMENT

RESOLVED, having considered the report of the Head of Transportation, to note the report.

14. MAJOR ROADWORKS – REGULAR MONITORING

RESOLVED, having considered the report of the Head of Transportation, to note the report.

CHAIR