

**At a meeting of the PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE held in COMMITTEE ROOM 2 on TUESDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2017 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Bell in the Chair

Councillors Ball, Beck, M. Dixon, Francis, Hodson, Jackson, Lauchlan. Mordey, Porthouse, Scaplehorn, P. Smith, Taylor, Turner, M. Turton, W. Turton and G. Walker.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Chequer, English, I. Galbraith, Kay, Middleton, P. Walker, P. Watson and D. Wilson.

**Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2017**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**Report of the Meeting of the Development Control (North Sunderland) Sub Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2017**

The report of the meeting of the Development Control (North Sunderland) Sub-Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 (copy circulated) was submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

2. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

**Report of the meetings of the Development Control (South Sunderland) Sub Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> May (Extraordinary) 24<sup>th</sup> May, 31<sup>st</sup> May (Extraordinary) and 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2017**

The report of the meetings of the Development Control (South Sunderland) Sub-Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> May (Extraordinary), 24<sup>th</sup> May, 31<sup>st</sup> May (Extraordinary) and 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 (copies circulated) were submitted.

(For copy reports – see original minutes)

3. RESOLVED that the reports be received and noted subject to the inclusion of Councillor Ball's apologies for each meeting.

**Report of the meeting of the Development Control (Hetton, Houghton and Washington) Sub Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2017**

The report of the meeting of the Development Control (Hetton, Houghton and Washington) Sub-Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 (copy circulated) was submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

**Proposal for Northern Gateway (North Bridge Street) and Approval to proceed with the advertising of Associated Traffic Regulation Orders**

The Head of Infrastructure and Transportation submitted a report (copy circulated) to advise the Committee of the proposals for the Northern Gateway (North Bridge Street) scheme and sought approval to proceed with the advertising of associated Traffic Regulation Orders. The report outlined the current status of the project, key layout changes and outcome of the most recent consultation.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Mordey presented the report along with Officers, Ken Heads, Andrew Bruce and Chris Ferry who were on hand to answer Members queries.

In response to Councillor G. Walker's enquiry over what the bus companies concerns were, Councillor Mordey advised that Stagecoach had issues with the removal of the dedicated bus lane so that it was open to all vehicles. However the models had shown that this would not have a negative impact upon their journey times and would actually improve them.

Councillor Jackson wished to thank those involved for listening to residents of Dame Dorothy and their concerns so that the access would now be closed.

Councillor Francis enquired if this system would restore the area into the busy shopping centre that it used to be. The Chairman commented that he believed the current system had blighted that area and this proposal should improve matters.

In response to Councillor M. Dixon's query, Mr Heads advised that this was a Council designed scheme but had brought in an independent consultant to run the software on the data collected and to study the models available.

Councillor Porthouse referred to the no waiting/loading on North Bridge Street leading up to Roker Avenue and commented that he felt this would negatively affect the businesses here and that we needed to look at how to encourage business and embrace the traffic.

Councillor Mordey commented that they were restricted in terms of the size of the carriageways/number of lanes and if they removed the waiting/loading restrictions then this would cause gridlock across the city centre.

In response to the Chairman, Mr Bruce advised that they would be considering box junction markings within detailed design stage.

In response to Councillor Jackson's enquiry, Mr Bruce advised that there were plans to look at lowering curbs for residents in the area.

Members having fully considered the report it was:-

#### 5. RESOLVED that

- (i) The Council proceed with the development of its scheme in its current form and advertise associated Traffic Regulation Orders.
- (ii) The Council continue to work with the Bus Companies to alleviate their concerns with the intention of their objection being removed from the informal consultation.
- (iii) The Council would consult local residents and stakeholders again if it was proposed to retain the bus lane on Dundas Street.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) R. BELL  
(Chairman)