

BRIEFING TO THE FAILSWORTH & HOLLINWOOD DISTRICT EXECUTIVE

Highways & Engineering Service Update

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Purpose of Report

To provide the District Partnership with an update on issues raised by Councillors and members of the public and to give an overview of the current activity in Highways.

1 UPDATE ON ISSUES RAISED AT PREVIOUS DP MEETINGS

Following questions raised by members, the following issues were discussed:

- 1.1 Many issues around footpath repairs were the responsibility of the Utility Companies.
- 1.2 The Cabinet Member for Housing, Transport and Planning was looking to develop a strategy to deal with potholes and a feedback mechanism. *Ongoing*
- 1.3 A timetable for traffic regulation orders at South Failsworth Primary School would be sent to Councillor Fielding.

E-mail sent 18 April to three ward councillors including Cllr Fielding giving update of the TRO and the school safety zone. This stated that the TRO had been sent to Legal but no definite timetable could be given at the time since Legal are not able to give definite dates.

Legal have confirmed today that the legal orders will be advertised mid June 2013 which means provided that there are no objections to the TRO during the advertising period then the order should be confirmed by July/August 2013 and lines installed soon after.

- 1.4 A suggestion was made to undertake work on Dean Street for Failsworth West where no scheme had been identified as part of the District Partnership schemes for the Highways Investment Programme. *Unfortunately, this scheme would cost more than the remaining budget. The scheme was put forward in the LTP programme but wasn't selected. It remains on the reserve list until further funding becomes available.*

- 1.5 Work was being undertaken to create priority routes across the Borough to take prompt action for repairs, which included the A62 through the District.

Unity Partnership is currently progressing a detailed programme of works for the A62 Corridor Improvements Manchester Boundary to Oldham Town Centre, as part of the overall programme of Corridor works throughout the Borough and have met with Cllr McMahon and senior officers to discuss the necessary scope, costs and delivery of the works.

Phase 1, from the Manchester boundary to the M60 junction at Hollinwood is currently being designed with all works on this phase programmed to be completed by April 2014, depending on current utility works. This is likely to take place on site in a number of sub phases, to follow these major utility works already programmed on the A62 this year. The works are likely to commence on site at the Wrigley Head junction when the utility company completes its work in that particular area. Unity will be meeting directly with Cllr McMahon and senior officers to provide him with a further detailed update within the next couple of weeks.

2 RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN ADVANCE OF THIS MEETING

- 2.1 None received

3 UPDATE ON PROGRAMMES OF WORK

3.1 Highways Investment Programme 2013/14

- 3.1.1 Coalpit Lane 2013 - Works due to commence in August 2013
- 3.1.2 A6104 Hollins Road - Works due to commence in September 2013
- 3.1.3 Westminster Rd Mersey Rd North - Works due to commence in September 2013

3.2 DP Schemes

3.2.1 Failsworth East

Failsworth East				
Year	Funds Available	Scheme	Status	Fund Carried
2010-11 (1)	£25,000	Westminster Road	Complete	£0
2011-12 (2)	£25,000	No scheme identified	N/A	£25,000
2012-13 (3)	£50,000	Timpson Street	Complete	£14,000
2013-14 (4)	£39,000	Tavern Court Road	Complete	£24,000 (TBC)

Action: Unity Partnership is currently pricing up Wesley Street and Norman Street schemes submitted by Cllrs.

3.2.2 Failsworth West

Failsworth West				
Year	Funds Available	Scheme	Status	Fund Carried
2010-11 (1)	£25,000	Miriam Street	Complete	£0
2011-12 (2)	£25,000	No scheme identified	N/A	£25,000
2012-13 (3)	£50,000	Aldred Street and Frank Street	Programmed	-£4,000
2013-14 (4)	£21,000	Scheme to be identified		

Action: Unity Partnership is currently scoping Year 4 list of schemes submitted by Cllrs.

3.2.3 Hollinwood

Hollinwood				
Year	Funds Available	Scheme	Status	Fund Carried
2010-11 (1)	£25,000	Higher Lime Road	Complete	£0
2011-12 (2)	£25,000	Houghton Avenue and Swallow Street	Complete	£3,000
2012-13 (3)	£28,000	No Scheme identified	N/A	£28,000
2013-14 (4)	£53,000	Scheme to be identified		

Action: Unity Partnership is currently scoping Year 4 list of schemes submitted by Cllrs.

3.3 LTP

- 3.3.1 Unity is assisting the Council in developing “Oldham Gateway” proposals along the A62 Corridor. Options under consideration include Parking Lay bys and central Boulevards.

Update 18/7/13: The detailed design of this work is underway. Following this, the scheme will be prepared for Tendering. As this work is situated along the length of the A62 that is currently the site of British Gas activities, the Boulevarding / Lay-by improvement scheme will progress as soon as the gas main has been replaced.

- 3.3.2 Road Safety Improvements programmed to take place at Wrigley Head / Crown Street junction immediately following the completion of the British Gas utility work (late March / early April).

Update 18/7/13: The highway improvements at Wrigley Head / Crown Street / A62 were started on Monday 15 July and should be completed within two weeks. The works were delayed due to prolonged works by British Gas Utility works that is now progressing from the junction towards Oldham.

- 3.3.3 Proposal for the Lord Lane Zebra Crossing has been submitted in the LTP bid for 2014/15.

Update 21/5/13: The bid wasn't successful – funding not allocated

- 3.3.4 Investigations progressing into the extension to the Beach St Area Residents Parking Scheme.

Update 21/5/13: Further to discussing the matter with the Ward Councillors, Unity has been instructed not to pursue residents only parking, but progress the removal of waiting restrictions on part of Old Road. It would appear the problematic parking is taking place in the evening and is generated by residents in the area. Consequently, residents only parking will not alleviate the problem. The removal of the waiting restriction will however increase the available on-street parking in the area. The report recommending this is currently being processed through the Council's delegated approval procedure.

- 3.3.5 Investigations progressing into the Residents Parking Scheme along Wrigley Head.

Update 21/5/13: The existing residents parking scheme along Wrigley Head will be amended slightly to introduce additional dual function spaces. Dual function spaces can be used for an unlimited period of time by permit holders but non permit holders are subject to a maximum stay of 3 hours. The hackney carriage stand on Wrigley Head is also being removed as part of this proposal. The changes are being made to assist the businesses in the area and the report recommending this is currently being processed through the Council's delegated approval procedure.

3.3.6 A request has been received into the investigation of Beresford St parking issues.

Update 21/5/13: The Traffic team has been asked, via the District Co-ordinator, to look for a solution that will prevent HGVs travelling past the residential properties on Brookdale Street, which can be accessed via Beresford Street. A pinch-point has been suggested by Ward Councillors. The advice given to the District Co-ordinator is as follows:

When you refer to a pinch point I presume you mean a 6' 6" width restriction which would allow normal traffic to drive along the street, but anything greater in width than 6' 6" would be prevented 'through' access.

This type of restriction has recently been estimated for a street in Chadderton and, due to the type of kerbing and illuminated signing requirements, they are expensive to introduce. The scheme in Chadderton has been estimated at £25,000; a width restriction within Brookdale Street would be a slightly different design to the one in Chadderton costs could be expected to be £10-15k.

The other alternative would be to introduce a Prohibition of Driving Order which would prevent any motorist from driving the full length of the street; a prohibition of driving order would see an island built in the middle of the road with the provision of 3 bollards to prevent vehicles from mounting and driving over the area. This arrangement is indicated on the attached drawing. It would also be necessary to erect a 'no through road' sign at each end of the street and erect temporary signs for a period of 6 months to advise highway users the road layout has changed. The cost of providing all these measures would be in the region of £3,000.

However, when introducing this type of measure it is normal practice to ensure a turning head facility is provided on both sides of the island area. The street will be effectively split into two culs-de-sac and vehicles need to be able to turn round to exit the street in a forward gear; unfortunately, it is not possible to provide this facility along Brookdale Street. Having said that, looking at the surrounding streets in the area, none seem to have turning head provision. It is therefore suggested that if the councillors want to pursue the introduction of a prohibition of driving order a consultation should take place with local businesses and the refuse collection service to determine if a lack of turning head would cause them a problem.

Before the above can be introduced a legal order would have to be successfully processed; part of this process includes consulting with the emergency services, who may not be in favour of this type of restriction being introduced due to the difficulty it would cause them for access in an emergency.

3.3.7 Traffic regulation Orders are progressing at the South Failsworth Primary School. The associated School Safety Zone is awaiting LTP settlement.

3.3.8 Local Sustainable Travel Fund (LSTF) targeted at cycle tracks along Hollinwood Avenue from Rochdale Canal to the A62

3.4 Metrolink

No update

3.5 Utility works

No update

3.6 Direct Works teams

No update