



Norfolk County Council

Joint Committee for Transport for Norwich Minutes of the Meeting Held on 24 March 2022 at 2pm on Microsoft Teams (virtual meeting)

Present:

Cllr Martin Wilby (Chair)
Cllr Barry Stone (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Emma Corlett
Cllr Kay Mason-Billig
Cllr Mike Stonard
Cllr Ian Stutely

Representing:

Norfolk County Council
Norfolk County Council
Norfolk County Council
South Norfolk District Council
Norwich City Council
Norwich City Council

Officers Present:

Alexander Cliff
Durga Goutam
Jonathan Hall
Kat Hulatt
Stuart Payne
Jeremy Wiggan

Title:

Highway Network Digital Innovation Manager
Senior Engineer
Committee Officer
Head of Legal Services
Project Engineer
Transport for Norwich Manager, Norfolk County Council

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Peter Joyner, Cllrs Brian Watkins and Sue Lawn.

2. Minutes of last meeting

- 2.1 It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2022 would be presented at the next meeting for approval following a request from Cllr Corlett.

3. Declarations of Interest

- 3.1 No interests were declared.

4. Items received as urgent business

- 4.1 Kat Hulatt, Head of Legal Services provided an update of the committee's status following queries that had arisen prior to the meeting. The committee were advised that the terms of reference indicated that this was an advisory committee and that decisions were made by the Cabinet Member (Cllr Wilby – Chair) with a delegated Cabinet Member decision notice being published with an opportunity for members to call in that decision via the scrutiny committee. A report providing more detail would be presented to the committee at the next meeting and would be made available prior to all members and their Council's Monitoring Officers. Cllrs Corlett, Stutely and Stonard decided to leave the meeting at this point, however Kat Hulatt had advised that due to the recommendations of the only report on the agenda, the meeting could continue.

2.19pm Cllrs Corlett, Stutely and Stonard left the meeting.

The quorum of the meeting, as stated in the terms of reference is 6 and therefore the meeting was no longer quorate. Kat Hulatt reiterated her previous advice and the meeting continued.

5. Connecting the Norwich Lanes – St Giles Street

5.1 The Joint Committee received the report which outlined proposals for a scheme on St Giles Street which was being funded by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Towns Fund.

5.2 The Transport for Norwich Manager introduced the report to the Joint Committee in and advised:

- A public consultation on the 'Connecting the Lanes' proposals was carried out in summer 2021, which provided the opportunity to seek high level feedback on initial proposals for St Giles Street.
- There was strong support for sustainable drainage, tree planting, seating and pedestrian crossing points, with particularly strong support for widened footways in general, as well as in areas with the potential for outdoor seating to support hospitality businesses. Some concerns were raised around the need to ensure businesses' needs for loading and parking' were met and that outdoor licenced seating would not restrict footway space.
- The design has developed in response to initial feedback to maximise footway space and there is a net increase in loading space. This has been achieved by reducing the extent of pay and display spaces (approx. 5-6 spaces) and it is proposed to reduce the number of Car Club spaces by 1 vehicle. Parking will continue to be available at the nearby St Giles multi-storey car park and infrastructure will be installed as part of the scheme which would allow an electric vehicle charging point to be installed to support the Car Club.
- The permanent closure of Exchange Street to general traffic (planned for implementation in summer 2022) will mean that St Giles Street is no longer a through route for general traffic trying to reach the north and east of Norwich. The reduction of through traffic and measures proposed above will make St Giles Street a more pleasant area within which to walk, cycle and rest and encourage footfall in the area and surrounding areas such as Upper St Giles.
- Access to St Giles multi-storey car park will continue to be from the western end of St Giles Street, as is currently the case
- The public consultation will help to further inform the final detailed design, which will be brought back to a future meeting of this committee for consideration

5.3 The following points were discussed and noted:

- Concerns were expressed that by narrowing St Giles Street cars queueing for St Giles Car park would be impacted creating congestion.
- The location of loading bays would need to be carefully considered as not to compromise any outdoor seating for certain premises along the street.
- The street may not have the best ambience for outdoor seating and that further consideration should be given as to whether any outdoor seating is desirable.
- EV charging points would be put in place along the street to help meet the Council's wider strategy on providing renewable energy resources.

5.4 The Joint Committee **agreed to recommend** to the Cabinet Member to:

- Proceed to a public consultation on the emerging proposals for St Giles Street.

The Chair, Cabinet Member Cllr Wilby said he would proceed to a delegated decision notice based on the above recommendation.

The Meeting ended at 2.33pm

Next meeting: 28 June 2022

**Cllr Martin Wilby, Chair,
Joint Committee for Transport for Norwich**



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