

South East Community Assembly

Thursday 10 January 2013 at 7.00 pm

**To be held at Birley Community
College, Thornbridge Avenue,
Sheffield S12 3AB**

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

Membership

Councillors Ray Satur (Chair), David Barker (Deputy Chair), Isobel Bowler, Tony Downing, Denise Fox, Bryan Lodge, Karen McGowan, Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, Mick Rooney, Chris Rosling-Josephs, Jackie Satur and Ian Saunders

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

There are seven Community Assemblies which cover Sheffield; each is made up of the local Councillors from four wards. It is part of their remit to promote the local involvement of local people in the democratic process and to bring decision making closer to local people.

The formal meetings of the Community Assembly are open to the public and are the place where the Councillors make funding decisions as delegated by the Cabinet, relating to the priorities set out in the Community Plan and the Community Involvement Plan. They take place a minimum of 4 times per year, though more often, if required.

There is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and submit petitions at these meetings.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk. You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. on Friday, or you can ring on telephone no. 2734552. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda.

Community Assembly decisions are effective six working days after the meeting has taken place, unless called-in for scrutiny by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in which case the matter is normally resolved within the monthly cycle of meetings.

Further information on any of the agenda items can be obtained by speaking to either:

- David Luck, Community Assembly Manager
Tel: 0114 203 7898
Email: david.luck@sheffield.gov.uk
- Gillian Capewell, Democratic Services
Tel: 0114 273 5485
Email: Gillian.capewell @sheffield.gov.uk

**SOUTH EAST COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY AGENDA
10 JANUARY 2013**

Order of Business

- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**
- 4. Declarations of Interest**
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meeting**
To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 11 October 2012
- 6. Public Questions and Petitions**
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public at the meeting
- 7. South East Large Highways Schemes**
Report of the South East Community Assembly Manager
- 8. Manager's Report**
South East Community Assembly Manager to report

NOTE: The next meeting of the South East Community Assembly will be held on Wednesday 27 March 2013 at 7.00 pm

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ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

New standards arrangements were introduced by the Localism Act 2011. The new regime made changes to the way that members' interests are registered and declared.

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -
 - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - which has not been fully discharged.
- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) -
 - the landlord is your council or authority; and
 - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
 - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
 - (b) either
 - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Under the Council's Code of Conduct, members must act in accordance with the Seven Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership), including the principle of honesty, which says that 'holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest'.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life.

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously, and has been published on the Council's website as a downloadable document at [-http://councillors.sheffield.gov.uk/councillors/register-of-councillors-interests](http://councillors.sheffield.gov.uk/councillors/register-of-councillors-interests)

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Lynne Bird, Director of Legal Services on 0114 2734018 or email lynne.bird@sheffield.gov.uk

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South East Community Assembly

Meeting held 11 October 2012

PRESENT: Councillors Ray Satur (Chair), David Barker, Isobel Bowler, Tony Downing, Denise Fox, Bryan Lodge, Karen McGowan, Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, Mick Rooney and Chris Rosling-Josephs

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jackie Satur and Ian Saunders.

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

2.1 No items were identified.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 5th July 2012 were approved as a correct record, and there were no matters arising.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

Petitions

5.1 *Petition against proposed Skate Park at Occupation Lane*

A petition was submitted by Jill Burkinshaw containing 38 signatures objecting to the creation of a skate/ BMX park in what was currently a car park, adjacent to the tram stop, main road and the playing fields (Occupation Lane/ Sheffield Road). Ms. Burkinshaw believed that the skate park would encourage youths to congregate, and could exacerbate existing problems with anti-social behaviour in the area, particularly with regard to the throwing of rocks at trams, and increased noise nuisance.

5.2 *Petition against proposed Skate Park at Occupation Lane*

A petition was submitted by Stuart Askwith containing 68 signatures objecting to the creation of a skate/ BMX park in what was currently a car park, adjacent to the tram stop, main road and the playing fields (Occupation Lane/ Sheffield Road). Mr. Askwith believed that the skate park would encourage youths to congregate, and could exacerbate existing problems with anti-social behaviour in the area.

5.3 *Petition in support of proposed Skate Park at Occupation Lane*

A petition was submitted by Luke Hague containing 279 signatures in support of the creation of a skate/ BMX park in the South East of Sheffield. Mr. Hague stated that the skateboarding/ bike park would engage young people into positive activities and exercise, adding to the benefits of healthy living.

Public Questions

5.4 *Question regarding the proposed Skate Park at Occupation Lane*

A member of the public asked where the idea for a skate park had originated, and it was confirmed that positive activities for children and young people was a priority within the Community Assembly Plan, and there had been some Section 106 monies available for young people's facilities from the redevelopment of the Scowerdons estate. BMX and skateboarding was always popular with young people, and the Youth Forum in the local area had put forward the skate park as a suggestion, which had then been costed up, and consulted upon. The Assembly had agreed at its April 2012 meeting to allocate £25,000 from its discretionary budget towards the provision of a BMX facility within the Assembly area. 250 letters had been sent out to local households. Skateboarding happened currently in places that were not specifically designed for it, which was potentially dangerous, so a designated skate park would give the local young people a safe place to carry out these activities.

It was clarified that the equipment installed would be movable, and that the site would be monitored so as to measure levels of antisocial behaviour. There would also be CCTV at the site. Steve Garlick, Senior Health and Safety Consultant, Sheffield City Council, had given the site the go-ahead in terms of safety issues. Further issues around parking had also been raised, but it was felt that most young people would arrive at the skate park of their own accord.

5.5 **RESOLVED:** That the South East Community Assembly;

(a) notes that a public meeting had been held on 26th September 2012 in relation to the proposed skate park at Occupation Lane, and that all the viewpoints put across had been taken into consideration at this meeting and in prior consultation;

(b) notes the questions and petitions submitted to this meeting in relation to the proposed skate park;

(c) approves the selection of the site identified at Occupation Lane for the location of the skate park, and

(d) agrees to review the operation of the skate park in 18 months' time.

5.6 *Question regarding youth provision in Beighton*

Heather Rotherham, Methodist Church Circuit Administrator, submitted a question prior to the meeting about youth provision in the Beighton area. She stated that

Beighton Youth Club had been meeting at Beighton Methodist Church until recently, when there had been cuts in the provision. The Church was also providing a drop-in centre for teenagers twice a week but this too had temporarily ceased due to lack of youth leaders. It was noted that the main leader had moved away, and the Church had been unable to find a replacement as of yet. Ms. Rotherham asked whether there was any other youth provision elsewhere in Beighton and asked what the Community Assembly was doing to ensure that youth provision was increased, not decreased, in Beighton and the surrounding area. She added that Beighton Methodist Church was very happy to hire their premises out for youth provision but that it did not have the people to staff such provision at present. She added that there had been an increase in anti-social behaviour since the provision had ceased.

5.7 A reply was supplied from John Burke, Sheffield Futures, who stated that there were no longer the resources to run a two night a week youth provision in the Beighton Ward, adding that this had been taken out over two years ago because of the reduction in resources available to Sheffield Futures at the time. Sheffield Futures currently had one night's detached youth work in the Beighton Ward on a Monday night from 6.30 pm- 8.30 pm. Sheffield Futures also supported Activity Sheffield in delivering 'Friday 5's' which was a football project operated on Friday nights from 7.00 pm-9.30 pm in the area. It was also noted that Futures operated a two night open access youth club at Westfield School, which young people from the area were encouraged to access. However, he clarified that there were no plans in the near future to increase the provision in the Ward unless extra funding was secured.

5.8 **RESOLVED:** That the Community Assembly Manager be requested to (a) investigate the possibility of buying in resources from Sheffield Futures and (b) place an advertisement for youth worker volunteers in the next Assembly Newsletter.

5.9 Question regarding proposed changes to the Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB)

A member of the public asked a question about the proposed changes to the CAB at Mosborough and the involvement of Community Legal Advice Service for South Yorkshire (CLASSY) in the restructuring of CAB offices.

5.10 **RESOLVED:** That the Assembly expresses its support for the proposed changes to the CAB at Mosborough, and requests that a formal reply on behalf of the Assembly to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Inclusion be submitted by the Assembly Manager.

6. **STREETS AHEAD PROJECT**

6.1 Dave Taylor, Amey Steward for the Streets Ahead Highways Private Finance Initiative (PFI) project for the South East area, introduced himself to the Assembly and explained that the PFI project had commenced and would take place over the next 25 years. The first five years would be spent resurfacing all of Sheffield's roads and improving the street/ road furniture across the City, and the next 20

years would be for the maintenance of the City's road infrastructure.

6.2 Work would commence in 2013 on the A-roads in the area, including main commuter routes such as Birley Moor Road.

6.3 Mr. Taylor invited people to contact him regarding road issues in the local area, and he provided his contact details.

6.4 The Assembly noted the information now provided.

7. SKELTON LANE HIGHWAYS PETITION

7.1 Summary of Item

The Assembly received a report of the Head of Transport, Traffic and Parking Services, regarding the outcome from consultation upon a proposal to make Skelton Lane and Spa Lane in Woodhouse one-way streets.

It was noted that the South East Community Assembly had received complaints that cars parked on Skelton Lane and Spa Lane, Woodhouse, sometimes prevented drivers from passing one another, causing congestion and delays to bus services. (Bus services operated in one direction, clockwise, from Spa Lane into Skelton Lane).

In May 2011 the Assembly asked officers to investigate the feasibility of making either the full length of Skelton Lane and Spa Lane one-way only, or making a section of Skelton Lane one-way from Water Slacks Road to Tannery Street. The resultant report, presented to Assembly Members in September 2011, concluded that, whilst either arrangement would be feasible, there would be significant drawbacks, as follows:

- Either proposal would adversely affect the accessibility of all properties along Skelton Lane and Spa Lane;
- Visitors driving to Woodhouse Library and Woodhouse Health Centre would have to travel a considerable additional distance to reach the car park or to be able to park on Skelton Lane;
- Some drivers would be likely to travel at higher speeds knowing that no traffic would be coming from the opposite direction. (The feasibility report recommended that some form of measure to moderate speeds should be introduced alongside a one-way system); and
- The considerable cost of such a scheme would be disproportionate to the problem.

The feasibility report contained an alternative proposal which would maintain two-way traffic but prohibit drivers from parking at bus stops and around junction mouths, creating a series of passing places. This was rejected by the Assembly on the grounds that it would remove much needed parking opportunities.

7.2 **Decision Taken**

RESOLVED: That the South East Community Assembly;

(a) notes the outcome of the consultation and the contents of the report now submitted;

(b) requests a more detailed report to be brought back to the next meeting of the Assembly, in order to give further consideration to the creation of a one-way system on Skelton Lane and Spa Lane, in order for the Assembly to make a final decision at its next meeting, and

(c) agrees to ensure that the petitioners and those who provided contact details with their survey response are kept up to date with the actions of the Assembly on this matter.

7.3 **Reasons For The Decision**

The Assembly felt that, given the high level of support for the one-way system on Skelton Lane and Spa Lane, there should be further investigation into this possibility, taking into consideration the concerns raised about its potential impact.

7.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

Congestion could be eased by creating a series of passing places along Skelton Lane/Spa Lane as described in the feasibility report and shown in Appendix C. This suggestion has previously been rejected by the Assembly due to potential loss of much-needed parking spaces.

7.5 **Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted**

None declared

8. **PRESENTATION ON BECTON SCHOOL**

8.1 The Assembly received a presentation upon Becton School from Wendy Dudley (Headteacher) and David Caborn (Chair of Governors). It was noted that Becton School was a specialist facility for children with mental health problems and comprised four 'lodges' (Ruby, Sapphire, Emerald and Amber) which dealt with different areas of need. The facilities at the School were excellent, and the School had proved a real success so far in helping children and their families in dealing with mental health problems.

8.2 There was a warm and welcoming atmosphere at the School, and there were excellent gardens and grounds, as well as en-suite bedrooms, an IT suite, games room and lounges.

8.3 The School had received a level of 'good, with outstanding features' in its latest

Ofsted report, and it was also noted that children attended the School from all over the City, and there were some residential students.

8.4 A Christmas Fayre would be held at the School on Friday 7th December 2012, and everyone was invited to attend.

8.5 The Chair thanked Wendy Dudley and David Caborn for their report and all their hard work at the School. The Chair added that it was pleasing to have such an excellent City-wide facility located within the South East Community Assembly area.

9. WARD REPORT

9.1 Dave Luck, Assembly Manager, and Steve Edmonds from Beighton Villages Development Trust (BVDT) delivered a report upon the Beighton Ward.

9.2 Mr. Luck provided some statistics upon the Ward and its employment figures, and added that the Owlthorpe area had recently won a Gold Award for its Britain in Bloom efforts.

9.3 Mr. Edmonds then outlined the work of the BVDT, stating that the Trust had been founded in 2002, and had run smoothly until 2010, whereupon it had encountered funding issues, and, after a comprehensive review, it had been found that the Trust was not operating very efficiently.

9.4 A Finance Committee had then been established in July 2010, and several redundancies had been made across the Trust. Thanks to the findings of this review, and the work of the Committee, the Trust was now in a very healthy position financially, and was completely self-funding.

9.5 The Trust made a surplus of approximately £3,000 per month, and had recently set up a small grants scheme for local businesses and projects, in order to distribute this money to worthwhile projects. Mr. Edmonds encouraged local groups to apply for these funds (of up to £500 a time). The projects had to be based in Beighton or Sothall.

9.6 The Trust also ran free courses for adults and operated a Learning Champions project. It hired out rooms and provided support for local businesses. There was also a café operating daily at the Lifestyle Centre, from 10 am til 2 pm.

9.7 A member of the Limes Community Centre extended an invite for Mr. Edmonds and the Trust to get in touch with him, stating that it was disappointing that no one from BVDT had contacted Limes previously.

10. MANAGER'S REPORT

10.1 Dave Luck, Assembly Manager, delivered an update upon the recent activities of the South East Community Assembly. He reported that there would be a 'Youth Choose' event at the Beighton Welfare Recreation Ground on Friday 12th October 2012 at 7.00 pm and all were invited to attend.

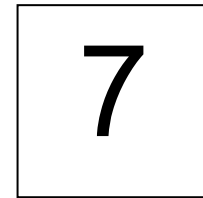
11. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 11.1 It was noted that future meetings of the Assembly would be held on 10th January 2013, 7.00 pm, at Birley Community College, Thornbridge Avenue (with a 'Meet the Cabinet' on this evening from 5.00 pm- 6.30 pm), and on 27th March 2013, 7.00 pm at a venue to be confirmed.

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SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL South East Community Assembly Report



Report of: South East Community Assembly Manager

Date: 10th January 2013

Subject: South East Large Highways Schemes

Author of Report: Dave Luck; david.luck@sheffield.gov.uk; 07917071132

Summary:

This report outlines the current position with the allocation of Large Highways Schemes funds for the South East Community Assembly

Reasons for Recommendations:

The Community Assembly's Highways budget needs to be allocated in the 2012-13 financial year. It is currently assessing the possibilities and merits of two schemes and thus needs to be delegate the final decision in order to meet funding deadlines.

Recommendations:

- The Assembly further assesses the potential for the following schemes
 - a) One way system at Skelton Lane, Woodhouse
 - b) Crossing improvements at junction of Springwater Avenue/ Birley Spa Lane, Hackenthorpe
 - The Assembly delegates the decision on which work to progress to the Community Assembly Manager in conjunction with the Community Assembly Chair and Highways Link officer following the provision of further information on both schemes to all South East Community Assembly Members
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Background Papers: NONE

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
YES: Cleared by Matthew Bullock
Legal Implications
YES: Cleared by Deborah Eaton
Equality of Opportunity Implications
YES: Cleared by Beth Barker
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
NO
Human rights Implications
NO
Environmental and Sustainability implications
NO
Economic impact
NO
Community safety implications
NO
Human resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
South East Community Assembly area of Sheffield
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
Safer and Stronger Communities
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
NO
Press release
NO

PROPOSAL TO MAKE SKELTON LANE AND SPA LANE, WOODHOUSE, ONE-WAY – CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report outlines the current position with the allocation of Large Highways Schemes funds for the South East Community Assembly

2.0 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE

- 2.1 If approved, the proposals recommended in this report would address some of the Highways issues raised by local people.

3.0 OUTCOME AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 3.1 The measures identified in this report would help to make the roads and pavements safer for pedestrians and vehicle drivers, one of the priorities in the South East Community Assembly Plan.
- 3.2 The measures would support the City Council's priorities, values and outcomes as set out in the Corporate Plan 'Standing Up For Sheffield', in particular *Supporting and protecting communities; Spend public money wisely;* and making the City *A Great Place to Live*.

4.0 MAIN BODY OF THE REPORT

- 4.1 The South East Community Assembly has a budget of £73,000 from Sheffield City Council Local Transport Plan Funds. This is made up of £40,000 funding for the 2012/13 financial year and £33,000 carry forward from the 2011/12 financial year.

Of this the following sums have been allocated:

- £20,000 for small schemes - £5000 per ward
- £12,000 for the operation of three sets of Speed Indicator Devices in Woodhouse, Beighton and Mosborough Wards

The remaining £41,000 is to be used for Large Highways Schemes

- 4.2 The Assembly has investigated the installation of a one way system along Skelton Lane and Spa Lane, Woodhouse to alleviate traffic congestion and dangers caused by vehicles meeting and having to reverse. This issue is made worse by the fact that it is a bus route.

Consultation with the local community has shown a majority in favour of this scheme. The overwhelming majority of people completing the questionnaire (87.1%) agree that congestion is a problem. 68.3% of respondents support the proposal to make Skelton Lane and Spa Lane one-way.

Costs from Amey indicate this scheme would cost approximately £30,000 based on £22,000 for physical works, £3000 for fees and £5000 commuted sum for future maintenance over the next 25 years.

4.3 Highways officers have outlined the following reservations about the proposal for a one way system:

- a) Objections from the Woodhouse Health Centre (delays for Doctors & Ambulances accessing & leaving the health centre, increased speeds and congestion while people try to park near the surgery) and the Police
- b) That a one way system would increase vehicle speed
- c) That a one way system would cause access difficulties for some residents and lead to significant detours
- d) Turning movements into and out of the area would be concentrated on fewer junctions, increasing the likelihood of queuing traffic on Tannery Street/Market Street as people attempt to enter the area, and on Skelton Lane as people attempt to leave
- e) More traffic would use Water Slacks Road
- f) People would park/reverse in Meetinghouse Lane for a quicker exit
- g) The proposals would not address the root causes of the congestion, the lack of off-street parking, particularly the acute problems on the Skelton Lane/Spa Lane approaches to Tannery Street/Market Street
- h) All highway schemes of this scale are subject to a four-stage independent Road Safety Audit process, which is likely to raise some of the concerns listed above and could propose such a scheme should not take place without traffic calming measures

4.4 Highways officers proposed an alternative scheme whereby congestion could be eased by creating a series of passing places along Skelton Lane/Spa Lane.

It is acknowledged that legitimate parking opportunities are at a premium in some areas and so it is suggested that restrictions be limited to locations where people should not be parking now, such as at bus stops, within 10m of junctions or across dropped crossings. A number of dropped crossings are currently marked with the non-regulatory 'Keep Clear' marking.

This alternative proposal would:

- Prohibit parking at places at which parked vehicles currently present a hazard to other drivers by restricting visibility and to pedestrians by

denying access to crossing places and making it difficult to board buses;

- Remove parking from the Skelton Lane/Spa Lane approaches to Tannery Street/Market Street making it easier for drivers to turn in and out of these junctions; and
- Provide locations at which drivers would have space to pull in and allow an opposing vehicle to pass.

In doing so it would go some way to relieving the congestion currently experienced, without the negative impacts of the one-way proposal identified in both the feasibility report and during the consultation process.

The police have indicated that they *“would be more likely to support”* such a proposal. The Council’s Civil Enforcement Officers would be responsible for enforcing the restrictions.

Street Force has provided a Budget Estimate of £12,300 for this work. A revised estimate has been requested from Amey.

- 4.5 Members have asked for further information about a second large highways scheme at the junction of Springwater Avenue and Birley Spa Lane, Hackenthorpe.

The scheme proposed a pedestrian refuge with an initial cost estimate of between £29,000 - £39,000. Local consultation on the scheme took place in December 2011.

Following safety concerns about the scheme raised by a road safety audit, Highways officers are developing alternative options. It is hoped that a scheme can be developed alongside the Optio bus scheme improvements along the 120 route.

5.0 Financial Implications

The introduction of either the one-way proposal or the alternative proposal would be met from the Assembly’s approved 2012/13 highways budget allocation (£40,000), any funding not yet committed from the 2011/12 highways allocation, and/or the Assembly’s discretionary budget.

6.0 Legal Implications

The Council has a statutory duty to promote road safety and to ensure that any measures it promotes and implements are reasonably safe for all users. In making decisions of this nature the Council must be satisfied that the measures are necessary to avoid danger to

pedestrians and other road users or for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs. Providing that the Council is so satisfied then it is acting lawfully and within its powers.

7.0 Equality Implications

An Equality Impact Assessment has been conducted and concludes that the proposed one-way system is likely to have negative equality impacts for certain groups. There would be an increased risk to vulnerable pedestrians and road users such as the young, the elderly, disabled people and their carers plus families with young children due to the likelihood that traffic will travel faster on a one-way road. There will be increased journey times for these groups if travelling by car to Woodhouse Health Centre. The alternative option, for waiting restrictions at junctions, crossing points and bus stops, would improve access for pedestrians and bus users by removing parked cars that currently cause obstructions to people seeking to cross the road and board buses and would therefore have positive implications for these groups. Both proposals are equality neutral for other protected characteristics such as race, religion, sexuality, etc.

8.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

This report outlines two different possible areas for work and within one area (Woodhouse) two different schemes.

Members are not pursuing information on any other large highways schemes at this time

9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Community Assembly's Highways budget needs to be allocated in the 2012-13 financial year. It is currently assessing the possibilities and merits of two schemes and thus needs to be delegate the final decision in order to meet funding deadlines.

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Assembly further assesses the potential for the following schemes
 - c) One way system at Skelton Lane, Woodhouse
 - d) Crossing improvements at junction of Springwater Avenue/ Birley Spa Lane, Hackenthorpe
- The Assembly delegates the decision on which work to progress to the Community Assembly Manager in conjunction with the Community Assembly Chair and Highways Link officer following the provision of further information on both schemes to all South East Community Assembly Members

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