

**LETCHWORTH COMMITTEE
8 MARCH 2017**

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

AGENDA ITEM No.

11

TITLE OF INFORMATION NOTE: LETCHWORTH PARKING REVIEW UPDATE

INFORMATION NOTE OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF PLANNING,
HOUSING AND ENTERPRISE

1. SUMMARY

1.1 To update Members on the Letchworth Area Parking Review.

2. STEPS TO DATE

2.1 This Information note is to update members regarding progress on the Letchworth Area wide parking review.

2.2 Letchworth Area Committee agreed the schemes to be taken forward as part of the review back in July 2013 and March 2014. The last full update report was presented to the Committee in June 2015 with subsequent updates through the Community Development Officer's report.

2.3 Following further investigation and various pre-consultation exercises it was agreed at subsequent reports to the Letchworth Committee (See listed in background papers) and in meetings with the Executive Member for Policy, Transport and Governance and relevant County Councillors that the schemes be split between:

- Herts County Council on safety matters, which have been allocated funding from the various County Councillor Locality budgets.
- NHDC in reviewing various parking and associated restriction of waiting schemes.

2.4 The agreed list of schemes and progress report is outlined in Table 1 attached at Appendix A.

2.5 One of the schemes to be included as part of the review was to investigate the introduction of parking restrictions at Norton Common. The car parks were frequently used by commuters and local businesses, restricting the availability of parking for those people wishing to use the facilities at Norton Common, in particular the outdoor swimming pool and bowling clubs during the summer months. Following extensive pre-consultation with various stakeholders and local members, it was agreed to proceed with the implementation of parking restrictions which came into force on 1 June 2016.

3. INFORMATION TO NOTE

- 3.1 Further to item 2.4 above, officers aim to progress the following schemes over the next 6 months:
- i. Implementation of Norton Way South (Table 1: Scheme Ref 2) – to come into force from 3rd April 2017
 - ii. Reviewing the Nevells Road, The Quadrant, Icknield Way East and the Lay-bys at Norton Way South/Station Road Junction as one scheme and undertaking further pre-consultation following the implementation of the Parking Restrictions at Norton Common. (Table 1 Schemes Ref 5, 6 & 7)
 - iii. Progressing with drafting a Traffic Regulation Order for the Bedford Road/Cowslip Hill scheme following outcomes from the various pre-consultation exercises. (Table 1: Scheme Ref 4).
 - iv. Monitoring the impact of the Norton Common parking restrictions in terms of usage and also on surrounding streets. This is linked to reviewing the Nevells Road area as mention in (ii) above.
- 3.2 Progress on the review has been unfortunately delayed due to long term absence of key staff, the Principal Transport Policy Officer and the Strategic Planning & Projects Manager being involved in the preparation of the Local Plan and also having to complete other outstanding parking schemes as part of the Hitchin review. Members are also advised that the Principal Transport Policy Officer will be leaving NHDC at the end of March. Measures are being put in place to ensure that the review is completed and available resources are put in place.

4. NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 As mentioned in para 3.2 above, discussions are in place with the Executive Member for Policy, Transport and Green Issues to ensure that suitable resources are allocated to complete the review.
- 4.2 A further update report will be presented to the Letchworth Committee towards the end of the year.

5. APPENDICES

- 5.1 Appendix A – Table 1: Letchworth Area Parking Review Update List of Potential Schemes

6. CONTACT OFFICERS

- 6.1 Naima Ihsan, Principal Transport Policy Officer.
Telephone 01462 474425 E-mail: naima.ihsan@north-herts.gov.uk
- 6.2 Louise Symes, Strategic Planning & Planning Projects Manager.
Telephone 01462 474359. E-mail: louise.symes@north-herts.gov.uk
- 6.3 Ian Fullstone, Head of Planning & Building Control
Telephone 01462 474480. E-mail: ian.fullstone@north-herts.gov.uk

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Letchworth Parking Review Report – Presented to Letchworth Area Committee on 17 July 2013
- 7.2 Letchworth Parking Review Update – Presented to Letchworth Area Committee on 12 March 2014
- 7.3 Letchworth Parking Review Update – Presented to Letchworth Area Committee on 10 June 2015.