

Minute of Meeting Petitions Board

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 07 June 2021	14:00	Teams Meeting,

Present: Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor, Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Scott Kerr, Councillor Andy Steel

Chair

Councillor Adam-McGregor, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance; M Higginbotham, Transportation & Development Manager (Environment & Infrastructure); and E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer and P Shiach, Senior Committee Services Officer (both Finance & Resources).

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Campbell declared a non-financial interest in item 1 of the agenda in that she was employed by the local MP Gavin Newlands, who had been involved in the Petition. Councillor Campbell indicated that as she had not been directly involved in the case she would remain in the meeting and take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Convener intimated that this meeting of the Policy Board would be recorded and that the recording would be available to view on the Council's website.

1 **Petition: Traffic Calming Measures - Oxford Road, Renfrew**

There was submitted a petition from Mr Alastair MacLennan in the following terms: -

“Petition Statement

The purpose of this statement is to bring to your attention the speeding traffic in Oxford Road. There are now young children living in Oxford Road, as well as visiting grandchildren, and our concern is that one day there will be an accident in the road that will result in a fatality or at the very least a severe injury to one of the Oxford Road residents. There is a sign at one end of Oxford Road as well as the other end, suggesting that twenty is plenty, to which no one pays the slightest heed. I have no means of measuring the speed of some of the cars and vans, however I would suggest that they are travelling at more than the speed limit of 30mph, let alone the suggested speed of 20mph. There has been in the past, two accidents at the junction of Oxford Road and Cambridge Road that I'm aware of, when thankfully it was only cars that were involved, as well as cars coming off Paisley Road into Oxford Road.

Ever since the introduction of traffic lights at the junction of Oxford Road and Paisley Road, we regularly observe cars and vans increase their speed, in order to make sure they catch the lights, and in quite a few cases, pay no attention to the red light, as there are no traffic officers available to police the junction. Also recently, we now observe school buses using the road as a shortcut, and along with the use of the road by HGV trucks, we feel some of the houses vibrating, make us ask the question, is the road sufficiently strong to accept the weight of those vehicles. We fully understand that refuse vehicles and the like, require to use the road in the nature of their business, but not as a shortcut. That coupled with cars parked on both sides of the road, it doesn't leave a lot of space in the middle of the road for the larger vehicles passing each other, as well as the cars.

Action taken prior to resolve the issues.

The action taken prior to the submission of this petition has been, to engage with our local councillors in the past, the Police, our MSP and the Local MP, and it's as a result of the last contact with our MP, Mr Gavin Newlands, that we are taking this action. On one occasion, when we had the police at the door discussing the problem, a car went by, well over the speed limit, and it was noted by the Police officers.

What we are suggesting.

Is that traffic calming be installed to reduce the excessive speeding, and hopefully deter the road being used as a shortcut by larger vehicles and HGV vehicles”.

The report intimated that the Transportation & Development Manager advised that the Council was working on a policy that would outline the criteria for all Traffic Calming requests. The criteria first examined current speeds, accident rates and the traffic volume, from the information gathered would determine if the location justified a more detailed assessment. If a further assessment was required and carried out, this would allow officers to prioritise areas most in need and rank in order of priority.

If funding became available, work would begin on a prioritised list.

The report also advised that for this reason, it would assist to have a speed survey, traffic volumes recorded and look at the accident statistics on Oxford Road. The results of these surveys would identify if further action was required.

The report indicated that currently the 20mph twenty's plenty signs at either end of Oxford Road were advisory only and therefore could not be enforced. It was intended to begin a rolling programme to change these signs throughout Renfrewshire to mandatory 20mph

The Board heard from the Petitioner and his supporter Mr Malcolm Robbie in support of the Petition.

Councillor Adam-McGregor, seconded by Councillor Hughes, moved that following the undertaking of a sample speed survey a report would be brought to a future meeting of the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board for consideration. This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That following the undertaking of a sample speed survey a report be brought to a future meeting of the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board for consideration.