

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee North Warwickshire Area Committee

Date of Committee 23rd May 2007

Report Title 2007-8 Capital Programme for Transport - Delegated Budget

Summary At the Area Committee meeting on 21st March 2007, Members agreed to defer the decision regarding allocation of the delegated budget to schemes on Rectory Road, Arley, Merevale Road, Atherstone and Boot Hill, Grendon, until contact had been made with the relevant Town/Parish Councils to seek a financial contribution towards each scheme. Those bodies have all been contacted and additional information regarding these schemes can now be presented to the Area Committee.

For further information please contact Chris Burrows
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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? Yes/No

Background Papers None.

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- *Details to be specified*

Other Committees North Warwickshire Area Committee – 21st March 2007

Local Member(s) Councillor C Hayfield
(With brief comments, if appropriate) Councillor R Sweet
Councillor Mrs A Forwood
Councillor P Fowler
Councillor B Moss

Other Elected Members

Cabinet Member Councillor M Heatley – for information.
(Reports to The Cabinet, to be cleared with appropriate Cabinet Member)

- Chief Executive
- Legal I Marriott – agreed.
- Finance C Holden – agreed.
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION **YES/NO** (*If 'No' complete Suggested Next Steps*)

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

North Warwickshire Area Committee - 23rd May 2007

2007-8 Capital Programme for Transport - Delegated Budget

**Report of the Strategic Director for
Environment and Economy**

Recommendation

That Area Committee approves the addition of the three schemes on Rectory Road, Arley, Merevale Road, Atherstone and Boot Hill, Grendon to the 2007-8 Capital Programme for Transport, to be funded from the Area Committee's delegated budget of £40,000.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Transport Capital Programme for North Warwickshire was supported by Area Committee on 21st March 2007. £40,000 was delegated to North Warwickshire Area Committee to allocate to transport projects to address local priorities.
- 1.2 At the Area Committee meeting on 21st March 2007, Members agreed to defer the decision regarding allocation of the delegated budget to schemes on Rectory Road, Arley, Merevale Road, Atherstone and Boot Hill, Grendon, until contact had been made with the relevant Town/Parish Councils to seek a financial contribution towards each scheme. Those bodies have all been contacted and additional information regarding these schemes can now be presented to the Area Committee.

2. Widening of the Footway on Rectory Road, Arley

- 2.1 A request has been made by Arley Parish Council and Councillor Hayfield for a footway widening scheme to improve pedestrian provision and safety on Rectory Road, Arley. The proposal is to widen the footway from 0.75m to 1.8 metres, which will enable those with a mobility impairment to access the Church Hall without having to compromise their personal safety by going out into the road. The Church Hall is a focus point for the community and has many activities going on throughout the week. The estimated cost of the scheme is £16,000. It should be noted that this scheme was requested in 2006-7, and was considered at the Area Transport Capital Seminar along with three other schemes for possible implementation in 2007-8.

- 2.2 A meeting was held on 15th March 2007 with representatives from the Church, Arley Parish Council, Councillor Hayfield and Councillor Sweet to discuss the widening of the footway on Rectory Road. At the meeting the Church were told that before any widening could take place, they would need to formally agree a land dedication with the County Council. When the scheme was implemented the County Council would then adopt that land as a footway.
- 2.3 Arley Parish Council has subsequently agreed to contribute £3,000 towards the cost of the footway widening scheme.
- 2.4 At the meeting on 15th March 2007 the Church agreed in principle that they would dedicate the land to enable the County Council to widen the footway. If the scheme is chosen by Members for implementation, then the County Council will pursue a legal agreement to obtain a 1.5 metre strip of land from the Church to implement the footway widening scheme.

3. Additional Street Lighting on Merevale Road, Atherstone

- 3.1 A request has been made by Atherstone Town Council and Councillor Mrs Forwood for additional street lighting to improve pedestrian safety on Merevale Road, Atherstone. The proposal is to erect columns either side of the railway bridge, together with lamps underneath the railway bridge itself. The estimated cost of the scheme is £15,000, which includes the costs associated with changing the speed limit in the area from 40 mph to 30 mph. It should be noted that this scheme was requested in 2006-7, and was considered at the Area Transport Capital Seminar along with three other schemes, for possible implementation in 2007/8.
- 3.2 It is clear that consultation with local residents will be needed on the western side of the railway bridge before the erection of any additional lamp columns. If objections are raised then the exact location of the lamp columns may need to be reconsidered. This consultation will need to be completed prior to a further report being brought before the Area Committee in July 2007.
- 3.3 At a meeting of Atherstone Town Council Policy Committee on 28th March 2007, a contribution of £7,000 towards the scheme was agreed in the spirit of partnership working with the County Council.
- 3.4 The eastern side of the railway bridge on Merevale Road is in a conservation area, and Town Councillors have asked if three of the proposed additional lamp columns could be of a style that matched the surrounding environment. It was suggested a type of antique column and lantern were used, as this route is often used by tourists accessing the nearby canal. Using such a design of lamp column will increase the cost of the scheme by £1,500, bringing the total cost of the scheme to around £16,500.

4. Provision of a Zebra Crossing on Boot Hill, Grendon

- 4.1 A request has been made by Councillor Sweet, Mike O'Brien MP and a local resident for the provision of a zebra crossing on Boot Hill, Grendon. The road is crossed by a variety of people, including children using the nearby playground

and elderly/mobility impaired people from a nearby residents home. Although there is a 30 mph speed limit along this section of road, people appear to have difficulty crossing at this location. This is probably due to the close proximity of the A5 trunk road and vehicles entering Boot Hill from this road.

- 4.2 The estimated cost of the scheme is £12,000. The County Council has received a reply to a letter asking for a contribution from Baddesley Parish Council. The precept for 2007/8 was set at their meeting in January 2007, and it appears that the funds of the Parish Council are fully committed for the coming year. In view of this the Parish Council has decided that it is unable to contribute to the Zebra crossing at this point in time.

5. New Footway Wood End to Kingsbury Link

- 5.1 Following the Transport Capital Seminar on 21st February 2007, a further detailed assessment has been carried out and it was found the Edge Hill, Wood End footway scheme is now too expensive to consider due to the need for additional construction works to the verge, replacement of non-standard kerbing, traffic management requirements during construction, and increased labour costs which have risen by 10% per annum since the scheme was first costed in 2005. The estimated cost of the scheme is now £50,000, and hence falls outside of the scope of funding from the Delegated Transport budget. Notwithstanding, Councillor Moss advised Area Committee on 21st March 2007 that Kingsbury Parish Council would have agreed to contribute £5,000 towards the cost of the scheme if it had gone ahead.
- 5.2 The Area Committee may wish to consider other sources of funding to deliver this scheme.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1 Following the recent discussions which have been held with the appropriate Town/Parish Councils, it is proposed that the following schemes be funded from Area Committee's delegated budget of £40,000 from the 2007-8 Capital Programme for Transport:

Scheme	Total Estimated Cost	Contribution from the County Council	Contribution from Third Party	Notes
Rectory Road, Arley	£16,000	£13,000	£3,000	Contribution from Arley Parish Council
Merevale Road, Atherstone	£16,500	£9,500	£7,000	Contribution from Atherstone Town Council
Boot Hill, Grendon	£12,000	£12,000	£0,000	
Total	£44,500	£34,500	£10,000	

- 6.2 The remaining £5,500 in the delegated budget which is currently unallocated can be used for other schemes identified during this financial year (2007/8). A further report will be brought before the Area Committee on this matter in due course.

JOHN DEEGAN
Strategic Director for Environment and Economy
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Warwick

1st May 2007