

Eden Locality Board 22.1.25

1. Election of chair: Lorna Baker (LB, LD) elected.

2. Public Participation:

John Parkinson (JP, Owner of Upfront Gallery): We have been there (Hutton-in-the-Forest) since 2002. We are about to open the first UK puppet museum. We applied for funding for a lift and offered to provide a puppet workshop for the Winter Droving weekend. We received a one-off grant from Eden District Council when that council was ending. Since WAFC started two years ago, we have been left out in the cold.

LB: We will send a written response.

JP: Blue Jam Arts are also not happy (about funding). Where is the report on the arts (a report on the Arts in Eden written by "We are Team". Also a report on Penrith Town Hall as an Arts Centre).

P Bell (PB, LD): This was discussed yesterday in Cabinet and I will follow it up.

3. Minutes of Previous ELB Meeting.

Hanley (MH, L): Pointed that two of his contributions were not minuted ((a) Query about solar panels for High Mill, Alston, (b) need for Waste Services to publicise the fact that local waste plastic is recycled in Carlisle).

J Greenbank (JG, Democratic Services Officer): I will add these.

H Carrick (HC, C): The resolutions were not all included.

4. 20 MPH Speed Limit.

Steph Davis-Johnston (SDJ, Road Safety Team Leader): Discussed the 20 MPH Speed Limit consultation. There was a clear level of support for the proposals. However, a significant proportion of Melmerby were not in favour of the changes. Amendments were requested at several sites and granted.

A Waite (AW, LD): These 20 MPH schemes are very important for road safety. There is a lot of support for this scheme in Kirkby Stephen. Asked about the effect of traffic congestion on some of the roads in Kirkby Stephen (KS).

L McClellan (LMcC, Highways Officer): Discussed possible bypass of KS.

J Murray (JM, LD): This is all extra work for this team.

LB: Suggested that the scheme might be extended if this is requested to the Portfolio Holder for Highways.

M Robinson (MR, I): Discussed the situation in Melmerby. Melmerby Parish Council (MPC) did an initial public consultation which was in favour,

SDJ: MPC did do an initial consultation (which was pro-20MPH). Then we did a public consultation, we had a public meeting and the response was very mixed. The public (narrowly) voted against it. The policy hinges on it being supported by the local community.

5. Eden Parking Protocol

LMcC: The object is to decide who is entitled to residential parking in each area. There is very limited on-street parking. Due to the influx of tourists, Glenridding is wanting to go down the route of disc zones.

LB: You are setting up parking principles. There will be a maximum of two permits per property. We will consult with the parish councils.

HC: There are no disc zones in my area and if they come, this will cause consternation.

S Castle-Clarke (SCC, Ousby PC): HC has a good point in that sending out blanket consultation forms to all town/parish councils in Eden would lead to avoidable misunderstandings about residential parking requirements in places where they are not actually necessary.

LB: Would you be able to go to the parish councils to discuss this?

LMcC: Yes. If members would let me know if any villages are interested in the scheme.

N Wright (NW, Senior Manager, Safe and Strong Communities): Do you want to have a deadline for members to get back to you?

LMcC: Yes.

6. Highways Devolved Budgets

J Banks (JB, Highways Officer, Eden): The Highways budget for Eden is £654k. The money is there for basic routine maintenance. I was forecasting a £14k overspend but this has come down to a £3k overspend. We have overspent on road lighting and gulley cleaning. This is a major problem. One machine (gulley cleaning machine) doesn't cover it and we have a second machine since last week.

It has been contracted for four weeks but we might be able to have it for 8.

LB: Commented on footways (footpaths). If any of our elderly fall, it can be life changing.

JB: This budget is for the HIAMS team, to repair potholes but not to reconstruct a footpath. This is not something a two-man team can do.

HC: When you look at the size of the budget, I was amazed at how much is done.

AW: I am pleased we have a second gulley cleaner.

JM: I think we are well served. In some other areas (outside Westmorland and Furness) the roads are a lot worse.

7. Community Budget

NW: Discussed spending.

AW: Commented that the majority of the money is still to be spent.

NW: Yes, we are confident we will spend this.

JM: Discussed £6k allocated to PAGs and the need to allocate this before April 2025.

MR: Do we know the geographical spread of the money? Discussed hidden rural poverty and the importance of the Food Bank.