

PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
25 JUNE 1998

Present: Councillor Mrs Ballin (Chairman), Councillors Adams, Bayle, Doyle, Finnie, Flood, Grayson, Jones, Mrs Pile, Ryan, Sargeant, Simonds, Veakins, Wade and Worrall

Also Present: Councillors Angell, Bettison, Birch, Good, Harrison, McCormack and North

Substitute Members

In accordance with Standing Order No. 38, Councillor Mrs Clifford attended the meeting as substitute for Councillor Onions.

108. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3 March 1998 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

109. Urgent Items of Business under Standing Order No. 7

The Committee received and noted the urgent items of business under Standing Order 7 as follows:

Modernising Planning, Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions Consultation Paper

110. Minutes of Sub and Advisory Committees

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings of the Highways Sub Committee held on 2 March 1998 and 11 June 1998 (Appendices A and B attached), and the minutes of the Planning Control Sub Committee held on 9 March, 6 April, 7 May and 4 June 1998 (Appendices C, D, E and F attached) be noted and received.

111. Concessionary Fares Scheme (Item 5)

The Committee received a detailed report regarding the comprehensive review of the concessionary fares scheme which had been undertaken by Babbie, Public Services Division. The report summarised the results and outlined a wide range of possible changes to the operation of the scheme which would reduce overall costs, whilst retaining access to free and/or reduced rate travel for elderly and disabled people.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the Council's concessionary fares scheme be amended as follows with effect from 1 October 1998.

- (a) Free bus travel passes be available at a charge of £20.80 to all persons who are:
- registered blind or partially sighted; or
 - registered physically disabled; or
 - able to produce a Doctor's Certificate stating that they are unable to work for at least six months by reason of temporary disablement; or
 - suffering from mental handicap or severe mental handicap; or
 - have been refused a driving licence or have had such a licence revoked, on medical grounds under Section 87 of the Road Traffic Act; or
 - without the use of both arms; or
 - a specified travelling companion of eligible persons.
- (b) Half fare bus travel passes be available at an annual charge of £12 to:
- all persons aged 65 and over;
 - individuals aged between 60 and 65 who hold bus travel passes at 25 June 1998 and continue to hold them at all subsequent renewal dates.
- (c) A concession of £15.90 be available to all persons aged 65 and over to purchase Senior Citizens' Rail Cards.
- (d) A concession of £11.90 be available to persons identified in (i)(a) above to purchase Disabled Rail Cards.
- (ii) the free and half fare passes specified in (i)(a) and (i)(b) be available for the period 1 October 1998 to 31 March 1999 at charges of £10.40 and £6 respectively.
- (iii) a detailed investigation be undertaken with a view to introducing a replacement "smartcard" scheme in 1999/2000.
- (iv) the management and administration of the concessionary fares scheme be transferred from the Corporate Services Department to the Planning and Transportation Department and that the budget allocations be adjusted accordingly.
- (v) provision of £5,000 be made to fund individuals travelling to Wexham Park Hospital by community transport on a pilot basis for six months.

Following the vote on the above motion, in accordance with Standing Order 47, a Committee Member requested that it be referred to full Council for consideration. Upon a vote being taken over one quarter of the Members of the Committee present and voting at the meeting required the decision to be submitted to Council as a recommendation.

112. SERPLAN - A Sustainable Development Strategy for the South East Public Consultation (Item 1)

The Committee considered a report outlining the key features of the sustainable development strategy for the South East, and suggested comments proposed to be forwarded to SERPLAN as part of the public consultation exercise.

RESOLVED that

- (i) SERPLAN be informed of the comments set out in the report;
- (ii) a two party consultation group be set up to consider and submit representations; and
- (ii) the representations authorised at (i) and (ii) of the resolution form the basis of the Borough's case at the public conference into the strategy.

113. Bracknell Forest Local Plan - Further Additional Changes to Proposal PH1.3 - Joint Services Command and Staff College (Item 2)

In accordance with Standing Order 25, Councillor Simonds declared a pecuniary interest in the issue and left the Council Chamber for the duration of the consideration of the item.

The Director of Planning & Transportation introduced a report giving details of proposed changes to the Bracknell Forest Borough Local Plan relating to the Joint Services Command and Staff College in light of the proposal to secure the land and undertake preparatory work for the conversion of the land to public open space and other appropriate recreational use.

RESOLVED that

- (i) landowners, and objectors and supporters of the proposal, be notified of the further additional changes as set out in Annexe A and Annexe B of the report;
- (ii) the procedure for public notification of the further additional changes as detailed at section 5 of the report be approved;
- (iii) the further additional changes to the BFBLP be approved for development control purposes.

114. Listed Buildings Guidance (Item 3)

The Committee considered a report giving details of new guidance that had been prepared giving information to owners and prospective purchasers about the implications of owning a listed building.

RESOLVED that "Listed Buildings - An Owner's Guide" be approved as Planning Guidance.

115. Town & Country Planning Summer School - York University: 5 - 9 September 1998 (Item 4)

The Borough Planning Officer introduced a report giving details of the Town & Country Planning Summer School to be held at York during September 1998.

RESOLVED that up to two spaces be reserved on the Town & Country Planning Summer School at York and nominations be invited to fill them.

116. Railtrack Network Management Statement 1998 (Item 6)

The Committee considered a report giving details of the publication of Railtrack's Network Management Statement and considered the need for an indication of apportionment of the expenditure to be applied to Route 23 i.e. the Southern Zone Clapham Junction to Reading, which includes the two railway lines serving the Borough.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Railtrack be asked to clarify the allocation of spending to stations on the Reading route and that
- (ii) Railtrack be asked to recognise the deficiencies in service provision at Bracknell, Crowthorne and Sandhurst stations and be invited to indicate what proposals they have for their remedy.

117. Transport Policies and Programming (TPP) - The Council's Submission for 1999/2000 (Item 7)

The Committee received a report giving details of the process by which Highway Authorities submit a document to the Government describing their Transport Policies and Programme (TPP) each year. In order to make a bid for Government funding, the Council would be about to make its first independent TPP submission as a unitary authority and the Committee considered the submission draft.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the support of the Access Advisory Committee be noted;
- (ii) the draft TPP submission for 1999/2000 be approved;
- (iii) organisations who responded to the consultation be thanked for their contribution; and
- (iv) the proposed arrangements for sale and distribution of copies of the TPP document be approved.

118. Request for Highway Service - New Procedure (Item 8)

The Committee considered a report giving details of the new procedure for dealing with requests for Highway Service which would now be dealt with by the Borough Council as the Highway Authority.

RESOLVED that the Committee endorses the new procedures.

119. **Waste Local Plan - Inspector's Report 1996 (Item 9)**

The Committee received a report giving details of the general contents of the Inspector's report on the Waste Local Plan under the implications for specific areas within the Borough.

RESOLVED that the Joint Strategic Planning Committee be informed of the comments set out in the Officer's report.

120. **Items for Information**

The following items were submitted for information:

Revenue Outturn 1997/98	(Item 10)
Bracknell Forest Borough Local Plan - Progress Report	(Item 11)
Planning for the Communities of the Future (DETR)	(Item 12)
Planning & Affordable Housing (DETR) Circular 06/98	(Item 13)
Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997 - Response to Government on Draft Guidelines	(Item 14)

121. **Exclusion of Public and Press**

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of Item 15 which involves the likely disclosure of exempt information under the following category of Schedule 12A of that Act:

(9) Terms proposed in the course of negotiations for a contract	(Item 15)
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122. **Babtie Contract (Item 15)**

In a report containing exempt information the Committee considered information relating to details of the contract with Babtie Public Services.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

The meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.
and concluded at 9.50 p.m.

CHAIRMAN