

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PLACES** held at County Hall, Matlock on 13 September 2018.

**P R E S E N T**

Councillor S Bull (in the Chair)

Councillors K S Athwal, E Atkins, D Charles, L Grooby, J Innes, T Kemp and P Makin.

Also in attendance were Councillor S Spencer, J Biddlestone and L Partington.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor H Elliott

**24/18** **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 18 July 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**25/18** **DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE – COUNCILLOR SIMON SPENCER** Councillor Spencer attended the meeting to provide an update on issues within his portfolio and highlight some of the work undertaken.

Councillor Spencer announced that on 20 September 2018, Cabinet would consider a report not to carry out a full review of the School Crossing Patrol Service. Following feedback during discussions with schools and parish councils, it was decided that as this was a much valued service across the County, the service would remain as it was. Therefore, officers would look at finding the planned savings of £300,000 from elsewhere in the Department.

The Committee were informed that between January and September 2018, over 53,000 potholes had been repaired. Councillor Spencer explained that extra teams had been carrying out the works and hotboxes had been used to mix materials on site for effective and speedier repairs.

Councillor Spencer reported on a recent pilot scheme where staff had been wearing body cameras at County Council Recycling Centres to reduce aggressive behaviour and protect employees. This initiative had proved successful and would be rolled out to other recycling centres.

Members were updated on the progress with installing LED bulbs in street lights throughout the County; a new report on Highways Network Hierarchy and the Department's arrangements for winter and gritting.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked Councillor Spencer for his attendance at the meeting and his most informative presentation.

**26/18      NETWORK PLANNING PROCESSES** James Biddlestone, Head of Network Planning provided the Committee with a presentation on Network Planning Processes. Members were informed how works were co-ordinated on the highway and referred to the page on the Council's website which provided a location plan and full details of current and planned roadworks.

The presentation highlighted legislation and limitations; DCC's Permit Scheme; inspection and monitoring; major infrastructure and major works list.

Members found the information contained within the major works list extremely useful and James Biddlestone would circulate the list, which provided details of dates, highways and the work to be undertaken in each district, with Members.

On behalf of the Committee the Chairman thanked James Biddlestone for his extremely helpful presentation.

**27/18      DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REVIEW OF EMERGENCY PLANNING** Following the Review of Emergency Planning – Final Report, which had been approved by Cabinet on 26 April 2018, Liz Partington, the Emergency Planning Manager attended the meeting to provide a response to the recommendations that were contained in the review. In particular Liz updated the Committee on the continued work undertaken in recruiting the Derbyshire Emergency Volunteers and the training that was being provided.

The Chairman thanked Liz Partington for her update.

**28/18      WORK PROGRAMME 2018-19** Members were requested to give some consideration to the work programme for 2018-19 and areas that they wished to review.