

Report by the Chairman of the Greater Cambridge City Deal Joint Assembly on the meeting held on 15 July 2015

Item 6 Chisholm Trail links

The prospect of this scheme being realised was widely welcomed by members of the Assembly. There was general agreement with Jim Chisholm who made a statement to us, that it represented a major boost to modal shift from cars to bicycles by providing a continuous, long distance, mainly dedicated route, offering safety and convenience in an attractive environment, thereby mitigating road congestion. It had the potential to play directly into the needs of cross-city commuters and would also encourage recreational cycling and enjoyment of open spaces.

We received a representation from Cambridge Past Present and Future which owns the Grade 1 listed Leper Chapel beside Newmarket Road. Members recognised that the Chisholm Trail's impact on the chapel and its setting was a critical factor to be addressed as the scheme is further developed. It was felt that provided the right alignment and treatment could be agreed, there was a mutually beneficial opportunity for improved public awareness and appreciation of the chapel. We were assured by officers that specialist advice was available both to the transport planners and Cambridge PPF, but that it would be supplemented if necessary; and that they would be continuing to work closely with Cambridge PPF. **We would urge the Board to endorse these points along with their decision. (A)**

In relation to the Leper Chapel, just as with other potential issues that might arise with other parts of the trail, the Assembly was assured by officers that although there is a clearly proposed route for the scheme, variations could be envisaged and information about them would be supplied to the public. Assembly members were keen for the future process to be an open one. **We would urge the Board to support this. (B)**

In the light of the above, the Assembly felt that the recommendations suggested to it by officers were not clear enough. It would not be appropriate to approve the route at this stage; but it would be appropriate to approve it to go forward to consultation. It therefore amended it and unanimously agreed to recommend that the Board: **(C)**

- (a) Approves the proposed route option for the Chisholm Trail *for the purposes of consultation.***
- (b) Gives approval to proceed to consultation on the route in the Autumn 2015.**

Item 7 Cross-city cycle improvements

The Assembly welcomed this report and the approach it took to complement cycling provision that was expected through other projects within an overall citywide programme. A number of members spoke about the way the connecting up of isolated examples of good cycling infrastructure would multiply the benefit from past and future investment.

The Assembly therefore unanimously agreed to recommend that the Board: **(D)**

- (a) Approves the choice of the proposed priority strategic cross-city cycle schemes as set out in the report.**
- (b) Approves the public consultation on the schemes as set out in the report.**
- (c) Agrees to receive a report on the consultation results of each scheme and endorse the findings.**

Item 8 Smarter Cambridgeshire work stream

The Assembly welcomed this report and voted unanimously to recommend that the Board: **(E)**

Approves the establishment of a Smarter Cambridgeshire work stream for Greater Cambridge, as outlined in Appendices A and B of the report, to be overseen within the City Deal governance arrangements.

Item 7 Greater Cambridge City Deal Work Programme and Schedule of Meetings

The Assembly noted the work programme and agreed to cancel its meeting scheduled for 25 August 2015.