Waddington Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Carol Baird

4 Park Avenue

Off Waddington Road

Clitheroe

Lancashire BB7 2HW

Tel: 07581187615

Email: clerk@waddingtonvillage.co.uk
Website email: info@waddingtonvillage.co.uk

United Utilities/Waddington Parish Council - Minutes of Meeting - 19/11/20

This meeting took place on Microsoft Teams at 7.30pm. Chris Tighe hosted the meeting on behalf of UU/WPC.

AMENDMENT TO THESE MINUTES: At the time of writing these minutes United Utilities requested that they remained strictly confidential with circulation to WPC Cllrs only. This was due to the sensitive nature of the minutes and that UU were in consultation with farmers/landowners at the time. Since this meeting UU have released the information into the public domain and so WPC feel this information can also now be shared more widely.

1.Attendance

Present:

United Utilities: Chris Tighe – Project Co-ordinator, Tom Rimmer – Environmental Planner, Owen Newton – Principal Civil Engineer

Waddington Parish Councillors: Liz Haworth, Doug Parker, Darren Taylor, Roy Edmondson, Gil Fisher,

Apologies: Roy Hampson In attendance: Carol Baird (Clerk to the Parish Council)

2. Purpose of meeting

The purpose of the meeting was for UU to give an update to WPC about HARP. Chris Tighe and the UU team presented some slides to the meeting.

3. Development of traffic management proposals – Owen Newton

- 3.1 There has been a real life trial of the route suggested in John Haslewood's slides. There have also been site visits by the principal Landscape Architect and senior Arboriculturist.
- 3.2 UU are in consultations with Castle Cement to use a Park and Ride system from the Clitheroe site. The larger abnormal loads could also be held there so they could do the route at more appropriate times.
- 3.3 Consultations have also taken place with RVBC, LCC, Highways, Natural England, the Local Lancashire Flood Authority and several other bodies.
- 3.4 Progress has been made on the planning application process with the pre-planning application progressing well.
- 3.5 Landowners are being consulted to look at corridors of land which would be beneficial to be used. Maps were shown to give ideas on how the River Ribble could be crossed, and how Waddington and West Bradford may be by-passed. The slides were not for onward circulation as UU are only at the start of the consultation process with landowners. The by-pass is just an idea at the moment and has to go through many more stages eg feasibility studies etc.
- 3.6 A potential Ribble Crossing has many constraints and considerations including a temporary access from the current highway, ecology, public rights of way, watercourse crossing, residential properties, private farmland, timescales, affordability, safety and security, landscape as the routes would be in close proximity of ancient woodland, and visual impact as it is an AONB.
- 3.7 Questions by WPC Cllrs and Answers from United Utilities:
- DT asked about if the green route on the map shown would go through the centre of Waddington? UU Yes it would go through the centre of Waddington.

GF asked if the bypass routes would be put back to how they were after the six years of use? UU Yes the roads would be replaced back to how they were including the landscaping.

DT asked if there could be feedback on the drive of the trial route by a large HGV?

UU The drive through was filmed from the front to the rear so approaches to vehicles could be monitored too. The centre of Chatburn was very difficult and the load had to reverse at one point. Grindleton bridge was very tight and it would have to be modified for the future. There were pinch points in West Bradford too. The top end of Waddington was ok with no real concerns and there would be road widening undertaken up the fell road.

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DT asked how any divisions between Waddington and West Bradford residents would be managed? UU agreed there are lots of options to explore and the discussions are at early stages and they want to be very careful to manage the situation and balance the best solution for as many people as possible. There will be statutory consultations with the local community, and everyone will be invited to comment as part of the planning process.

DT was of the opinion that the purple route was a non-starter for all the ecological reasons just outlined by Tom Rimmer and more. Whilst the green route appeared to be the better of the three options presented, it was wrong that the residents on West Bradford road should bear the burden of all the traffic on behalf of the rest of the village.

DP expressed that there are less residents on West Bradford road so that route may be more acceptable to the majority. DP was pleased that UU have taken on board suggestions made by WPC and villagers. LH empathised with the situation UU are in. The process of consultation will be key to the project. In LH's opinion there is no perfect solution, and the green route seems the safest at the current time.

Tom Rimmer made it very clear this is just an idea at the current time but those residents on West Bradford Rd would be consulted.

GF asked about the timescales to the HARP planning applications. UU replied that the timescales will be Spring 2021 for pre-planning applications.

DP asked about the timescales of the next meeting. UU - CT asked to give WPC an update in the New Year 21.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.