

Agenda Item 7

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE OF 4 DECEMBER 2013

DENTON TO SKILLINGTON, THE DRIFT/VIKING WAY - PROPOSED PROHIBITION OF DRIVING ORDER

Brian Thompson updated the Committee on progress since approval had been given to consult to permanently prohibit all motorised vehicles from using the length of road, known as The Drift, for all of the year rather than the seasonal closure which was currently in place.

At the last meeting a decision on the order had been deferred pending a site visit which took place on 28 November 2013.

There were two feasible options for the Committee to consider:

- a) To implement a total ban on all motorised vehicles (including motorcycles);
- b) To allow the use by motorcycles, which would satisfy some of the objections and remove the need to implement onerous access constraints.

During discussion of the item, the following points were noted:

- When the visit took place, the site was not at its worst;
- Discussions with the police had revealed that they would support a total ban on vehicles and, once in place, they would be responsible for enforcing the Order;
- The ban would exclude horse drawn carriages and any barrier erected would prohibit motorised vehicles but allow carriages access;
- The protection of the Site of Special Scientific Interest was the responsibility of the Council;
- The Council was signed up to the National Biodiversity Strategy: a strategy for wildlife and eco-systems;
- A total ban would still allow farmers to cross the site or travel along it in order to access adjacent land.

The Chairman reminded Members that only those who were present at the site visit could vote on this item.

On a motion by Councillor H N J Powell and seconded by Councillor I F Fleetwood it was –

RESOLVED (9 votes for and 6 abstentions)

That a total ban for all motorised vehicles, including motorcyles, be implemented.

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