



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Cabinet Highways Committee Report

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Report of: Simon Green, Executive Director, Place

Date: 14th April 2011

Subject: Wisewood and Manor Park Streetscene

Author of Report: John Bann, Head of Transport & Highways

Summary:

This report sets out highway improvement works associated with the Pennine Housing Association, Decent Homes Programme for Wisewood and Manor Park, which have been developed by a working group involving Pennine, together with the Council's Neighbourhood (Housing, Enterprise and Regeneration) and Transport and Highways staff.

The organisation, the processes and the detailed proposals for the project follow directly from the successful streetscene project with Sanctuary Housing Association in Shiregreen, that Cabinet Highways Committee approved in various phases throughout last year.

Approval is sought for the design of Wisewood and Manor Park streetscene improvements. The project will also include a number of public space improvements within Manor Park, which require planning permission and will be submitted to the Planning and Highways Committee during the summer.

Reasons for Recommendations:

To continue the roll out of the improvements in roads, footpaths and public areas across Wisewood and Manor Park Estates.

Recommendations:

Approve the proposals of the Wisewood and Manor Park Streetscene Improvement Projects.

Approve the incorporation of a Wisewood 20mph zone within the proposals, subject to funding approval from the Central Community Assembly.

Background Papers: Previous reports to Cabinet Highways Committee and Scrutiny Committees.

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial implications
NO Cleared by: Liam Gilligan
Legal implications
NO Cleared by: Julian Ward
Human rights implications
NO
Tackling Health Inequalities implications
NO
Equality of Opportunity implications
YES Cleared by: Ian Oldershaw
Environmental and Sustainability implications
YES Cleared by: John Bann
Economic impact
NO
Community safety implications
NO
Human resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
Wisewood and Manor Park
Relevant Scrutiny Board if decision called in
Culture, Economy & Sustainability
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
NO
Press release
NO

WISEWOOD AND MANOR PARK STREETSCENE PROJECT

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report sets out highway improvement works associated with the Pennine Housing Association Decent Homes Programme for Wisewood and Manor Park. These have been developed by a working group involving Pennine, together with the Council's Neighbourhood (Housing, Enterprise and Regeneration) and Transport and Highways staff.
- 1.2 The organisation, the processes and the detailed proposals for the Project follow directly from the successful streetscene project involving Sanctuary Housing Association in Shiregreen, that Cabinet Highways Committee approved in various phases throughout last year.
- 1.3 Approval is sought for the design of Wisewood and Manor Park streetscene improvements. The project will also include a number of public space improvements within Manor Park, which require planning permission and will be submitted to the Planning and Highways Committee during the summer.

2.0 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE PEOPLE OF SHEFFIELD

- 2.1 These works will provide a significant improvement to the streetscene of Wisewood and Manor Park, together with improvements to public spaces in Manor Park. These improvements will be of benefit to all residents of the areas. The way the scheme is being developed will ensure that all residents within the area of improvement work will see some clear benefit.
- 2.2 Funding for the proposals is generated by the same VAT Shelter arrangement that was successfully progressed in Shiregreen, and would also be possible elsewhere in Sheffield – where council housing stock has been transferred to a Housing Association.
- 2.3 The proposals will meet City of Opportunity priorities to Empower Residents by incorporating their priorities in the design of their streets – and to create streets to be proud of.

3.0 OUTCOME AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 3.1 The highway network and streetscene across the whole of the Wisewood will see a marked improvement. Within Manor Park, the priority for residents is a more focussed improvement to the streetscene, together with improvements to car parking provision. And improvements to public spaces.
- 3.2 Pennine will ensure that the contractor who will be appointed to undertake these works will be using sustainable construction methods, with existing materials being re-used wherever possible.

- 3.3 Where existing trees are being removed, these will be replaced wherever possible, and extra tree planting is proposed within existing green spaces. This will result in a net increase in tree numbers across the scheme.

4.0 REPORT

- 4.1 In 2006 around 1400 council properties in the Wisewood and Manor Park areas, were transferred into the ownership of Pennine Housing Association. This enabled Pennine to secure funding to implement the Decent Homes Programme, which is currently on-going. Value Added Tax (VAT) is payable by Pennine at the various rates at the time. However, by arrangement with the City Council, this VAT can be reclaimed by Pennine under a VAT Structure Arrangement, known as a VAT Shelter.
- 4.2 Within the Wisewood stock transfer agreement, the City Council and Pennine agreed that the VAT Shelter money would be split between further works to the properties, and environmental works such as streetscene improvements. Approximately £1.3 million is available for streetscene improvements. Whilst not specifically mentioned within the stock transfer agreement for Manor Park, Pennine have also agreed similar arrangements to fund improvements agreed by the City Council. £1.5 million is available for the Manor Park streetscene improvements, together with a further £1million for public space improvements. These improvements are in line with the masterplans for the area.
- 4.3 Pennine Housing will be appointing a Streetscene Project Manager, a Landscape Architect for the Project design, and an Artists Team to engage the local residents in the Project. Pennine is also funding the Council's design and supervision fees as the Highway Authority. This "collective" have produced the detailed proposals for Wisewood and Manor Park.
- 4.4 Some of these works would potentially have been undertaken as part of the Highways and Street Lighting Private Finance Initiative. However, by using this funding opportunity, works will be delivered earlier, and more importantly, will go beyond a normal highway maintenance scheme in terms of scope and quality of finish.
- 4.5 The area where these proposals for Wisewood and Manor Park fall are set out in Appendices A and B to this report. Detailed plans of the proposals (which will be available at the Cabinet Highways Committee meeting) were displayed during March 2011 at public consultation events in both areas, to which all the residents involved were invited, together with local Ward Members. The overall responses were, again, extremely positive and certain changes have been accommodated within the proposals. Community Assembly Members have been involved throughout the process.
- 4.6 The timetable for Pennine's Wisewood and Manor Park improvement projects is for the work to start on site towards the end of May, with all

works complete by the end of January 2012. This will also tie in with the final stages of their Decent Homes programmes.

Relevant Implications

- 4.7 The Working Group proposals represent a significant investment in the improvement of the Council's streets in Wisewood and Manor Park, to be funded entirely by Pennine Housing Association. This funding includes all the appropriate Highway Authority fees. The estimated cost of all proposals is £2.8 million. Pennine will also provide a further £1million for public space improvements within Manor Park. These public space improvements will require planning permission during this summer.
- 4.8 The combination of all the streetscene improvements across Wisewood will provide the basis for designating Wisewood a 20mph zone. The funding for the designation, and for the appropriate signing, has been approved by the Central Community Assembly, and will be introduced at the same time as the other works. This is the same process described for the Shiregreen 20mph zone, support for which is recommended elsewhere on this Agenda.
- 4.9 The Wisewood scheme also incorporates the relevant proposals for the approved highway works associated with, and funded by, the new Forge Valley Community School.
- 4.10 The Manor Park scheme does not have the same "area-wide" coverage as Wisewood, and, at this stage, do not lend themselves so readily to a 20mph zone designation.
- 4.11 Under the terms of the VAT Shelter agreement between the Council and Sanctuary, the funding for the Wisewood and Manor Park Streetscene Project, needs to be authorised by the Council. Band A authority was approved in August 2009.
- 4.12 A full Equality Impact Assessment was conducted earlier in the project by officers in Neighbourhoods and Community Care. In the short term, the Project may cause an element of disruption to those living or working in Wisewood and Manor Park. However, in the long term, the improvements made are intended only to have a positive impact on all groups of people, and the improvements to the total footway network will be of particular benefit to disabled residents.
- 4.13 The overall improvements to the Streetscene in Wisewood and Manor Park will recognise the importance of grass verges and highway trees to the environment and to the climate.

5.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 To continue the roll out of the improvements in roads, footpaths and public areas across the Wisewood and Manor Park Estates

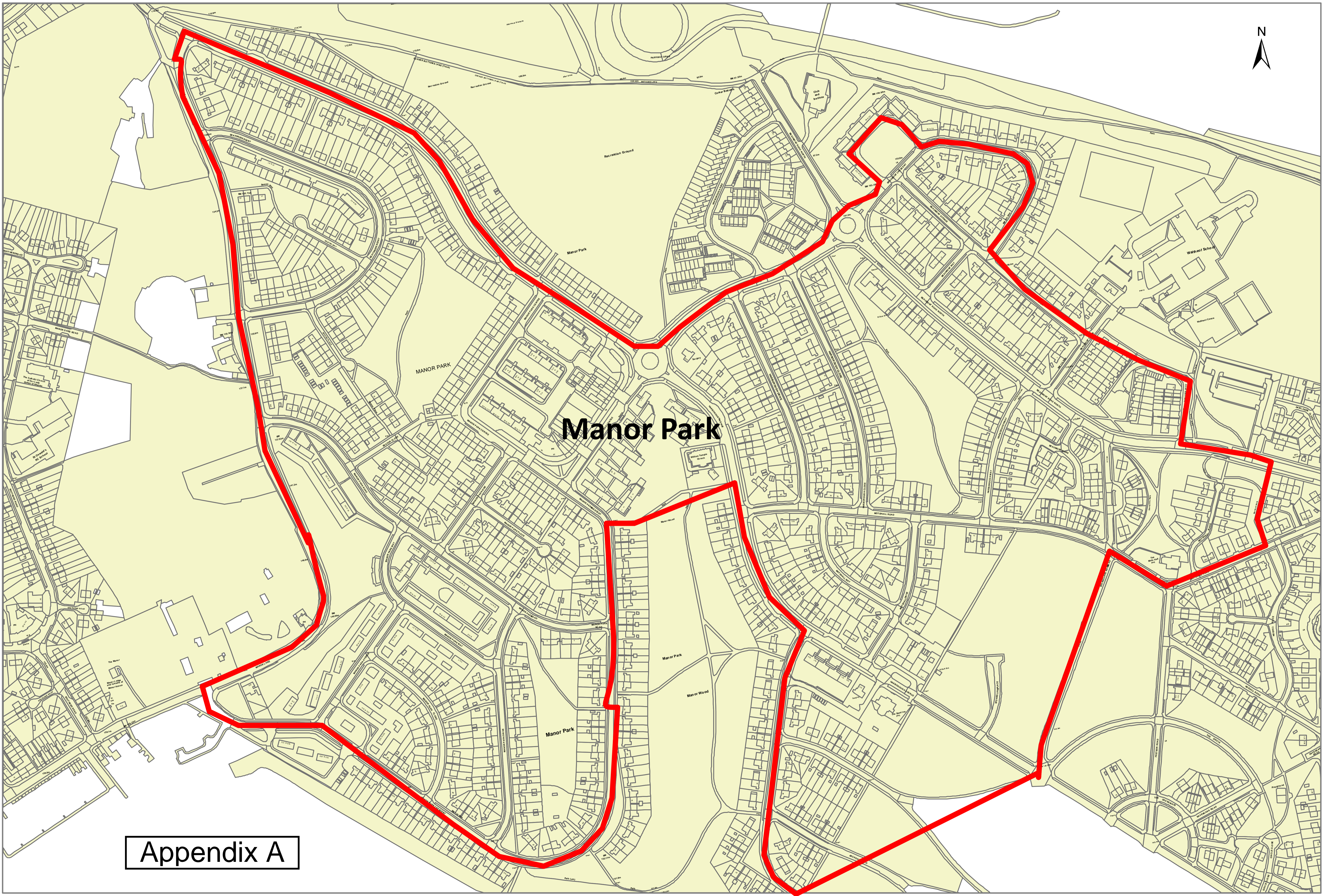
6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 Approve the proposals of the Wisewood and Manor Park Streetscene Improvement Projects.

- 6.2 Approve the incorporation of a Wisewood 20mph Zone within the proposals, subject to funding approval from the Central Community Assembly.

31st March 2011

Simon Green
Executive Director, Place



Manor Park

Appendix A



Wisewood

Appendix B