

## PLANS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION SUB COMMITTEE of Bridport Town Council held at Mountfield, Bridport on Thursday, 16 October 2014 at 2.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr G.J. Ackerman (Chairman)

Cllr C.M. Ray  
D.G. Rickard

Ms S.J. Williams (ex-officio)

Also in attendance: Cllr: Mrs M.J. Ray.

## PUBLIC FORUM

Mr J. Lane spoke about the ongoing problem of parking, restricting access at St Michael's Lane, which had been raised previously. Mr Lane also tabled some photographs, showing the extent of the problem.

Mr M. Nicks of West Bay Forum thanked the Town Council for its support for the changes to the traffic enhancement scheme in West Bay. It had been agreed that the pinch point was to be removed and a crossing provided from the shops to St John's Church, although there was a need to ensure appropriate signage was provided. The one issue remaining to be addressed was the priority turn, in to the harbour. On separate matters, the extension of yellow lines at Marsh Barn was supported and the need to resurface car parks in West Bay was also supported.

### **15. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **16. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2014, which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendments under "Issues Raised by WATAG":

P.2 first line should be Dorset County Council's Director of Environment not Department of the Environment and 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph X57 should read X53.

### **17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest although Cllrs C.M. Ray and Mrs M.J. Ray said that they lived in Cordova Gardens, which was being raised under new highways schemes, but no decisions were being taken at this stage.

### **18. BUS SERVICES - MEETING WITH DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL AND OTHER ONGOING ISSUES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2889.

In discussion of the report, members emphasised again the importance of WATAG being consulted on issues that affected local bus services. They should also be invited to the proposed meeting with First Bus.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the summary of the meeting with Dorset County Council be noted as attached to the report.
- (2) that a meeting be held with First Bus to discuss the specific issues they have raised regarding bus timetabling in Bridport.
- (3) that a separate public meeting on bus services be considered at a future date, following the meeting with First Bus.
- (4) that options for potential community bus schemes, including possible extensions to the current Park and Ride service, be discussed with WATAG and Dorset County Council and reported back to the next meeting of this Sub Committee.

## **19. ISSUES RAISED BY WATAG**

Mr Alan Williams, representing WATAG, updated members on the following issues.

- As part of the discussion on the previous item, it was stated that it was understood that the County Council's remuneration rate for the concessionary fares was lower than other areas. This made it difficult for First Bus to run the X31 and X53 services at a profit. It was asked if the level of the remuneration rate for concessionary fares could be raised with the County Council.
- The concessionary passes were also not identified, when used, as being from a particular area, so the costs were not being recharged to the authority where the pass was issued, as was the case in other areas. If the technology was introduced on buses to enable this to happen, this would help to reduce the County Council's costs.
- The audio service on buses had now been switched off and the Real Time Information at bus stops was still causing some confusion.
- The replacement service on the 47 route, now operated as no.40 by Damory, was understood to be doing well.

Members thanked Alan for his update, which was noted.

## **20. PARK AND RIDE 2014 REPORT BACK**

The Town Surveyor reported that 3,523 passengers had used the service in 2014, which, with the funding from West Dorset District Council, was once again delivered within budget. The numbers were down on 2013 but it had operated for more weeks that year and the figures were up on 2012.

The update was noted.

**21. WEST BAY ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT UPDATE**

As reported in the Public Forum, decisions had been taken in relation to the pinch point and crossing to St John's Church, which were generally welcomed. Members supported further investigation into appropriate signage at the crossing point and hoped to discuss the resurfacing of the car parks with the District Council.

RECOMMEND: that the update be noted.

**22. CAR PARKING**

The Town Surveyor reported that he was to meet with the Head of Parking Services to discuss the car park signs, which were now ready to go.

Members asked if the Head of Parking Services could also attend a future Council meeting (this Sub Committee or Plans Committee), to discuss general car park matters, including the possible resurfacing of West Bay car parks, raised earlier in the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the West Dorset District Council Head of Parking Services be invited to a future Council meeting.

**23. WALKABOUT ON PARKING ISSUES**

The Members' walkabout had taken place on 27 August 2014 and they had looked at various issues, including potential additional waiting restrictions and further yellow lining. Areas of East and West Street were looked at, as well as St Michael's Lane. The options would be discussed with the County Council.

In terms of St Michael's Lane, the signage would also be adjusted and additional signage for Gundry Lane (unsuitable for heavy vehicles) could be looked at. One potential issue could be that satellite navigation devices could be sending large vehicles down Gundry Lane and the regulation of these devices was something that the Town Council would be discussing further.

RESOLVED: that the options for additional waiting restrictions, particularly for St Michael's Lane, be discussed further with Dorset County Council.

**24. NEW HIGHWAYS REQUESTS**

The following items had been received for consideration, since the last meeting:

- (a) Yellow Lines –Kenwyn Road, West Bay to Marsh Barn, Victoria Grove and Roper's Court / Cordova Gardens

RESOLVED: that these requests be discussed further with Dorset County Council and reported back.

(b) Dropped kerbs

A request had been received to look at dropped kerbs at three locations: Downes Street, Victoria Grove junction with West Street and King Street junction with East Street.

RESOLVED: that these requests be looked at by the Town Surveyor and if required be added to the list of dropped kerb requests.

(c) Street Lighting – Globe Passage

RECOMMEND: that Dorset County Council be asked to reinstate the night time lighting at this location, as this was needed to help deter anti-social behaviour.

(d) A35 Sea Road South – pedestrian crossing

It was reported that crossing points on Sea Road South were being looked at with Dorset County Council, as part of the cycle routes project and it was agreed that the outcome of that work should be awaited before any decisions were taken on crossings.

RESOLVED: that no action be taken, pending the outcome of the cycle routes project.

(e) East Road – Left Turn to Walditch

It was reported that this issue would be looked at further and, if necessary, reported back.

RESOLVED: that the position be noted, as above.

(f) Pavement condition in town centre

RESOLVED: that the Town Surveyor discuss with Dorset County Council any particular issues regarding town centre pavements.

(g) Folly Mill Gardens – Parking

A reported problem of parking by vans had been raised anonymously, without details of whether it was an ongoing issue. Therefore, it was felt that this was not something that could be taken forward. This was agreed by members.

RESOLVED: that there be no action in respect of this issue.

(h) South Mill Lane to Asker Meadows – Cycle Path signage

The reported issue of signage related to private roads but additional signage elsewhere could be looked at, as part of the adoption of the cycle ways and paths.

RESOLVED: that the need for signage be considered, as part of the ongoing work on cycle ways and adoption of the paths.

(i) Hedgehog signage on roads approaching Bridport

Members considered this request, but felt that signage was not required.

RESOLVED: that there be no action in respect of this issue.

(j) Skilling Hill Road - Speed Limit

Members commented that vehicles would tend to reduce their speeds because of the road layout, but it was asked if the Town Surveyor could look at options and report back.

RESOLVED: that this issue be looked at and reported back.

(k) A35 traffic Speeds - East Road

RESOLVED: that, bearing in mind that the speed indicator was in place at this location, there be no further action in respect of this issue.

(l) Dog bins at Amsafe footpath and Cycle Route at the back of the Co-op

RESOLVED: that the provision of new dog bins be supported at these locations and discussions take place with Dorset Waste Partnership and Bradpole Parish Council (for the cycle route bins) regarding installation and maintenance.

Other Matters

Other matters raised by members, not on the agenda, included the need to see why scaffolding was being left outside two premises in the town centre for some considerable time, with no indication that any work was taking place.

**25. ST SWITHINS ROAD – TRAFFIC SPEEDS**

The Town Clerk reported that the issue of speeding traffic, vehicles parked at junctions and the need to consider yellow lines at appropriate junctions was being discussed with Dorset County Council.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**26. PROCEDURE FOR PROCESSING HIGHWAYS REQUESTS**

The Town Clerk reported that there were a large number of requests considered by the Sub Committee and it was proposed to report to the next meeting on all the requests, with details on likely implementation by the County Council, bearing in mind resources and other requests received. The Sub Committee would be asked to prioritise schemes to be taken forward by the County Council.

RESOLVED: that the position be noted and a report be received at the next meeting on all schemes outstanding.

**27. ONGOING HIGHWAY MATTERS**

Councillors considered ENCL: 2888.

Under the residential parking items, it was agreed that it would be helpful to discuss options with Dorset County Council for areas where residential parking could be introduced with a report back. This might help to address some of the concerns raised at locations such as St Andrews and St Swithins roads.

RESOLVED: that the list of ongoing highways matters be noted.

**28. COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no issues raised.

**The meeting closed at 3.55 p.m.**

**The next meeting of the Highways and Transportation Sub Committee will be held on 22 January 2015**