

PLANS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION SUB COMMITTEE of Bridport Town Council held at Mountfield, Bridport on Thursday, 22 January 2015 at 2.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr G.J. Ackerman (Chairman)

Cllrs	C.M. Ray	K.G. Wallace
	D.G. Rickard	Ms S.J. Williams (ex-officio)

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

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers in the Public Forum.

29. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

30. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2014, which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda, although Cllr K.G. Wallace stated that he owned a property on Station Approach, West Bay should there be any discussion relating to that immediate area.

32. ISSUES RAISED BY WATAG INCLUDING UPDATE ON BUS SERVICES

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

Funding Under the National Concessionary Travel Scheme - a report had been provided by Dorset County Council on how they apply the scheme. The methodology applied by the County Council had been summarised by Alan in a paper circulated to the Sub Committee and there were questions about whether the methodology was appropriate and its implications for the costs of running the X31 and X53 services.

Members commented on Alan's report and felt that this issue should be raised with the County Council, in view of the importance of these services. The County Council should be asked for further information and asked if they would discuss this matter with WATAG.

Real Time Information - it appeared that the system was operating based on scheduled timings and was not showing the "real time" of journeys.

Members felt that this was another issue that the County Council should discuss with WATAG, as it was important that the system was being used to show “real time” information, not just the scheduled times.

Alan Williams was thanked for all his hard work in bringing these items to the Town Council and it was noted that they were also to be discussed later that day at the WATAG meeting.

RECOMMEND: that further representations be made to Dorset County Council regarding the application of the national concessionary travel scheme and the operation of the real time information system and it be asked if the County Council would also discuss these matters with WATAG.

33. PARK AND RIDE 2015

The Town Surveyor reported on the proposals to run this year’s Park and Ride on the same basis as previous years and confirmed that it would cover the Hat Festival.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

34. CAR PARKING

The Town Council was still hoping to arrange for the District Council’s Parking Services Manager to attend a future Sub Committee meeting but, as yet, arrangements had not been confirmed.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

35. NEW CYCLE ROUTES AND CHANGES TO CO-OP CROSSING - CONSULTATION

The Town Surveyor took members through the proposals being looked at by Sustrans and the County Council for changes to road crossings, to enable new cycle routes to be provided in Bridport. At this stage, no decisions had been taken and proposals would be brought to members when confirmed.

Members commented on proposed changes to the crossings in Sea Road North outside the co-op and further down the road. This issue in particular would need to be looked at further.

In terms of the possibility of an alternative route at the back of Palmers Brewery to West Bay, it was understood that this was not able to be progressed, due to land ownership issues.

Members supported the intention to provide additional cycle routes, but it was emphasised that they would wish to be fully consulted before any proposals were finally agreed.

It was also commented that it would be interesting to see the extent of the new cycle routes recently provided in Bridport.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

36. PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLEWAY ISSUES ON SOUTH STREET AND WEST BAY ROAD ETC

Councillors considered issues raised by the Chair of the Environment Committee, ENCL: 2934.

In discussion of these issues the following additional comments were made:

- grassed areas alongside the highway were being affected by parked cars and should be raised with the County Council.
- there were a number of loose paving slabs, which should also be reported to the County Council.

In general, it was felt that it might be best to raise the comments on pavements and surface conditions in this area with the County Council Highways Inspectors and report back on possible options.

RESOLVED: that these matters be raised with the Highways Inspector and be reported back to the Sub Committee.

37. CHANGES TO WAITING TIMES FOR ON STREET PARKING

Consideration was given to proposed changes on “return times”, ENCL: 2936.

RECOMMEND: that the proposed changes to the return times for on street parking be noted.

38. NEW HIGHWAYS ISSUES

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

(a) Victoria Grove – Speed Limit, Changes to North Street and Traffic Lights

The Sub Committee discussed the issues raised. Members felt

- that the speed limit at North Street should be looked at, to bring it in line with rest of Victoria Grove, and the 20 mph markings on Victoria Grove needed to be re-done.
- the traffic light phasing at the Town Hall would be looked at again.

RECOMMEND: that the possible extension of the 20mph limit to North Street be looked at and reported back.

(b) Rope Walks Car Park

A request had been received to change the access into the car park and whether it would be feasible to make a different access, possibly in front of Livingstone textiles. This was in view of the sharp turn past the Hope

and Anchor pub and the stream of people crossing in front of the car park entrance alongside deliveries to businesses in this narrow road.

Members also commented on parked cars in front of the pub and the possibility of replacing some of the missing barrier fencing on the corner of the car park.

RECOMMEND: that the layout of the car park and options for alternative access be discussed with West Dorset District Council and reported back

39. ONGOING HIGHWAY MATTERS AND ISSUES BRING PROGRESSED

Councillors considered ENCL: 2935.

It was noted that further representations had been received in respect of the St Michael's Lane - Traffic Congestion and Nursery Gardens schemes.

Members noted that there were a lot of schemes on the list and the County Council was not able to take all of them forward. It was felt that the list should be discussed with the County Council and reported back with a recommendation on priorities for implementation.

In discussion of the schemes, it was asked if the County Council could look again at the pinch point at West Allington and see if the markings were correct.

RESOLVED: that the list of ongoing highways matters be noted and be discussed with Dorset County Council and recommended priorities for implementation be brought back to the Sub Committee.

40. 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 19 March 2015