

PLANS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION SUB COMMITTEE of Bridport Town Council held at Mountfield, Bridport on Thursday, 29 March 2012 at 2.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr G.J. Ackerman (Chairman)

P.J. Lathey

C.M. Ray (ex officio)

Ms S.J. Williams

Also in attendance: Cllrs: Mrs M.J. Ray and D.G. Rickard.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Mike Farmer spoke in the Open Session and asked when the review of the town centre traffic changes would take place, particularly in respect of the crossing taken out in West Street.

It was reported that it was always intended for the changes to be reviewed, when they had all been implemented and also when there had been time for the changes to be properly assessed, without any other impacts on traffic, such as the gas works. There would also be consultation on the impact of the changes.

40. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllrs E.T. Colfox, K.G. Wallace and WATAG, Alan Williams.

41. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2012, which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

43. ISSUES RAISED BY WATAG

The Town Clerk read a letter from Alan Williams of WATAG, with an update on current bus service issues:

Service 45 was to be withdrawn from 29 April 2012 and this would mean that the only services on the Bridport to West Bay route would be the X53, which runs every two hours, and the Damory Service 253, which would run for one journey in each direction on week days. This would mean that it was likely that there would be more pressure on the Town Council's Park and Ride service.

There were also updates on Services X53, 31 and the new Ring and Ride service in Bothenhampton.

Members expressed concern at the removal of the 45 service and the impact that this would have on services between Bridport and West Bay. It was asked if representations could be made to Dorset County Council, raising these concerns.

Members thanked Alan for his report and agreed that it was important to continue to monitor the impact of the changes to bus services in the area.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted and representations be made to Dorset County Council regarding the loss of service between Bridport and West Bay, with the ending of bus route 45.

44. NEW HIGHWAY REQUESTS

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

Rawles Way, Osbourne Road

There was a reported parking problem in this area and this would be looked at and reported back.

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

45. GAS WORKS

The Town Surveyor reported that the works should be finished by the end of March (to be started again in September) but there would be a need to come back to resurface the section of road between Dr Roberts Close and Gundry Lane. This will take place in April 2012 and information was to be circulated by Southern Gas Networks.

RESOLVED: that the updated be noted.

46. ONGOING HIGHWAY MATTERS

The Town Surveyor updated members on the following ongoing highway matters: -

(a) Motor Cycle Parking

It was reported that some of the changes had been introduced and others were to be completed.

The update was noted.

(b) Information Signage

It was still intended to look at signage throughout the town.

The update was noted.

(c) Hardy Road

It was reported that some damage to the road had been reported to Dorset County Council and West Dorset District Council. The damage had been caused by the mechanical road sweeper.

The update was noted.

(d) A35 - Morrisons

It had been suggested that the access to Bradfords Building Supplies could also be used as access for Morrison lorries. This was something that would need to be discussed, but could be looked at.

The update was noted.

(e) Wellfields Drive

It was reported that requests had been submitted for additional yellow lines, but it was unlikely to be agreed at the current time.

The update was noted.

(f) Gateway Signs

It was reported that there had been a request for the Spirit signs to be reinstated and this was something that would be looked at.

The update was noted.

(g) Yellow Lines

It was reported that a number of new yellow lines were being progressed by the County Council. This included: Jessopp Avenue, Rendalls Walk, Park Road, Castle Square, Roundham Gardens, St Swithins Court and West Bay Road.

The update was noted.

(h) Fulbrooks Close

It was reported that Magna was looking to create a new parking area and members had no objections to the proposal.

The update was noted.

(i) No Loading, West Bay Road

This proposal was being progressed.

The update was noted.

(j) Parking restrictions for camper vans etc. Station Road, West Bay

It was reported that these changes had been introduced.

The update was noted.

(k) Entrance to Groves Nursery

It was reported that the hatching on the Crown roundabout was now in place.

The update was noted.

(l) Loading Bay, West Street

As reported at the last meeting, a request had been received for a loading bay outside "This and That" in West Street.

Members generally felt that this was not needed at this time, as it was not clear how it would benefit traffic movements, or the general parking situation in the town.

RESOLVED: that no further action be taken on this request.

(m) Town Planters

It was reported that Bridport Gardening Club had very kindly provided £500 sponsorship of the planters.

RESOLVED: that the sponsorship be welcomed.

47. TOWN ROUNDABOUTS

The Town Surveyor reported that he had met with Groves Nursery and discussed the possibilities of planting the roundabouts with wild flowers around its circumference. The existing plants in the centre would be reduced in size and the roundabouts generally tidied up.

RESOLVED: that the proposals for the town roundabouts be supported.

48. COUNTY COUNCIL PROGRAMME OF HIGHWAY WORKS 2012/13

The Town Council had been notified of the provisional programme of highways works across Dorset for the 2012/13 financial year. The schemes listed for Bridport and West Bay were:

- West Bay Enhancement scheme, start 1 October 2012 for 12 weeks.
- Bridport to Asker Mead, start date to be confirmed.

Members asked for confirmation on the extent of the works at West Bay.

RESOLVED: that the County Council's Programme of Highway Works for 2012/13 and the schemes for Bridport and West Bay be noted.

49. EVENTS 2012

The Town Surveyor reported the following events that would require road closures in 2012:

July 7	Charter Fair
August 18	Carnival

Also, there would be closures for the Remembrance Parade in November and the Christmas Festival in December. Any closures required for the Spirit of Bridport events, also needed to be confirmed.

RESOLVED: that the proposed closures be endorsed.

50. COMMUNICATIONS

The Town Surveyor provided an update on the ongoing work with Dorset County Council on cycle routes, including across Asker Meadows.

The updated list of highways defects was also available at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 3.30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Highways and Transportation Sub Committee will be held on 28 June 2012