

## PLANS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION SUB COMMITTEE of Bridport Town Council held at Mountfield, Bridport on Thursday, 31 March 2011 at 2.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr G.J. Ackerman (Chairman)

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

## PUBLIC FORUM

The member of the public present declined the opportunity to speak.

### **34. APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor J.D. Hunt.

### **35. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2011, which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor K.A. Day declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 8(f), as a resident of the Delapre estate and left the room while the item was discussed.

### **37. WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND LOADING BAYS – DRAFT ORDERS**

The Town Surveyor stated that most of the waiting restrictions previously supported by this Sub Committee had been implemented. Diment Gardens and Garden Close were to be re-advertised and the others recently put forward by the Town Council would be considered by the County Council in October. The Town Surveyor reported on these schemes and said that, if approved by the County Council, it was likely that they would be implemented in February/March next year.

It was reported that the Manager of the Leisure Centre had thanked the Town Council for its efforts in supporting parking restrictions in the area.

The update was noted.

### **38. PARISH MAINTENANCE UNITS (PMU) AND LENGTHSMAN**

The Town Clerk reported on the progress being made by the Bridport Area Lengthsman scheme. Two other parishes (Puncknowle & Swyre and Bradpole) had now joined the scheme. Tasks over the last few months had included gully clearing, repairing notice boards, removing fly posting, grass cutting, removal of weeds and repairing benches throughout the town. The Lengthsman also

assisted with gritting and snow clearing in emergency cases prior to Christmas.

The update was noted.

**39. DIRECTION SIGNS**

The proposal for a sign from the rear of Waitrose, showing the route through the Tannery to South Street, was reported. This had been raised by Councillor K.G. Wallace.

RESOLVED: that this matter be looked at as part of a wider review of signage in the town, to be discussed with Dorset County Council and reported back to the Sub Committee.

**40. RESPONSE TO WINTER WEATHER**

The Town Clerk reported on the meeting held with Dorset County Council to discuss this matter. It was agreed that, with West Dorset District Council and the County Council, they would work up a plan for Bridport. This would identify the responsibilities of each authority and the priority areas for action. The County Council had indicated that there could be support for any additional equipment the Town Council might wish to purchase, to assist with gritting etc. The County Council was also looking at a policy criteria for the placement of grit bins, and the Town Surveyor would be looking at locations for some additional bins in the town, subject to consultation with the County Council.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted and the Sub Committee receive a report back on progress with the development of the plan to co-ordinate the response to the winter weather.

**41. ONGOING HIGHWAY MATTERS**

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

(a) Information signage on South Street before the recycling centre

This matter had been raised by Councillor K.G. Wallace.

It was generally felt that the issue was the best way to notify people of the length of time that the entrance would be closed, to allow for the removal of waste. It was felt that any additional permanent signage was unnecessary at this time, bearing in mind that the renewal of the temporary permission for the site was only for two more years.

RESOLVED: that this matter be discussed with the County Council, with a report back on the outcome.

(b) Motorcycle parking

This was being progressed with West Dorset District Council and the Town Surveyor reported that he was still looking to arrange the meeting to discuss this matter. He would also be looking at the provision for cycle parking.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

(c) Cycle routes

The Town Surveyor reported that he had had some discussions with the County Council and this was something that he continued to pursue and would revisit, in the light of the additional land transfers being considered.

The Leader of the Council reported that the Healthy Travel map was to be re-printed and any assistance with proof checking would be appreciated.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

(d) Plottingham footpath

The Town Surveyor confirmed that the footpath and bridge were in the process of being formally adopted by the County Council, in line with the wishes of the Town Council.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

(e) East Road parking

The Town Surveyor reported letters he had received, seeking residents' parking in the lay by near the roundabout. This had been looked at before, but it was a very difficult space in which to provide parking. However, he would raise it again with the County Council.

RESOLVED: that this matter be discussed with the County Council, with a report back on the outcome.

(f) Entrance to Delapre Estate, St Andrews Road

Councillor K. A. Day left the room, prior to consideration of this matter.

The Town Surveyor reported on a request for yellow lines on the entrance and also inside the estate. He was happy to take forward the request for discussion with the County Council for the public highway access, but it would be for the residents to fund any work inside the estate.

RESOLVED; that this matter be raised with the County Council to see if they would support yellow lines, with a report back on the outcome.

In other matters raised not on the agenda, the Chairman mentioned trees in the lower part of East Street, which he said were overhanging Folly Mill Lane. The Town Surveyor said that this could be reported to West Dorset District Council to seek their views, although it was unlikely that there would be any tree work before next winter.

Also, members asked if the Town Surveyor could confirm with the County Council what the rules were, in respect of the timing allowed for "loading" in loading bays.

#### **42. RECENT MEETINGS OF WATAG**

The Town Clerk and Councillor Ms S.J. Williams updated members on the recent discussions regarding the possibility of Bridport being considered as a transport hub, which was also raised recently at WATAG. Prior to that, a meeting had been held with WATAG and Catherine Searle, representing the Environment Group. A further meeting was to be held with the County Council and the District Council to assess the feasibility work involved and the potential costs, to enable a decision to be taken on whether to pursue this proposal further.

Councillor Ms S.J. Williams also reported on the proposed reduction in the X53 bus service, with the removal of the Sunday service during the winter. This matter had been raised at the WATAG meeting.

It was also reported that all the Dorset bus services were being re-tendered and members asked if they could receive information on the outcome of the process. Members expressed their concerns at the reported reduction in the X53 bus service and it was:

RESOLVED: to support WATAG in representations being made to oppose any reduction in the X53 service on a Sunday.

#### **43. DOCUMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE**

Councillors noted the Highway Defects, reported to Dorset County Council.

#### **44. COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no matters raised.

**The meeting closed at 3.15 p.m.**

**The next meeting of the Highways and Transportation Sub Committee will be held on 30 June 2011**