

PLANS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION SUB COMMITTEE of Bridport Town Council held at Mountfield, Bridport on Thursday, 25 June 2015 at 2.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr G.J. Ackerman (Chairman from item 2)

Ms S.A. Horniman C.M. Ray
J.S.L. Jones E.A. Rickard

Also in attendance: Cllrs: Mrs M.J. Ray, D.G. Rickard and Ms S.J. Williams.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Nominations were sought for Chairman and it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: that Cllr G.J. Ackerman be elected Chairman of the Sub Committee for the municipal year 2015/2016.

Councillor G.J. Ackerman in the Chair

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Peter Axe spoke about the problems caused by parked cars on St Swithins Road particularly for cars coming out of Broadmead Avenue, St Swithins Avenue and Fulbrooks Lane. Pavement parking was also a problem in this area.

This item was discussed under agenda item 10.

Mrs Heather Perrin spoke about problems caused by parked cars, particularly pavement parking at Mount Pleasant.

This item was discussed under agenda item 10.

Mr Malcolm Leighton raised issues that he had reported previously regarding provision for motor cycle parking in car parks.

It was reported that the general issues raised by Mr Leighton had been raised with West Dorset District Council although the dropped kerb request at East Street Car Park was on the agenda under item 10.

Mr Gavin Fryer spoke about the number of heavy vehicles using West Allington and the potential traffic risks of speeding and heavy traffic in the vicinity of the road narrowing. He asked if a speed limit of 20 mph could be looked at.

This item was not on the agenda but it was agreed that the Town Surveyor would report back on this issue.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2015, which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. ROLE OF THE SUB COMMITTEE

The Town Clerk outlined the purpose of the Sub Committee, which was to consider highways matters and decide whether to refer them on the County Council, as the responsible Highway Authority, or in the case of matters concerning car parks, West Dorset District Council.

6. ISSUES RAISED BY WATAG

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

Rail – due to the electrification work on the line, for the first three weeks in August there would be a bus service for part of the route between Weymouth and Bristol.

Buses – new bus timetables were in the TIC.

The X31 was running well and to time although there could be difficulties during the summer with the increased traffic. More buses were being provided on the X31 and X53 routes but there could still be risks to services on a Sunday over the winter.

Some changes to the X31 route in Dorchester were being considered, as part of the new timetables due out in the coming months.

Other ongoing bus issues reported included route 44 and some reports of buses grounding at Coopers Drive

The audio services on buses had been switched back on but some stops were still missing. The Real time information was also working but some issues remain.

Concessionary Fares – this was still an issue and it was important to ensure that bus operators were receiving and claiming the income they were due, so that the services continued to be supported. The system and calculation of the concessionary fares had been raised on a number of occasions with Dorset County Council.

Members emphasised the importance of retaining bus services and also discussed the potential options for future support for community bus schemes, if funding was available.

Members thanked Alan for his update.

7. TOWN CENTRE TRAFFIC AND OPTIONS FOR SOUTH STREET – FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Town Surveyor reported that the feasibility study had been received and he would like to discuss it with members first at the Open Spaces Working Group, prior to reporting back to this Sub Committee and seeking approval to go out for consultation on the options.

RESOLVED: that the feasibility study be discussed with the Open Spaces Working Group, prior to reporting back with recommendations on consultation and timescales at the next meeting of this Sub Committee.

8. PARK AND RIDE 2015

The Town Surveyor reported, for information, that the 2015 Park and Ride service from West Bay to Bridport would run from 18 July to 5 September 2015 and the contract had been awarded to Sovereign Coaches.

The update was noted.

9. CAR PARKS

The Town Surveyor reported that a meeting had been held with the new Car Park Services Manager at West Dorset District Council, to discuss a number of issues.

Members commented on the reports received regarding delays caused for people having to use the new car park machines, which required number plate details to be entered. It was asked that this be raised with West Dorset District Council and be reported back.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted and matters raised above be discussed with West Dorset District Council.

10. NEW HIGHWAYS ISSUES

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

(a) West Allington - Parking

It was reported that the issue of cars parking on the road outside the new development next to the Medical Centre had been resolved.

The update was noted.

(b) Mount Pleasant – Parking

RESOLVED: that the issue of parking enforcement at this location be raised with the police and the County Council and options for bollards also be looked at.

(c) St Andrews Road / Kenwyn Road - Parking

It was reported that this issue, as it concerned a private road, was unlikely to receive support and it was recommended that it not be progressed.

RESOLVED: that this matter not be progressed.

(d) Meadowlands – Parking

It was reported that there were problems of cars parking in Meadowlands, which had been made worse by Dorset Waste Partnership staff no longer being able to park without charge at West Bay Road Car Park. The possibility of yellow lines on Meadowlands could be raised with the County Council alongside further discussions with West Dorset District Council on use of the Car Park.

RESOLVED: that there be a report back to the next meeting on options to address this issue.

(e) East Street – Seat

RESOLVED: that it be noted that the seat outside the Mitsubishi garage had been removed temporarily for repairs.

(f) North Mills – New Signage

RECOMMEND: that Dorset County Council be asked to provide new signage at the junction with Victoria Grove advising “no access to industrial estate.”

(g) No parking in loading bays.

It was reported that it was understood that the restrictions on the use of loading bays was being enforced in the evenings. It was asked if the situation could be clarified.

RESOLVED: that the hours of operation on controls of parking in loading bays be confirmed.

(h) East Street Car Park – dropped kerb for motorcyclists

RESOLVED: that this request be raised again with West Dorset District Council.

(i) St Swithins Road – Parking

Members were concerned at the potential problems caused by the parking and pavement parking, as raised in the Public Forum. It was agreed that this matter be raised with the police, to ask if they could undertake additional enforcement in this area and with Dorset County Council regarding possible parking restrictions.

RESOLVED: that parking enforcement issues in St Swithins Road be discussed with the police and potential parking restrictions be discussed with Dorset County Council and be reported back.

Other Matters Raised Not on the Agenda

East Street Car Park – although not on the agenda, it was asked if there would be problems for electric cars in having the electric power point installed next to the disabled parking bays in the car park. It was asked if this could be raised with West Dorset District Council.

King Street - there were still problems with the footway outside the Chinese restaurant at the junction of East Street and King Street.

11. ONGOING HIGHWAY MATTERS AND ISSUES BEING PROGRESSED

The Town Clerk reported that the County Council was to consider its advice on highway management schemes in the light of reduced resources. Where schemes could not be progressed, then people would be told that and not be advised to contact the Town Council. More information would be reported to the next meeting of the Sub Committee.

The update was noted.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no issues raised.

The meeting closed at 4:15p.m.

The next meeting of the Highways and Transportation Sub Committee will be held on 15 October 2015