

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Monday 26 June 2023 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Dave Bolwell (in the chair)

Cllrs: Ian Bark Anne Rickard
 Kelvin Clayton Dave Rickard
 Julian Jones

Also Present: Will Austin (Town Clerk), and Paul Warner (National Highways, via Zoom)

PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public were in attendance.

11. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Geoff Ackerman and Sarah Carney.

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Town Clerk declared that application A3 (P/FUL/2023/03091) was submitted by the Town Council.

13. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 5 June 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED: that item 6 (Highways & Transportation Matters) be brought forward as the next business.

14. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

The Town Clerk reported that he and the Town Surveyor had entered into initial discussions with National Highways regarding possible improvements to the A35 Sea Road South, and the roundabouts at either end of this stretch of road. He invited Paul Warner, Principal Transport Planner at National Highways, to outline issues and options for discussion. Mr Warner summarised:

- The existing vehicle, cycle, and pedestrian arrangements
- Accident statistics
- The current speed limit of 40mph along most of Sea Road South

Mr Warner set out potential options for improvements:

- A signal crossing at or near the Pasture Way junction
- A speed limit reduction to 30mph, which might allow the addition of a second crossing, to be a zebra crossing
- Such a zebra crossing to be in the vicinity of the Hollow Way junction
- Narrowing of the physical carriageway at crossing points to slow traffic

- Improvements to bus stops to provide a hard surface, raised to allow level access to buses
- Completing the cycle path such that the length between Hollow Way and the Crown roundabout would become a shared cycle and foot path
- Directional arrows on the road at the junctions of the Crown roundabout, to indicate to motorists the correct lane to be used
- A marked cycle lane around the outer edge of the Crown roundabout
- A roundabout feature at the East Road roundabout, to be funded and installed by the town council and/or unitary councils
- The Town Council taking on responsibility for verge maintenance

RESOLVED: that the options outlined be supported in principle.

Mr Warner advised that he would proceed to work up more detailed plans for further discussion, and expected this to be before the end of 2023. He cautioned however that any physical works might not begin until late 2025 or early 2026.

The Chairman thanked Mr Warner for his attendance.

Mr Warner left the meeting at this point

Members considered a request for support for changes to parking restrictions at the junction of Victoria Grove and North Street, following an incident which delayed the Fire & Rescue Service in attending a fire at North Mills Road. They considered that a visual assessment would benefit their deliberations, and

RESOLVED: that members should pass any views to the Town Clerk to inform a decision by officers under delegation.

Cllr Kelvin Clayton reported that the Chair of Bridport Leisure Centre Trust had requested additional directional signage to highlight the location of the Leisure Centre.

15. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

RESOLVED: that the recommendations set out in column 4 of the attached Schedule A be forwarded to Dorset Council.

16. **PLANNING DECISIONS**

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 3815.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

17. **COMMUNICATIONS AND ONGOING ISSUES**

No communications or ongoing issues were reported.

The meeting closed at **8.46pm**.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 24 July 2023