

HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Management Advisory Committee held on Monday 26 April 2010

Present

Cllr Vivienne Ash	Honiton Town Council/East Devon District Council
Cllr Alf Boom	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Sally Casson (Chairman)	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Roy Coombs	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Paul Diviani	Devon County Council
Cllr Ron Farnham	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Peter Fleming	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Diane Morgan	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Marion Olive	East Devon District Council
Mr Paul Wilson	East Area Highway Management, Devon County Council

10/8. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr John Richardson-Dawes (DCC) and Ms Alexis Wood (Highways Agency).

10/9. To discuss progress on CCTV in the town centre

In the absence of Sgt Burrow, the Clerk reported that a meeting had recently taken place between Honiton Town Council, Honiton Police and the contractors following ongoing problems with the system over a number of months. It had been agreed that the contractors would change the cameras in the town, resulting in a simpler system that should cause less operational problems. This would be carried out within the next few weeks and the Town Council would hold the final payment until both it and the Police were satisfied with the outcome. The Police were taking the opportunity to reposition cameras in line with current needs and to identify the location of the remaining two cameras to be installed.

10/10. To discuss issues relating to Highways Agency

Ms Wood had sent a report as she was unable to attend the meeting.

Progress on improvements to the A35

All of the improvement works had now been completed and the pedestrian crossing was being well utilised. The decision to continue with the 30mph speed limit had been made by the Divisional Director who had overturned the objection to the Order; the Order had now been made and was operational. Cllr Morgan reported that she had also spoken with Ms Wood and had asked her to check whether the speed regulating sign had been adjusted to the new speed limit. She also reported that the police had recently been carrying out speed checks. Cllr Coombs raised the issue of the new bus stops not yet having flags in position; the Highways Agency was aware of this and it would soon be addressed.

Tidying up of grass verges following work on A35

Ms Wood would be visiting the site to review the works done and would look at this point. Cllr Morgan had also spoken with her on this.

Update on discussions re Turks Head junction

Ms Wood had spoken to the Highways Agency planning team to address the ongoing development issues at Turks Head. They had commissioned a further study to identify the planning issues there and the contributions from developers.

Signage on the A30 relating to A373

Ms Wood and Mr Wilson would be discussing this – they would look at existing signs and aim to mirror provision elsewhere; the Highways Agency was happy in principle to signing LGVs to Cullompton via the M5.

Cllr Coombs raised the issue of signage at the end of the slip road when joining Honiton from the Monkton direction; there continued to be problems with visitors to the area approaching the junction in the left hand lane when wishing to turn right to Honiton town centre.

10/11. To discuss issues relating to Devon County Council Highways

Progress on New Street/High Street junction

Mr Wilson reported that the team working on this project had transferred to the new consultancy. A report would shortly be going to HATOC and it was expected that work would start mid-late September and would take approximately four weeks. The Clerk reminded Mr Wilson to give the Town Council as much notice as possible so that the market stalls could be re-located.

Progress on traffic orders

Mr Wilson reported that the roads were currently being marked up. The loading bay had been relocated to the position requested by the Town Council and the disabled bay would now be located west of the new loading bay. It was agreed that the market manager should take steps to relocate the market stalls as soon as possible.

Improvements to the pavements in New Street

Mr Wilson had spoken with Mr Tucker. 30m of work had been approved in the vicinity of the library.

Consideration of the re-classification of the Honiton/Dunkeswell/Hemyock road from a "C" to a "B" road

Mr Wilson reported that the County Council could not see any justification in this change as it would result in an increase in satnav traffic. Members argued that an upgrade would produce more funding which was essential as the road was already being used extensively by HGVs; in addition more housing and industrial building was planned for Dunkeswell. Mr Wilson agreed to refer this matter to the Policy team and Cllr Diviani suggested that this proposal be tied in with transport plans. It was suggested that S106 funding could be forthcoming from planned development and Cllr Diviani would look into this. Cllr Coombs raised the issue of a relief road around the old village but it was felt that this would be unlikely due to funding issues.

Flooding problems in Hale Lane

Cllr Diviani reported that this was the result of ground water and that work had now been scheduled for this year.

Higher Brand blocked culvert and collapsed pipe

Mr Wilson reported that this was a matter for the landowner to address and that Mr Pollard of East Devon District Council was dealing with the matter. Cllr Coombs advised that the ditching had been done but the blocked culvert going under the lane had been missed; Mr Wilson would discuss this with Mr Tucker.

Safety Issues on Pine Park Road/Queen Street

Mr Wilson suggested that this be reviewed once the parking restrictions had been put in to see whether there was any effect. Cllr Coombs expressed the view that signage was required for the second bend.

Handrail on corner of Marl pits Lane

Mr Wilson had looked into this and reported that the cost would be £1600 for the rail and £1600 for installation. Cllr Diviani would talk with Cllr Randall-Johnson to see whether their Locality Funds could be used towards the costs and the Town Council would then consider whether it could fund the remainder.

Replacement of town entrance signs following new town marketing

Mr Wilson advised that the County Council would supply basic signs only and suggested that the Town Council speak with Sidmouth Town Council who had recently carried out a similar scheme.

10/12. To discuss issues relating to Bus Transport

Mr Richardson-Dawes had sent his apologies for the meeting. It was agreed that Cllrs Ash and Coombs would meet to discuss ongoing problems relating to buses and a letter would then be sent to Mr Richardson-Dawes outlining the problems and asking him to attend the

next TMAC meeting.

10/13. To discuss issues relating to footpaths and town lanes

Cllrs Coombs and Fleming had recently met with the Public Rights of Way Officer from Devon County Council, who had agreed to put fencing around the dangerous hole that had opened up in Tunnel Lane. She had also looked at the need for a bridge across part of Wadmore Lane and would look into this, although she considered there may be a funding problem. She was also looking into the diversion on FP14.

The ongoing problems with FP22 had still not been resolved and it was agreed that the Clerk should write again to the County Solicitor with a copy to Cllr Diviani and that this could be the subject of a bid to the Public Rights of Way if re-instated as a footpath.

Cllr Boom reported that repairs had been carried out on FP8 in The Glen but these had now caused a dangerous drop. The Clerk would follow this up.

In addition to the meetings with Ms Hellier, Cllr Fleming had also met with Mr Martin of Devon County Council and the owners of the Donkey Sanctuary over issues relating to Wadmore Lane; these had now been resolved.

Ongoing issues relating to Stout Lane were reviewed and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mr Matthews and to the landowners.

10/14. To discuss issues relating to East Devon District Council

An update on dog orders in Honiton

Cllr Olive confirmed that the Dog Orders had been confirmed and that full details could be accessed from Mr Simon Smale. Cllr Coombs raised concerns about a number of mistakes and mis-spellings which could invalidate the Orders.

Lighting for the path from Millers Way to Rosemount Lane

The Rights of Way committee had looked at this and recommended its transfer to the Town Council but the Orders had not yet been made.

10/15. To receive feedback from the meeting of the Working Group on Traffic & Transport

Minutes of the inaugural meeting held 13 April had been circulated. It was felt that this had been a very positive strategic meeting. Cllr Diviani confirmed that Mr Neil Blackmore and his colleague would be attending the next meeting from East Devon District Council; the Clerk confirmed that she had written to TRIP Community Transport Association inviting them to the next meeting; the Clerk was also meeting with Honiton Community College and had asked for the relevant information on school buses. The Clerk confirmed that she had contacted East Devon District Council and could confirm that the refuse collection vehicles would move to their new site by the end of April.

10/16. To discuss the availability of the Probation "Payback" Scheme

Cllr Morgan reminded Members of the availability of the "Payback" scheme; this applied only to large projects and was at a cost of £40 per day. The group agreed to consider this scheme for any future suitable projects that arose.

10/17. Any Other Business

Mr Wilson advised that he had not yet received an answer about the new brown sign in Pine Park Road.

Mr Wilson advised that the four interactive speed signs for Battishorne Way had been agreed and would soon be in position.

10/18. The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.30pm