

HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Management Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 22 June 2010

Present

Cllr Alf Boom	Honiton Town Council
Sgt Martin Burrow	Devon & Cornwall Police
Cllr Sally Casson	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Roy Coombs	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Ron Farnham	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Peter Fleming	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Dianne Morgan (Chairman)	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Marion Olive	East Devon District Council
Mr Paul Wilson	East Area Highway Management, Devon County Council

10/19. To elect a Chairman of the Committee

Cllr Casson proposed Cllr Morgan as Chairman of the committee. This was seconded by Cllr Farnham and was carried.

10/20. To elect a Vice-Chairman of the Committee

Cllr Fleming proposed Cllr Casson as Vice-Chairman of the committee. This was seconded by Cllr Boom and was carried.

10/21. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Vivienne Ash (HTC/EDDC), Cllr Paul Diviani (DCC), Mr John Richardson-Dawes (DCC) and Ms Alexis Wood (Highways Agency).

10/22. To discuss issues relating to the Police

a) Progress on CCTV in the town centre

Sgt Burrow and the Clerk reported that all the new cameras and software had been installed. The link to the police station was still not operating satisfactorily and the Clerk had been advised that a faster broadband link was required. The system had been working well up until the present day, when it had failed and the Town Council was waiting for a response from the contractor. The Clerk confirmed that the Town Council continued to hold the final payment of £3,000 until everything was resolved satisfactorily.

b) Speed enforcement on Kings Road

Sgt Burrow reported that this had not recently been monitored but he understood that there was a continuing problem with speeding uphill. The Police had started the process to make this a designated site so that they could carry out enforcement; residents had been consulted and the risk management completed. He also reported that this matter had been discussed at the Safety Camera Partnership and it had been confirmed that the existing electronic sign would be amended to 30mph.

Cllr Coombs asked whether it would be possible to reduce the speed to 40mph on the approaching bends at the top of Kings Road but was advised that this had previously been looked at and the site was not appropriate. Cllr Morgan suggested that "Police speed check area" signs should be erected and this would be looked into.

10/23. To discuss issues relating to Highways Agency

a) Progress on final stages of work on A35

Cllr Morgan reported that she had met with the contractors and Connect and been assured that the grass verges in Kings Road would be re-seeded later in the season. It was believed that areas on other roads were now sorted.

Cllr Morgan further reported that the bus stop flags and frames for timetables had now been put up in Kings Road although the number of buses using this route had now been reduced.

b) Progress on alterations at Turks Head junction

Cllr Olive reported that she had received complaints from residents having difficulty crossing the road at Turks Head but it was understood that no crossing points would be put in until the

Aldi and Lidl premises were built and that there were delays on these plans.

Cllr Casson queried the legality of a trailer permanently parked in the layby at Turks Head and being used as an advertisement. Sgt Burrow advised that if the towing vehicle remained attached, there was no action the police could take but it may be advisable to contact Planning Enforcement at East Devon District Council.

c) Signage on the A30 relating to A373

Mr Wilson reported that he had discussed this issue with Ms Wood and it had been agreed in principle, subject to any budget restrictions.

In response to a query, the Clerk confirmed that East Devon District Council is currently undertaking monitoring of pollution and working with the Traffic & Transport Working Group on this.

d) Signage to town centre from eastern slip road off A30

Cllr Coombs queried whether any progress had been made to make it more understandable for drivers that traffic wishing to go to Honiton town needed to be in the right hand lane. The Clerk would raise this with Ms Wood.

10/24. To discuss issues relating to Devon County Council

a) Progress on New Street/High Street junction

Mr Wilson advised that there had been a change of consultant and this scheme may be affected by funding shortages. It was due to be discussed further in November.

Cllr Casson asked whether the Police could monitor the problem of school children crossing the High Street direct from Northcote Lane as she was concerned that this would result in an accident. Sgt Burrow would look into this.

b) Progress on traffic orders including continuing requests for residents' parking

Mr Wilson advised that the traffic orders were going ahead, including the change of taxi rank location, and that these should be progressed within the next few weeks.

c) Improvements to the pavements in New Street

Mr Wilson reported that he understood that the defects would be dealt with in line with laid down criteria.

d) Flooding problems in Hale Lane

Cllr Morgan understood that this matter was due to be dealt with during the current financial year.

e) Higher Brand blocked culvert and collapsed pipe/Handrail on corner of Marl pits Lane

Mr Wilson advised that Mr Tucker had recently been taken seriously ill and that some schemes were therefore delayed. He asked for all partners to understand the pressures that the Highways Team was under at the current time.

f) Part Night Lighting

The Clerk advised that the Town Council had received information from Devon County Council regarding part-night lighting policy. She would forward a copy to Sgt Burrow for information and Cllrs Fleming, Coombs and Morgan would meet to discuss this matter for the Town Council.

g) Parking in Roman Way

Cllr Ash had asked for the committee to look again at the problems of parking in Roman Way. This was discussed but it was felt that this had already been raised at previous meetings and was not believed to be a problem.

h) Dropped Kerbs

Cllr Farnham queried why there was no dropped kerb at Ernsborough Lodge to allow access for disabled residents. Mr Wilson advised that it was not normal practice to put dropped kerbs by private residences or nursing homes but he would look at this particular case.

i) Battishorne Way

Cllr Olive asked what progress was being made for the flashing lights and crossing point in Battishorne Way near the nature reserve. Mr Wilson advised that the signs were in store but he was waiting for budget confirmation to cover the installation. He would speak with Cllr Randall-Johnson on this matter.

j) Brown Signs

Mr Wilson advised that the brown sign for The Railway Inn had been agreed by the Policy team and paid for by the applicant.

10/25. To discuss issues relating to Transport

The Clerk advised that Mr Richardson-Dawes had confirmed that he had received the bus transport report and would respond shortly.

Cllr Coombs advised that he felt Ottery St Mary and other affected parishes should be contacted regarding the possibility of including the re-opening of the railway line in the LDF. It was agreed that this should be progressed when the LDF consultation document was produced.

10/26. To discuss issues relating to footpaths and town lanes

The Clerk advised that the orders for FP6 (Ducks Lane) had now been received. She also advised that she had sent all the correspondence relating to the dispute over FP22 to Cllr Diviani.

Cllr Coombs raised the ongoing issue of Woodhill View and the access to Roundball Wood. He advised that the Town Council was continuing to seek information from Land Registry so that disputed claims and problems with drainage could be resolved.

10/27. To discuss issues relating to East Devon District Councila) Path from Millers Way to Rosemount Lane

Cllr Coombs advised that the order had not yet been posted but this path would become part of the P3 network.

b) Refuse Collection

The Clerk advised that the Town Council had that day received a complaint from a resident of Kings Mews re refused collection. The details were passed to Cllr Olive who would look into this matter.

c) Signage

Cllr Coombs raised the issue on EDDC signs saying "Private – No Parking" but not making clear that the site was also a public route. He was concerned that this could lead to closure of paths as had been the case previously. The Clerk was instructed to take advice on this matter.

10/28. To receive feedback from the meeting of the Working Group on Traffic & Transport

Minutes of the meetings held 13 May and 10 June had been circulated. Cllr Farnham advised that these were being circulated to the TMAC due to the number of overlapping items involved. He explained that the working group was also working constructively on input to the LDF.

10/29. The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.30pm