

## HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Town Management Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 26 October 2010

#### Present

Cllr Sally Casson	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Roy Coombs	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Paul Diviani	Devon County Council
Cllr Ron Farnham	Honiton Town Council
Mr Derek Fishpond	Devon County Council Public Transport
Cllr David Foster	Honiton Town Council
Mr Phil Hardy-Bishop	Highways Agency
Cllr Dianne Morgan	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Marion Olive	East Devon District Council
Mr Paul Wilson	East Area Highway Management, Devon County Council

#### 10/30. To elect a Chairman of the Committee

Cllr Morgan having decided not to continue as Chairman of the Committee, Cllr Foster was duly elected.

#### 10/31. To elect a Vice-Chairman of the Committee

Cllr Casson was confirmed as Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

#### 10/32. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Sgt Martin Burrow (Devon & Cornwall Police); Cllr Fleming (Honiton Town Council)

#### 10/33. Declarations of interest from Town Councillors

Cllr Coombs – Woodhill View/Roundball Wood (P)  
Cllr Morgan – Kings Road (P)

#### 10/34. Matters arising from the Minutes dated 22 June not forming part of the agenda

Cllr Coombs raised two issues that were added to the agenda.

#### 10/35. To receive feedback from the meetings of the Working Group on Traffic & Transport

Minutes of the meetings held 15 July and 14 September had been circulated. The Clerk reported that the priority for the group at the moment was to make comments to the LDF Working Group on issues relating to traffic and transport in the town.

#### 10/36. To discuss issues relating to the Police

##### a) Progress on CCTV in the town centre

The Clerk reported that following ongoing problems for eighteen months, the CCTV system was now working well; the first downloads had been produced for the police and they were pleased with the quality. The camera overlooking Allhallows now needed moving due to the closure of the Pit Club – this would cost £850 and the Safety Partnership was looking at making a contribution towards this. The final camera could now be installed and the police had asked for this to be put on HSBC Bank overlooking Montgomerys – this installation would cost £890. The Clerk would be taking both items of expenditure to the Policy meeting for approval once she had ascertained the level of support from the Safety Partnership.

The system was now linked to the police station so that officers could view footage direct. It would be helpful to improve this facility but the cost quoted was over £4000 which was not felt to be cost effective for the gains achieved.

##### b) Speed enforcement on Kings Road

The Clerk reported that Sgt Burrow had informed her that Kings Road was being monitored by the police along with the other roads in the town.

**10/37. To discuss issues relating to Highways Agency****a) Progress on final stages of work on A35**

Mr Hardy-Bishop reported that he would be contacting contractors concerning the re-levelling of the ground and the re-positioning of the post near the new bus stop. He also confirmed that the current Vehicle Activated Sign would be updated and made functional.

**b) Progress on alterations at Turks Head junction**

Mr Hardy-Bishop reported that following the new planning application by Lidl, capacity and safety problems were being taken into account. Design work was being undertaken with both a mini roundabout and signalisation being looked at within the existing Highways Agency land. Consultation would be carried out on all options. Progress on the improvements was waiting for decisions relating to both Aldi and Lidl. Members raised with Mr Hardy-Bishop the need to take into account pedestrian problems at the junction and he confirmed that an audit was to be carried out re non-motorised users. It was also stressed by Members that it was important that road improvements were carried out at the same time as any development.

Land ownership problems were discussed and Cllr Diviani asked that the timetable for major works be published as soon as it were known so that businesses in the vicinity could carry out refurbishment and other works while the road was closed.

Members raised current problems on the Turks Head junction, particularly with regard to speeding and traffic queueing; Mr Hardy-Bishop would carry out a site visit to look at the problems.

**c) Signage on the A30 relating to A373**

Mr Wilson reported that he had discussed this issue with Ms Wood and Mr Hardy-Bishop and Devon County Council would look at making an addition to the Highways Agency sign on the A30.

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

Cllr Coombs outlined for Mr Hardy-Bishop the problems with inadequate signing on the slip road travelling west from Monkton. Mr Hardy-Bishop would look into this.

**10/38. To discuss issues relating to Devon County Council****a) Progress on New Street/High Street junction**

Mr Wilson advised that this project was on hold pending funding decisions and it was not likely that any detail of ongoing projects would be received before December.

**b) Progress on traffic orders**

Mr Wilson advised that the traffic orders were going ahead and that a Keep Clear marking had been added at the Fire Station. The work on the High Street marking would be done overnight.

The Clerk queried the County Council's plans to install parking meters on the High Street and asked whether the timing of this was known. Mr Wilson confirmed that the County had decided to go ahead with pay for parking in the market and coastal towns and that he would be writing to the Town Council once the timing was known. The Clerk reminded him that it would be necessary to make provision for the market on Tuesdays and Saturdays and that it was the intention of the Town Council to start occasional markets on Thursdays. It was also important that new posts for parking meters were not positioned near the kerbside as these impeded market stalls. Mr Wilson said he would pass on the Market Manager's details to the relevant section at Devon County Council to liaise.

Members raised concerns received from residents regarding the new lining and these were discussed. Mr Wilson advised that any move to residents' parking would require a full feasibility study to ascertain whether a workable scheme could be introduced.

**c) Improvements to the pavements in New Street**

Mr Wilson would speak to Mr Tucker about this problem.

d) Higher Brand blocked culvert and collapsed pipe/Handrail on corner of Marl pits Lane  
Mr Wilson advised that Mr Tucker was looking into this problem. Cllr Foster would also discuss whether this could be looked at by the Mobile Lengthsman.

e) Dropped Kerbs

Mr Wilson would follow up the query relating to Ernsborough Lodge

f) Handrail on corner of Marl pits Lane

Mr Wilson reported that Mr Tucker had expressed concern over cost and space. The Clerk reminded Members that Cllr Nicholson had originally offered to fund this work from his Locality Budget but he was no longer a County Councillor. Cllr Diviani and Mr Wilson would liaise on this.

g) Battishorne Way

Mr Wilson confirmed that the signs had been purchased and he was bidding for funding to cover the cost of installation. He also confirmed that he had held a site meeting with the police to agree positioning of the new signs and that dropped kerbs would also be installed.

h) Signage at Lower Northcote Road

Cllr Coombs advised that the No Through Road sign at the part of Lower Northcote Road that led to the A30 closed junction were very old and corroded and needed replacing.

### **10/39. To discuss issues relating to Bus Transport**

Mr Fishpond reported that the 380 service had been changed to fit in with the train timetable. He advised that only one complaint had been received and that previous usage was considered to be quite low. He understood the impact the re-routing had on the eastern end of town but pointed out that one of the Town Council's priorities was to have co-ordination of bus and train timetables.

Mr Fishpond reported that the 863 service had been changed but that residents of Broadhembury and Awliscombe could still get into Honiton. The changes had been implemented due to a change of operator and the need to fit in with this operator's peak services.

Mr Fishpond confirmed that there was no procedure for consultation with parish and town councils or with the public on changes to bus routes and timetables. He advised that the team was often working to tight timescales and did not have time to consult. He also advised that funding was getting tighter and the team was trying to use its resources to cover more thinly.

In response to a question, Mr Fishpond confirmed that Devon County Council currently had no criteria to work to relating to bus provision but was looking at options for the next year; it was possible that they would be looking at establishing a minimal level. He advised that it had been the practice to work on a cost per passenger basis but under the new administration they were being asked to consider alternatives.

Following a question, Mr Fishpond confirmed that journeys were often tied into school finish times and this sometimes led to a mismatch with train timetables.

Mr Fishpond confirmed that he would look into the issue of missing marking and bus flags around the town. He would also look into the provision of new bus stops in Monkton Road near the new pedestrian crossing, liaising with the Highways Agency.

### **10/40. To discuss issues relating to footpaths and town lanes**

a) Footpath 3 and its inclusion in the Definitive Map Review

Cllr Coombs raised the problems relating to the ownership of FP3. It was agreed to ask Emma Hellier to check whether the footpath had been adopted; the Clerk would send her any records available from the time of Honiton Borough Council.

b) Footpath 7 and the need for replacement safety measures

Cllr Coombs reported that a concrete bollard had been removed approximately 5 years ago and this had led to a potential problem for people exiting the footpath on to Queen Street by

the Railway Inn

c) Footpath 8 and safety issues

Cllr Coombs reported that a dangerous gap had been opened up by the safety fence following the recent laurel clearance at The Glen. It was agreed to discuss this problem with East Devon District Council as owners of the Glen.

d) Tunnel Lane

Cllr Coombs advised that this issue was being looked into by Emma Hellier.

**10/41. To discuss issues relating to East Devon District Council**

a) Continuing problems with dog fouling

Town Councillors advised of the ongoing problems with dog fouling in the town. It was agreed to ask East Devon District Council to arrange for the dog wardens to visit. In addition the Town Council would talk with the Honiton dog group about any measures they could take. Cllr Olive advised that dog issues were not statutory duties for the District Council and that dog bins and other issues related to dog fouling were likely to be subject to cuts. The Clerk advised that Honiton Town Council had over the past year installed three additional dog bins in the town but had now decided that it would not continue to increase the number of bins as they did not appear to deter the irresponsible dog owners.

b) Lighting for path from Millers Way to Rosemount Lane

Cllr Coombs advised that this path had now gone through the County Council Rights of Way committee and that it was used by a lot of people. It was recognised that additional lighting would be useful but was unlikely to be installed due to funding cuts unless the Town Council wished to fund it.

c) Signage

Cllr Coombs raised the issue of the walkways through housing areas and how these were often marked Private by East Devon District Council with no indication that there was a public access. There was concern that if people were deterred from using these walkways they would eventually be closed. It was agreed that the Town Council's planned leaflet on public footpaths should be extended to include these walkways.

d) 1 Oak View

The Town Council's planning committee had raised concerns regarding the permitted development at this site. Cllr Olive and Cllr Diviani advised that the planning application had now been approved and nothing more could be done. There had been no objection from Highways. Cllr Diviani confirmed that a condition had been imposed regarding the visibility splay. Cllr Olive advised that the only proof of original intention and conditions would be on the Davis Estate documents.

**10/42. The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.05pm**