

HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Management Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 25 January 2011 (Agenda)

Present

Cllr David Foster (Chair)	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Roy Coombs	Honiton Town Council
Mr Lee Cranmer	East Area Highway Management, Devon County Council (for Mr Paul Wilson)
Mr Andrew Ennis	East Devon District Council (for Mr John Smith)
Cllr Peter Fleming	Honiton Town Council
Mr Phil Hardy-Bishop	Highways Agency
Cllr Marion Olive	East Devon District Council

11/1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Sgt Martin Burrow (Devon & Cornwall Police); Cllr Diviani (Devon County Council); Cllr Dianne Morgan (Honiton Town Council); Cllr Sally Casson (Honiton Town Council); Cllr Ron Farnham (P); Mr Neil Hurlock (TRIP)

11/2. Declarations of interest from Town Councillors

Cllr Coombs – Woodhill View(P); Footpath 22 (P); Parish Lengthsman (P)
Cllr Foster – Manor House Nursing Home (P)

11/3. Matters arising from the Minutes dated 26 October not forming part of the agenda

No issues were raised.

11/4. To discuss issues relating to the Police

a) Progress on CCTV in the town centre

The Clerk reported that the CCTV system continued to work well and the police were pleased with the results. On Thursday 27 January the camera overlooking Allhallows would be moved from the Pit Club to the Masonic Hall. At the same time the final camera in this phase would be put up outside Budgens overlooking the High Street west.

In response to a question from Cllr Olive, the Clerk confirmed that no contribution for the Town's CCTV cameras was received from EDDC.

11/5. To discuss issues relating to Highways Agency

a) Progress on final stages of work on A35

Mr Hardy-Bishop reported that the Vehicle Activated Sign on Kings Road had been updated and was now operational. He also reported that he had reached agreement with Connect to relocate the pole near Hale Lane but this could not be done until the other equipment is removed by a third party. Once all the work had been completed the grass verges would be repaired.

b) Progress on alterations at Turks Head junction

Mr Hardy-Bishop reported that he had received the draft report from the consultants; the options were to have a signalised junction or a roundabout but this was subject to funding under S106 and at the moment only Lidl were developing their site. The importance of collaborating with East Devon District Council over air quality issues was raised and Mr Hardy-Bishop confirmed that the Highways Agency and District Council were co-operating on this matter. Mr Hardy-Bishop confirmed that he was willing to send a copy of the consultants' report to both the Town Council and the District Council.

c) Signage on the A30 relating to A373

Mr Hardy-Bishop reported that he had reached agreement with Mr Wilson concerning this signage but it was subject to funding being available.

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

Mr Hardy-Bishop reported that he had discussed this issue with Connect and it had been agreed that signage in the form of painted lines on the road would be installed when line painting was being done in the area. Cllr Coombs thanked Mr Hardy-Bishop for the resolution of this long-term problem.

11/6. To discuss issues relating to Devon County Council

a) Parking Enforcement

Mr Cranmer advised that a letter was being sent to all Town Clerks regarding the delay to the decision on parking meters. The Clerk reported that this had not yet been received and that no response had been received from Cllr Stuart Hughes regarding a meeting with the Town Council and the Chamber of Commerce.

b) Cold Weather Response

The Clerk reported a number of incidents that had arisen at the Town Council following advice to residents from the County Council during the recent cold weather. It was suggested that the County Council should meet with the Town Clerks to discuss how best to co-operate, as it was acknowledged that the logistics in a town were very different to those in a village.

c) Improvements to the pavements in New Street

Mr Cranmer advised that the defects would be dealt with in line with laid down criteria.

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

Mr Cranmer would chase progress on this matter. Cllr Coombs advised that the problem was three-fold : a blocked culvert, a collapsed pipe and surface drainage problems.

e) Dropped Kerbs

Mr Cranmer advised that he was aware that some work on dropped kerbs in Honiton was scheduled but he was unsure of locations. He would look into this and report back whether Dowell Street and Honiton Manor were included.

Cllr Coombs raised the issue of a recent development in Oak View that had led to the removal of tactile paving. Mr Cranmer explained that in the case of a vehicular access being installed and including a dropped kerb, tactile paving was removed as it could potentially cause damage to vehicles using the access. He also confirmed that in such cases the tactile paving on the opposite side of the road was also removed. Cllr Coombs raised the issue of how this may affect disabled people, particularly those with visual impairment. Mr Cranmer pointed out that vehicular access dropped kerbs were usually staggered on roads; Mr Hardy-Bishop advised that tactile paving was not favoured by a number of disability groups.

f) Handrail on corner of Marl pits Lane

In Mr Wilson's absence, the Clerk would follow this matter up with Cllr Diviani

g) Battishorne Way

Mr Cranmer confirmed that the equipment had been purchased but installation of the Vehicle Activated Sign and the dropped kerbs were subject to funding. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach Cllr Randall-Johnson to see whether there may be funding available from her Locality Fund.

h) Signage at Lower Northcote Road

The Clerk's office would raise this problem with Devon County Council.

11/7. To discuss issues relating to East Devon District Council

a) Feedback from youth club members on LDF matters

The Clerk had circulated details of this feedback for information.

Cllr Fleming joined the meeting

b) Air Quality Management Area consultation ([supporting document](#))

Mr Ennis reported that the AQMA consultation had started and was taking place over the next

few weeks in Honiton Library and at Honiton Town Council. Letters had been sent to all residents potentially affected by air quality issues as identified. He advised that this project was statutory as local district councils were obliged to measure air quality and it had been found that Honiton's levels of air quality exceeded the standard (based on the health effect of pollutants). To date 80-90 responses had been received back from residents.

The question was raised as to whether other areas (such as Dowell Street, New Street and Monkton Road) could be included in the AQMA area and Mr Ennis confirmed that the area could be extended. The next step would be the development of an action plan by July 2012 in which the Town Council, County Council and Highways Agency would be involved.

c) Allhallows Playing Field

Cllr Foster advised that information was required regarding the planned second phase of play equipment at Allhallows which was for younger children. The Clerk would follow this up.

11/8. To discuss issues relating to Bus Transport

Cllr Foster raised the issue of the current route and timetable of Service 367 (the Town Bus) as it had the effect of making children late for registration at Honiton Primary School. The Clerk would write to Mr Richardson-Dawes about this problem.

Cllr Coombs raised the issue of bus stop provision in Monkton Road; Mr Hardy-Bishop would look into this with the County Council.

11/9. To discuss issues relating to Footpaths and Town Lanes

a) Footpath 22

Cllr Coombs outlined the long-standing problems with this footpath, which included both County and District Councils as well as the Highways Agency. Information had been received from Devon County Council under a Freedom of Information request but information was still outstanding from East Devon District Council. It was agreed that the Clerk should make a Freedom of Information request to EDDC asking whether the situation with this footpath was now regularised and if not when it would be.

Cllr Olive left the meeting

b) Woodhill View

Cllr Coombs outlined the long-standing problems with the footpaths planned as part of this development. He advised that requests for information had been sent to East Devon District Council but no satisfactory response had been received. It was agreed that the Clerk should make a Freedom of Information request to EDDC on this matter.

11/10. To discuss issues relating to the Parish Lengthsman

Cllr Foster reported that the Parish Lengthsman was due to visit Honiton at the end of the month to carry out minor maintenance on ditches, hedges and culverts. It was felt that communication could be improved between the County and Town Councils on the schedule of work being undertaken and the Clerk was instructed to contact Mr Barnes at Devon County Council to arrange a meeting with herself and Cllr Foster.

11/11. The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.30pm