

HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Management Advisory Committee held on Wednesday 27 April 2011

Present

Cllr David Foster (Chair)	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Les Bayliss	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Roy Coombs	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Sharon Pavey	Honiton Town Council
Cllr John Taylor	Honiton Town Council
Cllr Liz Tirard	Honiton Town Council
Mr Mike Brown	Devon County Council Highways
Mr Dave Ovenden	Devon County Council Transport
Mr Steve Hellier	Highways Agency

11/37. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Diviani (DCC); PCSO England (Police); Cllr O'Leary (EDDC); Cllr Randall-Johnson (DCC); Mr Wright (Chamber of Commerce); Cllr Zarczynski (HTC)

11/38. Declarations of interest from Town Councillors

None received.

11/39. Matters arising from the Minutes dated 26 July 2011 not forming part of the agenda

1. Signage on the A30 relating to A373

It was reported that confirmation is still awaited from DCC regarding signage to deter HGVs. Mr Hellier agreed to follow up the matter with DCC.

2. Hale Lane junction with A35

The Deputy Town Clerk read the reply received from the nursery in Hale Lane in response to the Town Clerk's letter.

3. Higher Brand Lane

It was reported that there are still some issues to be resolved.

4. Dropped kerbs – Honiton Manor Nursing Home

Mr Brown advised that, should the Nursing Home be able to pay for the dropped kerbs, there would be no problem with installation. However, planning permission would be needed. Cllr Foster advised that the Nursing Home would only be able to offer 50% of the cost.

5. Parish Lengthsman

Cllr Foster reported that nothing further had been heard with regard to the previous request for information on the Parish Lengthsman visits. Mr Brown agreed to follow up the matter.

6. High Street Maintenance

Mr Brown reported that drains had been jetted. However, it was reported that during recent wet weather flooding was still occurring. Mr Brown advised that this could indicate a possible problem with the capacity of the storm system and further advised that the Town Council take up the matter with South West Water.

7. Bus stops in Monkton Road

Mr Ovenden advised that he had no further information, however, it was understood that street light numbers had been identified for bus stop flags. Mr Ovenden would follow up this matter and report back.

Signed Chair

10 October 2011

8. Woodhill View

Cllr Foster reported that EDDC are looking into the matter, however no further information was available at the time of the meeting.

9. Roundball Wood

It was reported that the field gate at the Battishorne Way access was broken. The Deputy Town Clerk would inform Combe Estate.

10. Allhallows Playing Field Improvements

Cllr Foster reported that the Town Council had resolved to approve the use of S.106 funding and to set up a working group to take the project forward.

11. Water Channel

Cllr Coombs reported that a planning application had been submitted in respect of 8 High Street which, should planning permission be granted, would require alterations to a section of the water channel. As the water channel is the property of DCC, the Town Council wished to inform DCC of the proposed alterations and request that any parts of the water channel which were removed could be stored for future use. Mr Brown advised that regulations on dropped kerbs and the moving of lampposts had recently been tightened up and that Devon County Council Highways would act as a consultee on the planning application in the usual manner. Mr Brown also advised that the Town Council could store any parts from the water channel.

11/40. To review progress on CCTV in the town centre

PCSO England was unable to attend the meeting and no issues had been reported.

11/41. To review speeding issuesHigh Street

Cllr Foster reported that PCSO England had tabled a report on speeding issues in the High Street at the meeting of the Town Council on 19th September. It was agreed that this matter be carried forward to the next meeting of the TMAC.

Other - Gittisham Hill House

Cllr Tirard reported that various safety issues had been raised as a result of a planning application for Gittisham Hill House. Local residents had raised concerns with EDDC regarding the safety of the vehicle entrance to Gittisham Hill House. Concerns included the speed of traffic down the hill and the lack of safety barriers adjacent to the steep drop directly opposite the Gittisham Hill House entrance. Mr Brown agreed to look into the matter, but advised that DCC could only comment as consultee on a planning application and would not be able to take action as a result of a request made in this way. Mr Brown further advised that speed limits are not usually altered for a single property access.

11/42. To review parking issuesHigh Street

Mr Brown reported that he had met with the engineers involved in the proposals but had no further information. Mr Brown advised that the Town Council contact ward members with regard to whether any further progress had been made.

Honiton Car Parks

This matter could not be discussed as no officer from EDDC was present.

Yellow Lines Queries

Cllr Coombs raised the issue of the wording of the Order in respect of the yellow lines in Orchard Way which had led to queries from local residents as to whether the lines had been painted correctly. Mr Brown advised that Orders are worded in this way so as to comply with legal requirements and that no further action could be taken.

In response to a query from a local resident regarding the yellow lines in Pine Grove, Mr Brown advised that he had visited the site and that no further action could be taken. The Deputy Town Clerk was instructed to respond to the resident.

11/43. To review town signage issuesBrown tourist signs at entrance

Mr Hellier advised that Ms Helen Phillips had previously reported on the proposed relaxation of the guidelines for brown sign images. Mr Hellier would look into whether any progress had been made regarding the new guidelines.

Replacement town entrance signs

The proposed new town entrance signs were discussed with Mr Brown and Mr Hellier. Mr Brown advised that there are restrictions on typeface for such signs and would look into this. The Deputy Town Clerk would email the proposals to Mr Brown and Mr Hellier for checking.

In response to a query Mr Hellier agreed to check how often signage is cleaned under the Connect maintenance cycle.

Request from East Devon Crematorium

The Deputy Town Clerk read the request for signage from East Devon Crematorium. Mr Hellier advised that the Highways Agency would provide signage from the trunk road at the same time as DCC provided signage from other highways routes. Mr Brown advised that, as existing highways signs were not being replaced, it would be difficult to support the provision of any new signage at the present time. The Town Council noted that, although it provides a public service, the East Devon Crematorium is a private enterprise, and it was therefore agreed that one business could not be supported over another and that no recommendation could be made to the Town Council. The Deputy Town Clerk was instructed to write to advise the East Devon Crematorium accordingly.

11/44. To review lack of consistency in town's cycle ways

Mr Brown advised that he had consulted the County Cycling Officer with regard to cycle routes in Honiton. As the town's current routes were put in place as part of housing development and not created by DCC traffic orders they are not recognised by DCC as 'listed' cycle routes. Inconsistencies have arisen due to various developers being involved. Cllr Pavey reported that she would be meeting with the Cycling Officer later in the week to discuss the issues for Honiton.

Cllr Pavey left the meeting

The Deputy Town Clerk was requested to ask Cllr Pavey to enquire as to whether cycle routes could be 'listed' by DCC when meeting with the Cycling Officer. This item would be carried forward to the next meeting of the TMAC.

Prior to leaving the meeting and in response to a query Mr Hellier advised that incidents of advertising on trunk roads and faded white lines on the A35 in the vicinity of Holyshute House should be emailed to the Highways Agency.

Mr Hellier left the meeting

11/45. To receive an update on projects to be funded by DCC Locality Budgeta) Handrail on corner of Marlspots Lane

Mr Brown reported that he is awaiting a price from the contractors.

b) Crossing improvements for nature reserve on Battishorne Way

Mr Brown advised that there are insufficient funds from the Locality Budget to cover the installation of dropped kerbs and the old style speed limit signs which are currently available. Mr Brown is awaiting costings for the new style solar powered signs. Cllr Foster noted that money has been made available to the Town Council for this work and stressed the urgency for progress to be made. Mr Brown agreed to follow up the matter of costs and have these available for the next meeting.

11/46. To discuss progress on a loading bay for New Street

Mr Brown reported that the traffic order for the loading bay in New Street would be combined with the traffic order for changes to parking restrictions regarding the market on the High Street.

11/47. To discuss the temporary closure of New Street

Mr Brown advised that the contractors had applied for an extension of time for the work as problems had been encountered with a water pipe touching the mains electricity cable.

11/48. To discuss access to public open space at Waterleat Avenue

Various options were discussed in order to provide easier access to the public open space at Waterleat Avenue. None of the proposed options were considered suitable and it was agreed that no further action could be taken.

11/49. To discuss residents' requests for an additional bus shelter by Mill Water School

Cllr Foster outlined the background to the request for an additional bus shelter by Mill Water School. Mr Brown advised that the cost of a new bus shelter would be in the region of £3,500 - £4,000. Mr Brown further advised that in principle the proposal is acceptable to DCC, however there is currently no budget for new bus shelters. Following discussion it was agreed not to recommend that the Town Council take this matter any further.

11/50. To review feedback from DCC on the Town Bus route and timetable

Mr Ovenden reported that Mr Richardson-Dawes had previously advised the Town Clerk that it would not be possible to alter the route and timetable of the town bus. However, there would be the possibility of an enhanced 380 service in the early spring of 2012 which would serve the new Lidl store and start early enough to serve commuters.

Cllr Tirard left the meeting

Mr Ovenden left the meeting

11/51. To discuss issues relating to Honiton's public rights of wayProgress with DMR

Cllr Coombs reported that a meeting had been held with Mr Steenman-Clark, the DCC Researcher for the DMR. Mr Steenman-Clark will undertake a review of the files and work carried out to date. Cllr Coombs advised that there is an ongoing issue with linking footways and estate walkways not having been properly recorded. Mr Brown agreed to look into whether a list of streets can be provided to the Town Council together with a maintenance plan.

Installation of new bollard/gating on Footpath 7 by Railway Inn

The provision of the new bollard was discussed, however, Mr Brown advised that this work will not be going ahead. Mr Brown agreed to look into the matter and report back.

Footpath 7 resurfacing problems by private road at eastern end

It was reported that no response had been received to the Town Clerk's email regarding resurfacing problems.

Footpath 22 proposed meeting

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that a meeting had been held with officers from EDDC and DCC in order to resolve the ongoing issues. It had been agreed that once EDDC have accepted responsibility to bring works up to an acceptable standard and these had been completed, DCC would take on responsibility for the footpath and that there would be no need to include this in the DMR process.

11/52. To discuss any progress on the Honiton air quality management area consultation

In the absence of an officer from EDDC it was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

11/53. To discuss attendance and timing of meetings

Following discussion as to whether to alter the timing of meetings it was agreed that the current time is most suitable for officers. It was also agreed to discuss items relating to the Police first, followed by items relating to each area of officers' responsibility and finally non-related items raised by local residents. This would allow officers to attend without taking up their time unnecessarily.

11/54. To close the meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.40pm.