

HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Management Advisory Committee held on Wednesday 23rd November 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 Vernon Whitlock	Honiton Town Council
Cllr John Zarczynski	Honiton Town Council
Sgt Martin Burrow	Devon & Cornwall Police
Mr Lee Cranmer	Devon County Council (Traffic Management)
Cllr Paul Diviani	Devon County Council
Mr Steve Hellier	Highways Agency
Ms Amanda Pitchford	Devon County Council (Highways)
Mr Gary Powell	Devon County Council (Traffic Management)
Mr Colin Wright	Honiton Chamber of Commerce

In attendance

Mrs Sarah Jenkins	Deputy Town Clerk
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11/55. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr Brown (DCC); Mr Ovenden (DCC); Cllr Randall-Johnson (DCC); Mr Richardson-Dawes (DCC); Cllr Tirard (HTC)

11/56. Declarations of interest from Town Councillors

None received.

11/57. Matters arising from the Minutes dated 21 September 2011 not forming part of the agenda

1. Woodhill View

Cllr Coombs stressed the need for this issue to be carried forward until the situation has been resolved. It was suggested that EDDC officer, Mrs K Symington, be approached for assistance due to her involvement and help with other issues.

2. Water Channel

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that there was no further information on progress with the planning application for 8 High Street. It was agreed to keep the matter under review.

11/58. To discuss the development of a Traffic Management Plan for Honiton

Mr Powell advised that, following the previous proposals to introduce parking meters on the High Street and the traffic order advertised in 2010, Devon County Council wished to discuss whether a Traffic Management Plan would be of benefit to Honiton and how best to proceed to develop a Plan. Mr Powell stressed that there is no remit to reconsider the introduction of parking meters but that a Plan could include all aspects of traffic management covering the whole town. Cllr Whitlock expressed the view that a Plan could be of benefit provided that it did not revolve around the introduction of parking charges on the High Street. In response to these concerns Cllr Diviani confirmed that, for the purposes of this discussion, it was not the intention for the next two years to introduce charges on the High Street if the Town Council was not in favour of such a move.

It was agreed to recommend to the Town Council that a Traffic Management Plan for Honiton be developed.

Signed Chair

12 December 2011

11/59. To review matters specifically relating to the Police

CCTv in the town centre

Sgt Burrow advised that there are no current issues.

In response to a question regarding closing time at weekends, Sgt Burrow advised that any problems tend to occur on Saturday rather than Friday nights.

Cllr Whitlock left the meeting

Sgt Burrow confirmed that the current number of cameras is sufficient to deal with any issues in the town centre.

Speeding issues

Sgt Burrow confirmed that there are ongoing speed checks on Kings Road and a report will be provided at the next meeting of the Town Council.

It was reported that residents have raised the issue of speeding in Waterleat Avenue since speed cushions have been removed. Sgt Burrow advised that traffic calming is best achieved through engineering solutions rather than lowering the speed limit to 20mph.

11/60. To review matters specifically relating to Devon County Council

Loading bay for New Street

Ms Pitchford advised that she is working with the Town Clerk to arrange the funding, following which the traffic order for the loading bay and for the new High Street parking signage will be passed to the traffic order team to progress.

Handrail on corner of Marl pits Lane

Ms Pitchford confirmed that Mr Brown is working on progressing the installation of the handrail.

Crossing improvements on Battishorne Way

A paper had been circulated in advance of the meeting setting out the various options under the available funding. Cllr Foster expressed the view that responsibility rests with Devon County Council to complete the project. In response to a question it was reported that the additional cost for a flashing sign with data logging capability would be £1,200.

Sgt Burrow advised that it would not be possible to install 30mph signs on Battishorne Way and that from a health and safety aspect the only option would be for two flashing signs and no dropped kerbs if funding was not sufficient to cover the whole project.

Cllr Coombs suggested that East Devon District Council could be approached for a contribution to the shortfall in funding as the play area had been installed by EDDC in its current location which had created the need for a crossing. It was further suggested that enquiries could be made with regards to relocating the play area to the field at Honiton Bottom Road which now has village green status.

Ms Pitchford advised that she is working to find the additional funding for the full project from Devon County Council.

Town Bus route and timetable

In response to a query regarding the yellow lines in Pine Grove and the re-routing of the Town Bus along Turnpike, Ms Pitchford agreed to ask Mr Richardson-Dawes and Mr Ovenden to look into the matter and reconsider the route.

Bus stops in Monkton Road

Mr Hellier confirmed that two locations had been identified and would require approval by the Highways Agency.

Mr Hellier further suggested that, should the development at Holyshute House receive planning permission, the Town Council could consider requesting a contribution for the bus stops from the developer.

High Street maintenance

Ms Pitchford advised that Mr Brown would deal with the issues raised on his return to work.

Sgt Burrow, Cllr Pavey, Mr Cranmer, Mr Powell & Ms Pitchford left the meeting

11/61. To review matters specifically relating to the Highways Agency

Signage on the A30 relating to the A373

Mr Hellier advised that he had met with Mr Paul Wilson to discuss the designs of the proposed signage. Mr Hellier would advise Mr Wilson on the size of the signage in order to progress the matter.

Brown tourist signs at entrance to town

Mr Hellier advised that the new regulations were expected in spring 2012 and should allow greater flexibility. Mr Hellier would be able to give further advice once the new regulations come into force.

Replacement town entrance signs

Mr Hellier reported that information had been provided to the Town Clerk with regard to the use of fonts and confirmed that advertising on town signs is not permitted. It was agreed to recommend that the issue be reconsidered by the Marketing Group.

Advertising on trunk roads

The Deputy Town Clerk had forwarded details of adverts on trunk roads to the Highways Agency. Mr Hellier advised that photographs should accompany details for ease of reference and that the Town Council should check with East Devon District Council whether any of the adverts are matters for Enforcement.

Keep Clear signs on road in front of Marwood House

A request had been received from the owners of Marwood House due to traffic queuing at the crossing and blocking the entrance to the property. The Deputy Town Clerk would email details to Mr Hellier.

Improvement to Turks Head Junction

In response to a question Mr Hellier advised that various options were under consideration including the potential relocation of East Devon District Council to Heathpark and the possible impact of such a move on the proposed improvements. The issue of Turks Head could also be included in the proposed Traffic Management Plan.

Mr Hellier & Cllr Zarczynski left the meeting

11/62. To review issues relating to Honiton's public rights of way

Progress with DMR

It was reported that a public meeting had been held on 22 November to relaunch the DMR process for Honiton.

Installation of new bollard/gating on FP7 by Railway Inn

There was no further progress to report.

FP7 resurfacing problems by private road at eastern end

There was no further progress to report.

Roundball Wood

It was reported that the swing gate from the permissive path onto Roundball Lane is broken. The Deputy Town Clerk would look into the matter.

11/63. To review matters specifically relating to East Devon District Council

Car Park review

The Town Council's response to the car park survey had been submitted to East Devon District Council.

Parking enforcement

Nothing to report.

Cleanliness/streetscene

Mr Wright reported that the Chamber of Commerce had concerns over the untidiness of the town following the collection of household recycling. Cllr Diviani agreed to pass details on to the Culture Champion at East Devon District Council, together with Cllr Coombs' comments that, in his view, the recycling service in the Pine Park area is excellent.

Information for residents on household and food waste

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that a request had been received from the Northcote Lane Residents Association regarding improved information on timing requirements for putting out refuse. Following discussion it was agreed that information is considered to be sufficient. Cllr Diviani advised that issues such as side waste and recycling of cardboard are under consideration and residents will be advised of any future changes.

Improved signage to public conveniences

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the Northcote Lane Residents Association had raised the issue of public conveniences. It was agreed that any input from the Residents Association on how signage to public conveniences could be improved would be welcomed.

11/64. To discuss progress on reviewing the town's cycle ways

The Chairman reported that Cllr Pavey had been in contact with the Transport Planning Officer at Devon County Council. The Deputy Town Clerk would provide further information to the Transport Planning Officer as requested.

In response to a question the Deputy Town Clerk was instructed to look into whether there are any legal standards for the signing of cycle ways and the use of footpaths by cyclists.

11/65. To discuss request for improved signage to Honiton Methodist Church

It was reported that a request had been received from Honiton Methodist Church for improved directional signage at the end of Chapel Street. The Deputy Town Clerk was instructed to forward the request to East Devon District Council.

11/66. To close the meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.05pm.