

Minutes of the Meeting of the **TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** held at the Town Hall on **Thursday 7th May 2009 at 2.15 p.m.**

Chairman: -

Councillor S. Poultney

Swanage Town Council

Present: -

Councillor Mr B. Audley

Swanage Town Council

Councillor W. Trite

Swanage Town Council

Councillor M. Whitwam

Swanage Town Council

Also Present: -

Dr M. Ayres

Assistant Town Clerk

Mr G. Brookes

Operations Manager

Public Participation Time

There was one member of the public in attendance.

1) Apologies

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Mrs Patrick, Pratt, and from Mr M. Dean of Swanage Railway.

2) Matters arising from Minutes of the Transport Committee Meeting held on 4th February 2009

Further to item 5) b) it was reported that there had been no further developments in respect of the extension of the 30mph speed limit to Coombe corner, pending the outcome of Dorset County Council's traffic flow study.

3) Request for concessionary parking for local van owners

The Chairman adjourned the meeting under Standing Order 69 to enable Mr Sanders to speak in respect of his request for concessionary parking for local van owners in Main Beach and Broad Road car parks. This issue was raised as a remedy to perceived unfairness resulting from the prohibition of the on-street parking of vans in roads radiating from Northbrook Road and De Moulham Road.

A discussion regarding the merits of this proposal ensued, and some frustration was expressed at the inability of Dorset County Council to formulate an acceptable compromise arrangement in respect of on-street parking. However, it was noted that free parking for vans was available along the majority of other roads in Swanage and in the Co-Op Car Park every day between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. It was also noted that parking was available in the Residents' Car Park, which was free in the winter period.

The meeting resumed and it was proposed by Councillor Trite and seconded by Councillor Whitwam:

That the Town Council introduce a concessionary parking scheme for Camper Van owners in Main Beach Car Park, on a trial basis.

Upon being put to the Meeting TWO Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and TWO AGAINST. The Chairman used his casting vote AGAINST the Proposition, which was then declared NOT CARRIED.

4) Car Park Ticket Machines – Conversion to credit/debit card only

Consideration was given to the conversion of car park ticket machines to only accept credit/debit card payments as a means of reducing the cost of cash collection services (approximately £30,000 p.a.). However, analysis showed that the charges by the credit/debit card companies together with the costs of data handling and data transfer were prohibitive. Alternative suggestions, including the possible use of attendants to take money and issue tickets rather than machines, were considered. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Whitwam and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the Operations Manager review the car park fee payment process, together with the contracts for cash collection and receipt of credit card payments, with the objective of identifying cost savings.

5) Consideration of Options for advertising on reverse of Town Council car park tickets

The possibility of selling advertising space on the reverse of the Town Council's car park tickets was proposed as a source of revenue. It was proposed by Councillor Trite, seconded by Councillor Whitwam and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

TO RECOMMEND:

That advertising be actively sought for the reverse of the Town Council's car park tickets.

6) Urban Design Project Update – Traffic Flow

It was reported that Dorset County Council will be undertaking traffic flow surveys in summer 2009 and that the Town Council would receive a report in the spring of 2010.

7) Highway Authority Matters

a) High Street/Victoria Avenue Junction – Update on request for pedestrian crossing/speed restriction

An update was provided in respect of the proposed installation of a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Victoria Avenue. It was noted that Dorset County Council had only recently been informed of the Town Council's support for this proposal.

b) Requests for dropped kerbs - Update

It was reported that funding had been set aside for the installation of six dropped kerbs in 2009/10. Unfortunately, however, progress had come to a halt due to concerns over public liability insurance for the Town Council's adviser, Mr Steve Darrington. Advice was currently awaited from Dorset County Council, before further progress could be made.

8) Bus Shelter Refurbishment – Ulwell Road

Complaints regarding the condition of the bus shelter near to All Saints Church in Ulwell Road were discussed. It was noted that Dorset County Council had provided assurance that the structure was not dangerous, although it remains an unsightly feature on one of the principal entry routes into Swanage. It was reported that the estimated cost of replacing the shelter was £2,500 and that Dorset County Council could offer a grant of £800. It was noted that if Swanage Town Council replaces the shelter then it will become responsible for future maintenance. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Audley and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

TO RECOMMEND:

That the De Moulham Trust be approached to contribute to the repair/replacement of the bus shelter.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Chairman consult with a representative of the Wilts and Dorset bus company regarding possible funding.

9) Items of Information and Matters for Forthcoming Agendas

- a) Provision of parking on Swanage Town Council owned service roads on the De Moulham estate.
- b) Transfer of on-street parking enforcement to Swanage Town Council.

10) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the date of the next meeting had been scheduled for Wednesday 14th October 2009.

The meeting closed at 3:50 p.m.
