

Minutes of the Meeting of the **TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** held at the Town Hall on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2012 at 2.15 p.m.**

Chairman: -

Councillor M. Whitwam

Swanage Town Council

Present: -

Councillor Mrs. C. Bartlett

Swanage Town Council

Councillor M. Bonfield

Swanage Town Council

Councillor Miss. C. Harris

Swanage Town Council

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Swanage Town Council

Councillor S. Poultney

Swanage Town Council

Councillor M. Pratt

Swanage Town Council

Also Present: -

Dr. M. Ayres

Town Clerk

Mr G. Brookes

Operations Manager

Mrs L. Burgess

Senior Finance and Administration Officer

**Public Participation Time**

There were ten members of the public in attendance.

**MR JACK DUNCAN** raised concerns with limited visibility created by parked vehicles, on exiting the Gilbert Road service road onto Rempstone Road.

**MR JOHN MASTERS** spoke on behalf of Coastwatch on the difficulties that would be experienced by the volunteers if they were unable to park close to Peveril Point.

1) **Apologies**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor Trite and Mr Hamish Murray (Durlston Country Park).

2) **Matters arising from Minutes of the Meetings of the Transport Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2011 and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2011.**

The minutes were noted as agreed.

3) **Disabled Parking at Health Centre – Consideration of Verbal Report from Working Party Following Meeting with S.A.T Taxis**

It was reported that further to several meetings with both taxi operators and a local campaigner for additional disabled parking, the working party did not feel able to recommend that any additional disabled parking spaces should be made available at the taxi rank. Surveys had shown that the number of occasions on which the existing disabled parking spaces were fully occupied was relatively small (between 15 and 20 per cent of observations). Concerns were also raised regarding the use of the spaces by visitors to the nearby supermarket, rather than the Health Centre. It was felt that any additional spaces would be similarly abused and would not improve access to the medical centre. It was also noted that this issue was in essence a concern for the medical practice itself, which had its own car park.

During the discussion concerns were raised over the enforcement of disabled badges on Town Council property and it was agreed that this matter be investigated further. It was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Mrs Bartlett and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the number of allocated bays for disabled parking remain as at present.

**4) Traffic Management at Station**

Concerns were raised with the parking and traffic flow management on Station Approach which could give rise to a potentially dangerous situation. It was AGREED:

That the Town Council's Operations Manager liaise with Dorset County Council's Traffic Management team as Highway Authority to investigate the matter further.

**5) Possible Junction Improvement – Gilbert Road Service Road and Rempstone Road**

Consideration was given to a reply from Dorset County Council's Highways Technician Officer, in response to a letter from Sefton Court Management Limited, highlighting their concerns for traffic joining Rempstone Road from Gilbert Road service road. It was agreed that reduced visibility would be experienced on exiting the service road, when parking restrictions are lifted during the winter months. Following a brief discussion it was RESOLVED:

That a letter be sent to Dorset County Council's Highways Department highlighting the concerns of the Town Council and seeking a meeting to consider urgent redress of this problem.

**6) Footpaths – Proposed Re-routing of Footpath 46 at Swanage Bay View Holiday Park and Consideration of Contribution to Costs of Scheme**

It was reported that a request to re-route Footpath 46, which runs through Swanage Bay View Caravan Park had been received. It was reported that the current footpath meandered through the site and walkers would very often stray from the designated footpath.

Following a site visit with a representative of Swanage Bay View Caravan Park, Swanage Town Council's Footpath Liason Officer, Dorset County Council's Countryside Access Officer and members of the East Dorset Ramblers Association, a more direct footpath through the top of the caravan park had been identified. It was noted that the current charge levied by Dorset County Council for diverting a right of way was £3,000, plus advertising costs. It was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Mrs Patrick and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

**TO RECOMMEND:**

**That Swanage Town Council make a one-off contribution of between £750 and £1,000 towards re-routing Footpath 46 through Swanage Bay View Caravan Park.**

7) **Introduction of Pay and Display Parking on Swanage Seafront – Progress Report**

There were no updates to report from Dorset Council Highways Authority on this matter.

8) **Items of Information and Matters for Forthcoming Agendas**

a) The need for a loading bay to service the shops in the newly formed Daisy May Arcade in Kings Road East was highlighted.

b) Complaints had been received with regard to lorries mounting the pavement in Institute Road, and the possibility of referring this to Dorset County Council was discussed.

9) **Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the date of the next ordinary meeting had been scheduled for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2012.

The meeting closed at 3.35 p.m.

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