

Minutes of the Meeting of the **TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** held at the Town Hall on **FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2013** at **2.15 p.m.**

Chairman: -

Councillor M. Whitwam

Swanage Town Council

Present: -

Councillor Mrs C Bartlett

Swanage Town Council

Councillor Miss. C. Harris

Swanage Town Council

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Swanage Town Council

Councillor W Trite

Swanage Town Council

Mrs C Finch

Swanage & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce

Also Present: -

Dr. M. Ayres

Town Clerk

Mrs C Anstey

Administration Assistant

Public Participation Time

There was one member of the public present.

The following matters were raised during Public Participation Time:-

- Request to investigate the possibility of a Park & Ride bus service to operate from North Beach car park.

1) **Apologies**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Bonfield, Poultney and Pratt and Ms L Sellen (Swanage Railway).

2) **Declarations Of Interest**

Members were invited to declare their interest under the Code of Conduct as defined by regulations made under section 30 (3) of the Localism Act 2011.

There were no declarations to record on this occasion.

3) **Matters arising from Minutes of the Meeting of the Transport Committee held on 22nd May 2013**

There were no matters raised.

4) **Highway Matters**

a) **Introduction of Restriction for Parking of Camper Vans on Gilbert Road**

Members considered a letter highlighting concerns regarding the parking of camper vans on Gilbert Road. Attention was drawn to this being one of the few unrestricted roads close to town where people who work in the town could park for the day. Concerns were raised that in banning camper vans other restrictions would be introduced which in turn would cause difficulties for local tradesmen and workers. It was AGREED:-

That a letter be sent to the correspondent advising him that the Town Council would

not support the introduction of restrictions on camper van parking along Gilbert Road.

b) Additional Disabled Parking Spaces on Gilbert Road and Consideration of Future Use of Taxi Spaces

Consideration was given to a request for additional spaces in Gilbert Road for Blue Badge holders. It was suggested that the taxi spaces in Gilbert Road were not in frequent use and could be allocated for disabled parking. Concerns were raised that the location would be too far from the centre of town and people with disabilities may experience difficulties in accessing the shops and health centre. It was AGREED:-

That a letter be sent to the correspondent advising him that the Town Council would not support the conversion of the taxi spaces in Gilbert Road to disabled parking bays.

c) Traffic Calming – Church Hill

Consideration was given to an e-mail highlighting the dangers of traffic turning right at the junction of Townsend Road then turning left down Church Hill. It was noted that with limited funding for public services at Dorset County Council it was unlikely that the request for bollards would be agreed. It was suggested that improved signage and road markings stating 'no right turn' would alert motorists to the one way system. It was AGREED:-

That the Town Council send a letter to Dorset County Council Highways Department requesting improved signage and road markings at the junction of Townsend Road/High Street highlighting the one way system in operation.

It was further AGREED:

That the Town Council forward the e-mail to the police to highlight the dangers experienced by pedestrians in this vicinity.

d) Request for Extension of Yellow Lines – Prospect Crescent

The contents of a letter highlighting difficulties caused by cars parked close to the junction of Prospect Crescent/Victoria Avenue were discussed. It was reported that Dorset County Council would be investigating the need for a dropped kerb on the eastern side of Prospect Crescent which would address the issue of cars parking close to the junction. Following a brief discussion it was noted that as a matter of safety for wheelchair users crossing the road at the dropped kerb on the western side, visibility would need to be improved and the extension of the yellow lines beyond the bend of the road would be advantageous. It was AGREED:

That the Town Council write to Dorset County Council to request that the double yellow lines be extended beyond the bend on the western side of Prospect Crescent as a matter of safety for wheelchair and road users.

5) **Gilbert Road Service Road / Junction with Rempstone Road - Update**

A brief update was given with regard to a request from Sefton Court Management Limited for improvements in visibility for traffic joining Rempstone Road from Gilbert Road service road. It was noted that the Town Clerk had been in discussions with Dorset County Council Highways Department in connection with this request. It was suggested that Councillor Trite as the County Councillor should again approach DCC and voice his support for this request.

6) **Additional Christmas Car Parking 2013**

Consideration was given to a request from Swanage & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce that free parking in the Council's car parks be available on Wednesday evenings from the 4th December to the 1st January to encourage shoppers to the town, it was suggested that this would be beneficial to those who worked during the day. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Patrick, seconded by Councillor Miss Harris and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That free parking be offered in all car parks every Wednesday evening from 4 p.m.- 10 p.m. from 4th December to 1st January.

It was further AGREED:-

That free parking in Broad Road and Main Beach car parks on each Saturday in December 2013, which was agreed at the Transport meeting held on 22nd May 2013, be extended to Saturday 4th January.

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

a) **Consideration of 20mph Speed Limit in Swanage**

The dangers of traffic in Swanage town centre and outlying areas was highlighted. It was suggested that officers liaise with the police and that specific attention be drawn to the dangers to pedestrians along Institute Road. It was agreed that this matter should be raised for consideration as part of the Swanage Local Plan process.

b) **Car Park Charges**

Concerns were raised in regard to current car park charges and the choice of time that people could stay. It was felt that an alternative rate should be introduced between 4 hours and 24 hours.

c) **Christmas Lights**

It was noted that the Christmas lights switch on would take place on Saturday 30th November with a mega raffle. Funds raised from the raffles would go to Switch On Swanage.

d) **Park & Ride – North Beach Car Park**

It was noted that on receipt of a letter putting forward suggestions for a Park & Ride scheme, the matter could be discussed at a future meeting of the Transport Committee.

8) **Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the date of the next meeting had been scheduled for Wednesday 13th November 2013.

The meeting closed at 3.25 p.m.