

Minutes of the Meeting of the **ROADS AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** held via Zoom video conferencing platform on **WEDNESDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2021 at 2.15 p.m.**

Chairman:

Councillor M Whitwam

Swanage Town Council

Present: -

Councillor M Bonfield

Swanage Town Council (until 3.05 p.m.)

Councillor A Harris

Swanage Town Council

Councillor D Monkhouse

Swanage Town Council

Councillor C Moreton

Swanage Town Council (from 3.20 p.m.)

Also Present: -

Councillor C Finch

Swanage Town Council (until 3.15 p.m.)

Councillor T Foster

Swanage Town Council

Dr M Ayres

Town Clerk

Ms K Black

Durlston Country Park

Mrs E Evans

Management Support Officer

Mr S Mephram

Senior Team Leader, Highways, Dorset Council

Mrs G Percival

Operations Manager

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

1) **Apologies**

Apologies for his inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor Suttle.

2) **Declarations of Interest**

Members were invited to declare their interests and consider any requests for Grants of Dispensations in accordance with paragraphs 9 - 13 of the Council's Code of Conduct and regulations made under chapter 7 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 25th November 2020**

There were no matters arising on this occasion.

Further to Standing Order No. 12) a) viii, it was proposed by the Councillor Bonfield and AGREED:-

That Item 8) on the Agenda be brought forward to Item 4).

4) **Parish Slipway – Plans to publicise bollards proposal**

Further to Minute No. 5) of the Tourism Committee meeting held on 17th November 2020, a discussion ensued surrounding the installation of bollards at the top of the parish slipway to prevent vehicular access for safety reasons.

It was reported that limited control measures could be implemented in regard to vehicles and trailers being used to launch motorised watercraft which posed a risk to pedestrians. It was noted that alternative, safer, areas were available to launch motorised watercraft which included Ocean Bay and the Boat Park. The benefits of improving signage in the vicinity of the Slipway was highlighted.

It was proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Harris and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That delegated authority be provided to the
Chairman and the Operations Manager to devise a
proposal to install two drop-down bollards at the top
of the Parish Slipway to prevent vehicular access on
safety grounds, and to publicise if appropriate.

5) Purbeck Transport Action Group – update on consultation on draft Purbeck Transport Strategy

Further to Minute No.5) of the Roads and Transport Committee meeting held on 25th November 2020, the text submitted by Councillors Harris and Monkhouse to the Purbeck Transport Action Group regarding the draft Purbeck Transport Strategy was reviewed.

It was agreed that the submission accurately reflected the views of the Roads and Transport Committee and it was noted that the draft document would be submitted, by PTAG, to Dorset Council for consideration, as the strategic transport authority.

It was, therefore, proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by the Chairman and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That Purbeck Transport Action Group be informed
that the submission prepared by Councillors Harris
and Monkhouse regarding the draft Purbeck
Transport Strategy should be treated as a response
on the part of Swanage Town Council.

6) Community Speed Indicator Device – update

Further to Minute No. 6) of the Roads and Transport Committee meeting held on 25th November 2020, it was reported that speed surveys had been undertaken by Dorset Council's Road Safety Team in December 2020, and the results concluded that the three proposed locations met the criteria for a speed indicator device to be installed.

Councillor Whitwam relayed information discussed at a meeting held on Monday 1st February 2021 at which the Town Mayor, the Town Clerk and Mr Camp, Road Safety Officer, Community Highways Safety Team, Dorset Council, had been in attendance.

It was reported that the suitability of the SID installation near to the Swanage School on High Street had been discussed, in particular the impact of large amounts of signage and the differing speed limits over a short stretch of road, being likely to cause confusion to motorists entering the town. Particular concern had been raised about the conflict between the SID and the VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign) in that location.

A discussion ensued surrounding the operation of the VAS, and it was agreed that additional information regarding the operation of the VAS sign would be sought and an update provided to a future meeting.

The benefits of a reduction of the speed limit at Coombe Corner from 40 m.p.h. to 30 m.p.h. in reducing signage, improving safety, and providing a consistent speed limit from Langton Matravers into Swanage were highlighted. The Senior Team Leader from Dorset Highways stated that a joint approach with Langton Matravers Parish Council to Dorset Council would be beneficial in establishing support for this proposal.

It was, therefore, proposed by Councillor Whitwam, seconded by Councillor Monkhouse and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:**

TO RECOMMEND:

That the installation of two poles in the locations of
Ulwell Road and Northbrook Road, and the
acquisition of one Speed Indicator Device to be

moved between the two locations, should proceed, subject to final costs, and that the installation of a pole in the High Street at Herston would be subject to further exploration of options and not be progressed at this stage.

Furthermore, it was proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by the Chairman and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That contact be made with Langton Matravers Parish Council to consider a joint recommendation to Dorset Highways that the speed limit be reduced from 40 m.p.h. to 30 m.p.h. from Coombe Corner.

Further to Standing Order No. 12) a) viii, it was AGREED:-

That Item 7 b) on the Agenda be brought forward to Item 7 a).

7) Dorset Council – Highway Matters

a) Mariners Drive – to consider request received regarding inconsiderate parking concerns and a request for double yellow lines

Consideration was given to an e-mail received from a resident expressing concern over inconsiderate parking in Mariners Drive, in particular vehicles causing an obstruction on pavements.

Members were sympathetic to the concerns raised, however, did not feel that double yellow lines would provide a practical solution.

The Senior Team Leader agreed to raise the concern with Dorset Council's enforcement team, however, the lack of Traffic Regulation Orders on Mariners Drive could prevent meaningful enforcement. It was also agreed to contact the local police to request that they patrol the area, and advise residents of the impact that inconsiderate parking has on wheelchair users and residents with limited mobility.

Councillor Bonfield left the meeting at 3.05 p.m.

b) Amendment to Experimental Traffic Regulation Order, High Street, Swanage - update

Further to Minute No. 7 a) of the Roads and Transport Committee meeting held on 25th November 2020, the Senior Team Leader confirmed that the Traffic Regulation Order in the High Street would be re-instated, as it was prior to the Kings Road East traffic flow trial reversal, and that any breaches of traffic regulations would be monitored by Dorset Council's enforcement officers.

c) Updates from previous meetings:

i) Northbrook Road, junction with Victoria Avenue – to consider extension of double yellow lines - update

Consideration was given to a plan and aerial view, circulated prior to the meeting, showing a proposed TRO for Northbrook Road. The proposal is to introduce no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on a section of Northbrook Road north of its junction with Victoria Avenue. Members were supportive of the proposed TRO, and acknowledged that visibility at the junction with Victoria Avenue could be compromised when large vehicles were parked in the bays adjacent to the junction.

Councillor Finch left the meeting at 3.15 p.m.

It was, therefore, proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Monkhouse and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the Roads and Transport Committee supports Dorset Council's proposed TRO, to introduce no waiting at any time (double yellow lines), on a section of Northbrook Road north of its junction with Victoria Avenue.

d) Report and updates from the Senior Team Leader, Dorset Highways

i) Update regarding potential parking review of Swanage and to appoint a working party

It was reported that the newly appointed Dorset Council parking review officer, would work jointly with the Senior Team Leader and Swanage Town Council representatives.

Three councillors present (Cllrs Harris, Monkhouse and Whitwam) expressed an interest in involvement in the review and it was noted that Councillor Bonfield would also be approached. It was anticipated that the review may take some time to progress and implement, and further information would be provided to a future meeting.

ii) Miscellaneous items

- Gritting of the roads was in progress and it was noted that there may be disruption to start dates/works due to staff working night shifts to complete gritting.
- The TTRO for the Shore Road social distancing bays had been extended until April 2022, should this be required.

Councillor Moreton joined the meeting at 3.20 p.m.

- Dorset Council intends to purchase additional variable message signs and this increased capacity means there may be the possibility of one being available for hire or loan to Swanage Town Council if required.
- Further to Minute No.7 b) of the Roads and Transport meeting held on 23rd September 2020, Dorset Council have considered the request to remove the tree from the pavement in front of the property in Burlington Road. Dorset Council's investigation has shown that the tree had been planted prior to the installation of the driveway, and it was therefore proposed that the resident would need to fund the removal of the tree privately, and as suggested previously, plant two additional trees at a suitable location.

8) Cow Lane – Consideration of temporary traffic calming measures

Consideration was given to an email received from a resident expressing concern over speeding vehicles in Cow Lane, in particular, concerns over the anticipated additional volume of traffic during the forthcoming temporary road closure of Wills Road. Members were understanding of the concerns raised, however, it was reported that previous speed surveys, conducted by Dorset County Council, had indicated that Cow Lane did not meet the safety threshold required to implement traffic calming measures.

It was noted that some small-scale traffic calming measures were being considered as part of the proposals for having the northern section of the road adopted by the highway authority, but that in light of the evidence available the Town Council could not recommend any additional works.

9) Public Transport matters

a) Durlston Bus Service - update

Further to Minute No. 8 a) of the Roads and Transport Committee meeting held on 25th November 2020, Katie Black, Senior Ranger at Durlston Country Park, reported that there remained a significant funding shortfall that would need to be met if the Durlston Bus service was to operate again this year. It was noted that an application for funding had been submitted and a decision should be forthcoming during March. A further update would be provided at a future meeting.

10) Items of Information and Matters for Forthcoming Agendas

a) Swanage Town Council Parking Order Review

It was reported that the Town Clerk and Finance Manager anticipated allocating time in the next few weeks to continue revising the draft Off-Street Parking Order.

b) Dropped Kerb mapping

Consideration was given to a verbal request, made by a resident, for a map of the dropped kerbs around the town to enable easier access to wheelchair/mobility scooter users. Dorset Council had indicated that they did not have the resources available to carry out such an exercise. Further to a discussion, Councillor Foster agreed to undertake the task, and the Senior Team Leader agreed to input the information provided onto digital maps.

c) 20's Plenty Campaign Group

Members acknowledged receipt of information about this campaign and a forthcoming Zoom meeting which provided an opportunity to learn more about their aims and objectives.

11) Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting would be confirmed at the Annual Council Meeting in May 2021.

The meeting closed at 4.05 p.m.
