

Minutes of the Meeting of the **TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** held at the Town Hall on **WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2015** at **2.15 p.m.**

Chairman: -

Councillor M Whitwam

Swanage Town Council

Present: -

Councillor M Bonfield

Swanage Town Council

Councillor T Morris

Swanage Town Council

Councillor B Trite

Swanage Town Council

Mr P Sykes

Swanage Railway

Also Present: -

Councillor C Finch

Swanage Town Council

Councillor G Green

Swanage Town Council

Dr M Ayres

Town Clerk

Miss N Clark

Management Support Officer

Miss A Spencer

Finance Officer

Public Participation Time

There was one member of the public present.

The following matters were raised during Public Participation Time:-

- Concerns raised regarding the proposal to implement changes to traffic flow and road layout along Shore Road, and a question raised as to whether Northbrook Road could be considered as the 'main road' if Shore Road became one-way.
- Concerns raised regarding Blue Badge holders parking on double yellow lines, and reference made to the recent Town Council support given for the introduction of double yellow lines on the corners of Linden and Princess Roads at the junctions with Kings Road West. Although this support was welcomed, a comment was made that it was unlikely to address the problem.

1) Apologies

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Poultney, Bishop and Lejeune, PC K Hickman (Dorset Police), Miss K Black (Durlston Country Park), and Mr M Green and Mr D Rawsthorn (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 14th October 2015

Traffic Flow Working Party Meeting

An update was given on the Traffic Flow Working Party Meeting held on 14th October 2015. Options presented by Dorset County Council (DCC) Officers were

discussed, and a copy of the plans detailing the proposed changes to traffic flow provided at the meeting had been circulated to Committee Members.

It was reported that the DCC investigation into a second route to the south of the town had concluded that this was not feasible.

Councillor Trite joined the meeting at 2.25 p.m.

As per Minute No. 55. a) iii of the Monthly Council Meeting held on 6th July 2015, the proposed changes to Shore Road would be going ahead under an experimental Traffic Regulation Order, subject to public consultation events to be held in January 2016 (awaiting dates) which would be advertised in the local press. The road would be narrowed (north side) and become one-way southbound from Seaward Road to the junction with Victoria Avenue for a trial period. The footway would be widened at a later date.

Councillor Finch joined the meeting at 2.30 p.m.

It was confirmed that improvements to Institute Road had also been discussed at the Working Party Meeting. DCC were currently working on a possible solution to widen both footpaths and reduce the size of the loading bay. Comments were made that it would be important to retain loading bay facilities, and reference was made to business and bank deliveries. It was agreed that this matter should also be included in the forthcoming public consultation.

During the discussion concerns were also raised regarding motorhomes and the parking restrictions imposed in Shore Road. There had been some confusion amongst drivers regarding the signage in Shore Road, and also in Town Council car parks. A query was raised regarding the types of vehicle permitted to park at these locations, and whether signs could be put in place to direct drivers to appropriate parking places. It was reported that the Town Council signage would be reviewed, and it was agreed that contact would be made with DCC to enquire what guidelines their Enforcement Officers adhered to.

A request was made to include the matter of overnight parking for motorhomes and campervans on the agenda for the next Committee Meeting in February 2016.

5) Dorset County Council - Highway Matters

a) Updates from previous meetings

iii) St Mark's School – '20 mph when lights are flashing' advisory speed limit – it was reported that County Councillor Trite had met with the Chief Executive, DCC, to discuss this long outstanding matter and had again stressed the urgency of this scheme being implemented as soon as possible in the interests of safety. It was noted that the 20mph signage had already been installed in Langton Matravers.

iv) Gilbert Road Service Road – junction with Rempstone Road improvement – County Councillor Trite agreed to pursue this matter further, although he recognised that the proposed improvement did not rank highly in the County Council's list of priority highway schemes.

4) Public Transport Matters

a) Durlston Bus Service – consideration of request for all year round service

Further to Minute No. 7 b) of the Transport Committee Meeting held on 14th October 2015, contact had been made with the Head Ranger, Durlston Country Park and the Chairman of The Friends of Swanage Hospital.

Although Dorset County Council had supported the number five bus

service again this year, the Park was not aware if funding would be available in 2016. Options were being explored for next season, including the possibility of a subsidised service, and the routing of the bus via the hospital. It was reported, however, that previous attempts to route the bus via the hospital had failed as the bus had been unable to traverse the Queens Road/ Bon Accord Road junction due to parked cars on double yellow lines. It was felt that this position was unlikely to change as the vehicles involved held Blue Badges. A suggestion was made that a circular route may be more appropriate, with the bus travelling down Queens Road which could alleviate this problem.

The Chairman of The Friends of Swanage Hospital had commented that whilst a bus service between the town centre and the hospital would be an asset, it was outside the Constitution of the League of Friends (LOF) to give financial support to such an external visitor service, and therefore LOF would be sadly unable to help.

It was therefore agreed that a representative from STC should meet with the Head Ranger at Durlston Country Park to discuss possible funding options, and route, for the 2016 service, and report back to the next Committee Meeting for further consideration of the same. Councillor Morris agreed to liaise with the Head Ranger accordingly.

5) Car Park Estimates and Scale of Charges 2016/17

Consideration was given to the draft scale of car parking charges for 2016/17. It was reported that only a small change had been proposed, to remove peak and off peak charges in North Beach car park, and replace them with one tariff only (reducing from £1.80 to £1.50 for one hour parking for the whole period). This had a minimal effect of c. £100 on income received and would streamline administration. All other charges remained the same.

It was further reported that complaints made in writing regarding the level of parking charges in the town had reduced. Enforcement Officers had also commented that they had received fewer verbal complaints, and that the previous reduction in charges in the shoulder months had been well received.

A query was raised regarding parking charges levied in North Beach car park when local residents were attending breast screening appointments at the NHS Mobile Breast Screening Unit. Appointments usually took a maximum of five to ten minutes, however the shortest ticket available was for one hour. A request was made for free parking arrangements for these appointments, and a suggestion was made that two parking spaces could be sectioned off for this purpose. The arrangement could be advised in the NHS appointment confirmation letters. It was therefore proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Whitwam and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:**

That free parking be made available in North Beach car park to individuals attending appointments at the Mobile Breast Screening Unit.

It was further proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Morris and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:**

That the following scale of charges be taken forward to the meeting of the Policy, Finance and Performance Management Committee on 9th December 2015, to be considered further during the budget setting process for 2016/17.

Committee Members gave thanks and appreciation to the Finance Officer for preparing the detailed briefing notes, and car park income and usage summaries, which accompanied the draft scale of charges.

	Proposed Fees 2016/17 (including VAT @ 20%) £/p
1. <u>CAR PARKS</u>	
Broad Road	
Cars Weekly #	33.00
Cars 3 days #	18.00
Cars up to 24 hours *	8.00
Cars up to 6 hours	7.20
Cars up to 4 hours	6.40
Cars for 2 hours	3.40
Cars for 1 hour	1.80
Overnight 6 p.m. to 8 a.m.	1.00
Charges will apply 1st July to 31st August (inclusive).	
Cars Weekly #	33.00
Cars 3 days #	18.00
Cars up to 24 hours *	8.00
Cars up to 6 hours	6.50
Cars up to 4 hours	5.00
Cars for 2 hours	3.00
Cars for 1 hour	1.50
Overnight 6 p.m. to 8 a.m.	1.00
Charges will apply 1st April to 30th June and 1st September to 31st October (inclusive).	
Cars up to 24 hours *	3.50
Cars for 12 hours	2.50
Cars for 2 hours	1.60
Cars for 1 hour	1.00
Overnight 6 p.m. to 8 a.m.	1.00
Charges will apply 1st - 30th November and 1st January - 31st March (inclusive)	
Cars up to 24 hours *	1.00
Charges will apply 1st - 31st December (inclusive)	
Main Beach (Victoria Avenue)	
Cars Weekly #	33.00
Cars 3 days #	18.00
Cars up to 24 hours*	8.00
Cars up to 6 hours	7.20
Cars for up to 4 hours	6.40
Cars for 2 hours	3.40
Cars for 1 hour	1.80
Coaches Weekly \$	40.00
Coaches 3 day \$	21.50
Coaches Daily (up to 24 hours)	9.50
Coaches 4 hours or less	7.00
Charges will apply 1st July to 31st August (inclusive).	

Cars Weekly #	33.00
Cars 3 days #	18.00
Cars up to 24 hours *	8.00
Cars up to 6 hours	6.50
Cars up to 4 hours	5.00
Cars for 2 hours	3.00
Cars for 1 hour	1.50
Coaches Weekly \$	40.00
Coaches 3 day \$	21.50
Coaches Daily (up to 24 hours)	9.50
Coaches 4 hours or less	7.00
Charges will apply 1st April to 30th June and 1st September to 31st October (inclusive).	

Cars for up to 24 hours*	3.50
Cars for up to 12 hours	2.50
Cars for 2 hours	1.60
Cars for 1 hour	1.00
Coaches for up to 24 hours	4.00
Coaches for up to 12 hours	3.00
Charges will apply 1st - 30th November and 1st January - 31st March (inclusive)	

Cars up to 24 hours *	1.00
Coaches up to 24 hours	1.00
Charges will apply 1st - 31st December (inclusive)	

North Beach (De Moulham Road)

Cars Weekly #	33.00
Cars 3 days #	18.00
Cars up to 24 hours (not a roaming ticket)	6.00
Cars up to 6 hours	5.00
Cars up to 4 hours	4.00
Cars for up to 2 hours	2.50
Cars for up to 1 hour	1.50
Coaches Weekly \$	40.00
Coaches 3 day \$	21.50
Coaches Daily (up to 24 hours)	9.50
Coaches 4 hours or less	7.00
Charges will apply 1st April to 31st October (inclusive).	

Free parking in North Beach when attending NHS mobile units

* This daily ticket is transferable between Main Beach and Broad Road long stay car parks only.

#The 3 day & weekly ticket is transferable between all long stay car parks and is available on Pay by Phone only

\$ The 3 day & weekly coach ticket is transferable between Main & North Beach car parks and is available on Pay by Phone only

Recreation Ground (Mermond Place) and Co-op Pioneer (Central)

(Maximum of 2 hours between 8 a.m. & 7 p.m, maximum of 3 hours between 7 p.m. & 10 p.m.)

Cars 1 hour - Summer (1st April to 31st October)	1.20
Cars 2 hours - Summer (1st April to 31st October)	2.10
Cars 3 + hours - Summer (1st April to 31st October)	3.10
Cars Hourly - Winter (1st November to 31st March)	0.60
Overnight parking 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.	no charge

Recreation Ground (Residents)

(Maximum of 2 hours between 8 a.m. & 7 p.m, maximum of 3 hours between 7 p.m. & 10 p.m.)

Cars 1 hour - Summer (1st April to 31st October)	0.60
Cars 2 hours - Summer (1st April to 31st October)	1.20
Cars 3 + hours - Summer (1st April to 31st October)	1.50
Cars Hourly - Winter (1st November to 31st March)	no charge
Overnight parking 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. (8 a.m. - 10 a.m. Free)	no charge

Residents Parking Permits (per permit-not an annual fee)

5.00

Permit holders are entitled to park in the Residents Car Park, Horsecliffe Lane subject to the restrictions and charges as set out above. Additional entitlement to parking in Swanage Town Council Operated Car Parks is as follows:

Summer Period

Mermond/Co-op Car Park -free parking between 08:00 and 10:00

Main Beach Car Park -free parking between 08:00 and 10:00 on a Market Day

Winter Period

Broad Road and Main Beach Car Parks-free parking max. 24 hr stay

Co-op and Mermond Car Park-free overnight parking 19:00 to 10:00

Annual Private & Business

260.00

Summer Season Ticket (1st May-31st October)

173.00

cost to be 2/3 of annual ticket (agreed Car Parks Best Value Working Group 13/10/06 minute 3)d))

Annual Taxis (per permit)

648.00

Charges will apply throughout the year.

Excess Charge Penalty

60.00

* Reduced for payment within 10 days.

30.00

Peveril Point Residents Tickets

25.00

max of 4 per household

Pay By Phone Convenience Fee

0.00

Charges will apply throughout the year.

6) Pay by phone – proposed extension of contract with BemroseMobile

The current contract with BemroseMobile for the pay by phone service expired on 31st October 2015. An option to extend for a one-year period was included in this contract. It had been hoped that a countywide procurement process would have been completed prior to expiration of the contract, however, this had not taken place. Consideration was therefore given to the proposed extension of the existing BemroseMobile contract for a further year, on the same terms and conditions, whilst the tender process was in progress.

A brief discussion ensued and it was reported that the service had improved and usage was increasing. The convenience fee of 8p charged by BemroseBooth was currently being absorbed by the Town Council, to encourage use of the pay by phone facility, and the question was raised as to whether this should continue. It was therefore proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Morris and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the contract with BemroseBooth be extended for a further period of one year, and that the convenience fee of 8p continue to be absorbed by the Town Council.

Further to Standing Order No. 12) a) viii it was proposed by the Chairman and AGREED:

That Items 8) and 9) on the agenda be brought forward to Items 7) and 8).

7) Items of Information and Matters for Forthcoming Agendas

- a) **Swanage Market** – it was reported that a query had been raised regarding coach trips to the town and car park usage over the past two years. It was felt that this information could assist possible future discussions regarding the best day of the week to hold Swanage Market.
- b) **Car Park Managers' Meeting** – the Finance Officer would be attending a Car Park Managers' Meeting on 23rd November 2015 regarding proposals for a countywide disabled tax exempt parking permit, and a possible joint working partnership. An update would be given at a future Committee Meeting.
- c) **Consideration of overnight parking facilities for motorhomes/campervans** – as reported under Agenda Item 3), it was agreed that this request would be included for consideration on the agenda of the next Transport Committee Meeting to be held in February 2016.

8) Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting had been scheduled for Wednesday 10th February 2016 at 2.15 p.m.

Mr P Sykes left the meeting at 3.20 p.m.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Bonfield and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That, under Standing Order No. 1) c), in the public interest, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted under agenda item 9) (regarding contractual matters relating to the proposed review of the Swanage Town Council Parking Order).

9) Car park management – proposed review of Swanage Town Council's Parking Order and potential move to enforcement under the Traffic Management Act 2004

Further to minute 8)b) of the meeting of the Transport Committee held on 14th October 2015, it was noted that preliminary discussions were ongoing regarding potential joint working across Purbeck District in relation to on and off-street parking services.

The Town Council currently operates its car parks under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, but, in order to introduce a uniform system of enforcement, advice had been received that there would be a requirement for this operation to be brought under the Traffic Management Act, 2004. Such a step could have significant implications and it was therefore recommended that specialist advice be sought prior to any further discussion of the matter.

Following consideration of quotes received for such specialist advice it was proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Morris and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That Parking Associates Ltd be appointed to provide specialist advice regarding the current operation of the Council's car parks under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 and the implications of bringing that operation under the Traffic Management Act, 2004 at a cost of £2,400 (excl. VAT).

The meeting closed at 3.35 p.m.
