

Minutes of the Meeting of the **TRAFFIC
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE** held at
the Town Hall, Swanage, on **WEDNESDAY 11th JUNE
2025** at 5.00 p.m.

Chair: -

Councillor C. Sutton

Swanage Town Council

Present: -

Councillor M Bonfield

Swanage Town Council

Councillor S Brookes

Swanage Town Council

Councillor J Dorrington

Swanage Town Council

Also Present: -

Dr M Ayres

Town Clerk

Mrs S Layton-Kelly

Administration Officer

Mr S Mephram

Community Highways Team Leader (CHTL)

There was two members of the public and one member of the press present during public participation time.

Public Participation Time

The following matters were raised during Public Participation Time: -

A question was raised regarding progress on the recent review of locations proposed by Accessible Swanage for additional dropped kerbs. The committee noted that discussions are currently ongoing between Dorset Council and representatives of Accessible Swanage and an update will be given in due course.

1) Appointment of Chairman

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

That Councillor Sutton be appointed Chairman of
The Traffic Management Advisory Committee for
2025/26.

2) Apologies

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor C
Tomes

3) Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare their interests and consider any requests for Grants of
Dispensations in accordance with Section 9 and Appendix B of the Council's Code of
Conduct.

There were no declarations to record on this occasion.

4) To approve as a correct record Minutes of the Meeting of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee held on Wednesday 12th February 2025.

It was proposed by Councillor Sutton, seconded by Councillor Dorrington and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY : -

That the Minutes of the Traffic Management
Advisory Committee held on 12th February 2025.
be approved as a correct record.

5) Highway Matters – Update on previous requests.

Location	Concern Raised	Potential Solution
a) Lower Seymer Road	As per Minute 4a) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 12 th February 2025, The pavement along lower Seymer Road is extremely narrow 0.8 metres in places, and its uneven surface makes it difficult for families and wheelchair users. As a result, many pedestrians chose to walk on the east side of lower Seymer Road where no pavement exists, posing further safety concerns.	Suggestion of traffic calming measures and pavement widening. Update – The Chairman met with the CHTL onsite to discuss potential signage to highlight a safe route to and from the Broad Road Car Park.
Consideration was given to the installation of signage along lower High Street between Gee Whites and the Pier, to highlight a safe pedestrian route to and from Broad Road car park. Further consideration was also given to the placement of additional signage within or adjacent to the Broad Road car park walkway, to clearly highlight the recommended safe route for pedestrians accessing or leaving the car park. During the discussion, it was suggested that this matter be referred to the next meeting of the Tourism and Local Economy Committee. It was noted that the Swanage Chamber of Trade is currently undertaking an audit of signage around the town and it was agreed that it would be prudent to work collaboratively with them on this issue.		
b) Priests Road, Swanage (near junction of Panorama Road)	Narrow pavement and parked vehicles causing obstruction to pedestrians. Additionally, concerns regarding accessibility for wheelchair users and	Update- Further to Minute No. 5 f) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30 th October 2023. Public Consultation has begun for the installation

	pushchairs as there is no dropped kerb.	of DYL's along Priests Road, Swanage, near the junction of Panorama Road. Dorset Council have reported that they received requests during the public consultation to extend the restrictions towards the junction of Hobourne Road to counteract the parking and storing of caravans on the highway at this location.
<p>Consideration was given to the additional requests submitted to Dorset Council during the public consultation phase, regarding the potential extension of the proposed restriction further towards the junction with Hobourne Road.</p> <p>During the discussion, concerns were raised about the potential loss of parking and the likelihood that introducing further yellow line restrictions could result in vehicles parking on the opposite side of the road, potentially creating additional safety or access issues. Following the discussion, it was agreed that no changes be made and the original Traffic Regulation Order that is currently the subject of public consultation.</p>		
c) Motorbikes on Stone Quay	An email was received by the Town Council requesting the addition of signage on Stone Quay to assist enforcement officers in deterring motorcyclists parking their bikes there.	Update- The Assets and Compliance Manager has had confirmation from Dorset Council that motorbikes are clearly prohibited from parking in this area due to it being behind double yellow lines and therefore, there is no requirement for signage.
<p>Consideration was given to the re-purposing of the existing Hackney Carriage Taxi Rank located on the lower High Street, near the junction of lower Seymer Road, into a designated motorcycle parking bay. During the discussion, it was also suggested that the adjacent unused Police Parking Bay be similarly repurposed to provide additional motorcycle parking provision in the area. It was, therefore, proposed by Councillor Brookes, seconded by Councillor Dorrington, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY;-</p> <p>TO RECOMMEND That a request be made to Dorset Council that the Hackney Carriage Taxi Rank and the Police Parking Bay located on the lower High Street, near the junction with lower Seymer Road, be re-purposed as designated motorcycle parking bays.</p>		

d) Detached Caravans & Camper Vans Parked on Public Highways in Swanage	Residents have raised concerns about an increasing number of detached caravans being left on public roads in Swanage.	Suggestion that Swanage Town Council request Dorset Highways to review current policy regarding detached caravans and camper vans on the highway.
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Consideration was given to a proposal for Swanage Town Council to request Dorset Council to review their current policy regarding the parking of detached caravans and camper vans on the public highway. The committee acknowledged growing concerns around safety, obstruction and the legal status of such vehicles. Further discussion took place around the potential for joint working between Swanage Town Council and Dorset Highways, to draft a courteous and informative notice to be placed on any detached caravans or camper vans parked on the public highway. It was agreed that a notice should be drafted to raise awareness of potential safety risks and legal implications, while adopting a respectful tone to encourage voluntary compliance with highway regulations.

Information Only

e) Ancaster Road, Swanage (junction of Victoria Avenue)	Vehicles parking close to the junction obscuring visibility. Impact on refuse collection.	Update – Further to Minute No. 5 g) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30 th October 2023. Public Consultation has begun for the installation of DYL's on Ancaster Road by the junction of Victoria Avenue, Swanage.
f) Washpond Lane, pedestrian safety near schools.	A meeting was held on 1 st April 2025 between representatives of the Swanage School, St Mark's Primary school, Swanage Town Councillors, Dorset Ward Councillors and representatives from Dorset Council's Highway Team, in which safety concerns were discussed regarding Washpond Lane and the A351 Herston. A further meeting was arranged in which Dorset Council Road Safety Officers would visit the site and carry out a review.	Update- Dorset Council's Road Safety Team has completed their review and site visit of Washpond Lane and the wider school safety issues, resulting in consideration being given to several improvements, including introduction of a School Streets Initiative. This would involve the temporary closure of the top of Washpond Lane for a short time (morning and afternoon). This measure is intended to create a safer crossing point for children. Dorset Highways would report once further investigation work had been completed.

6) Items of Information and Matters for forthcoming Agendas

a) Sitting Out licences, street furniture, and inconsiderate parking on pavements in the town centre - Further to Minute 8a)i) from the Planning and Consultation

Committee meeting held on the 2nd June 2025, Members revisited ongoing public concerns regarding obstructions on pavements in the town centre caused by street furniture, including tables/chairs and A-boards/signs. These items were reported to be creating trip hazards, particularly in Station Road and Institute Road.

It was noted that DC's Highways Officer had previously visited local businesses and distributed an information leaflet outlining Dorset Council's policy and guidelines on the appropriate use of street furniture. This intervention had helped alleviate the issues at the time.

Concerns had also been raised about the frequent parking of vehicles on pavements in Institute Road. It was reported that vehicles were reportedly parking on the pavement rather than in the designated loading bays nearby.

In response, the CHTL agreed to review the area and visit the relevant businesses to remind them of Dorset Council's policies and guidelines regarding these matters.

b) Temporary tarmac repairs in Institute Road (outside Leonards and the Italian Bakery) – Further to Minute 8a)ii) from the Planning and Consultation Committee

meeting held on the 2nd June 2025, discussion ensued regarding the proper repair of these pavements with Rhino paving to match the original surface. The CHTL said he was aware that discussions were ongoing and that further information would be provided in due course.

7) Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 8th October at 5.00pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone present for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 6.10pm.

Parking Restrictions at Lower High Street/Pier Approach – Prolonged overnight parking of Camper Vans and Motor Homes and concerns over public health

Further to discussions at the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday 19th June 2024, the situation regarding parking at the lower High Street has become increasingly problematic. It has been reported that over the summer there has been an issue with Motor Homes displaying blue badges parking in this location indefinitely and sometimes for days and weeks at a time including overnight stays.

The Town Council has received reports of raw sewage from these vehicles being deposited directly into road side drains leading to complaints of unpleasant odours and hygiene concerns. This practise was reported to the Environment Agency given the proximity to the sea.

Please see below information received from Swanage Boat Hire

We have the concession down on the seafront for Swanage Boat Hire.

This email is just some feedback due to the campers that stay along the strip of road in front of our kiosk.

The smell was horrendous where they have emptied their toilets down the road drains. On multiple mornings I was having to bleach around the drains to drown out the odour. They had tables and chairs on the pavements and sat outside their motorhomes and were there for days at a time. I am not sure how this can be rectified for next year, but many people commented on the smell etc - with their waste pipes leading straight to the road and emptying their toilets in a nonconventional way. Some cases were there for weeks at a time with their disabled badges on display and no tickets issued.

The below impact statement received from the Pier Head restaurant.

Campervans parked on Lower High Street

Daily Observations and information obtained.

- 1. Increasing number of campervans / motorhomes in the last 2 years (with an increase in the size of the motorhomes some are almost the size of American Winnebago's) using the 1 hour parking zone as a holiday destination to park and stay for days or weeks at a time by using their blue-badges to enable lengthy stays, thus preventing the actual use of the '1 hour parking zone' for the use that it is intended for, for anyone else. Wall-to-wall campervans dominate this parking zone all day everyday in the spring/summer months.*
- 2. Increasing length of stay of campervans. Due to a small beach area outside this parking zone and easy access to town Campervans/motorhomes are advertising this parking zone within their community online groups as a 'holiday destination' – often 3 or 4 campervans turn up all friends and family and stay for a week or longer, if they do not have a blue-badge they say the parking fine is cheaper than caravan park charges and is worth it for the location.*

3. *They have no access to water mains or sewage mains and we have often seen them using the road drains to dispose of any quantity of liquids (cannot be sure of what is going down these drains so cannot confirm it is sewage waste but it is feasible this is happening)*
4. *These Vans are also continuing to park along the road outside of the parking zone onto the double yellow lines by using it as a queuing area to wait until a 'space' becomes available in the parking zone. This means the Campervans are parked along the whole of lower high street, sometimes causing traffic issues with buses/coaches trying to get around the tight corner and again preventing other disabled drivers/elderly in cars from using this area for the short amount of time that they need it for.*

Impact on our Business

1. *Due to the increasing number of motorhomes/campervans parked for over-allowed lengthy time in the '1 hour' parking zone and continuing all along the double yellow-lined road our restaurant is fully blocked from having any pleasant or sea view which is what we are known and enjoyed for having. We advertise our business with 'sea views' because the normal parked cars have always allowed this to be true, however the road has become over the last 2 years a more known 'free' motorhome/campervan parking road and that due to the size of the campervans nowadays and the frequency of them and their significant length of stay this is no longer true and therefore our business can no longer guarantee sea views, as you cannot see the Sea or any nice views with parked wall to wall campervans - this has left many of our customers leaving when they arrive for their bookings or just not coming at all. Our restaurant is on the outside of town so relies on bookings, it also only has windows on the front side of the building and they only lookout to the road and sea (we do not have windows all around) so if you dine at our restaurant your only view out is of parked campervans. Also our outside patio eating area is also right on the roadside, not the most pleasant place to eat because of the traffic etc however you got great sea views to make up for it but all this Summer the only view from our patio was the side of parked campervans. It has a significant impact on our patio use and business due to reduced number of customers 'choosing' our restaurant to eat alfresco.*

The Town Council have contacted the relevant agencies including Dorset Council's Parking Services Department regarding the ongoing concerns and frustrations of local business and residents due to the prolonged parking of Camper Vans and Motor Homes owned by Blue Badge holders along this small stretch of road. The following response was received.

From:

Sent: 11 August 2025 15:20

To

Cc:

Subject: RE: Camper vans by pier - Swanage

We have been discussing this today. Unfortunately, under the National Blue Badge scheme, Blue badge holders can park on street without time limit unless the Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's) & signs state differently.

We can check the validity of the Blue badges and make sure the holder is present but if all that checks out they would not be subject to any restrictions.

Kind regards,

**Operations Manager (Interim), Parking
Services
Economic Growth and Infrastructure
Dorset Council**

[01305 221000](tel:01305221000)

Sunday to Thursday

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk



Gail Percival
Assets and Compliance Manager

October 2025

Samantha Layton-Kelly
Administration Officer

October 2025

Parking Restrictions at Lower High Street/Pier Approach - Prolonged overnight parking of Camper Vans and Motor Homes



Parking Restrictions at Lower High Street/Pier Approach – Obstructive Parking near the Pier

In addition to the concerns raised by local businesses regarding the parking of Motor Homes and Camper Vans along the lower High Street. Further concerns have been raised, principally from Swanage Pier Trust, regarding the general issue of inconsiderate parking along the same stretch of road leading to the Pier. This is reported to be causing congestion, particularly during the summer months and impacting the ability of large vehicle, such as lorries and coaches, to safely manoeuvre using the High Street and Marshal Row. Thus increasing the risk to pedestrian safety.

Samantha Layton-Kelly

Administration Officer

October 2025

Highway Matters

Location	Concern Raised	Potential Solution
a) Swanage Town Centre	A near incident occurred on the Pedestrian Crossing outside the ‘Surprise and Store’ shop due to a speeding vehicle coming from the direction on Institute Road. A Highways request form has been received which included support from five residents and a local Councillor.	Reduction of speed limit to 20 mph along Station Road, Institute Road and the High Street vicinity area.
To Consider whether to request Dorset Council to explore options to improve safety in the area.		

Information Only		
b) Motorbikes on Stone Quay	The re-purposing of the existing Hackney Carriage Taxi located on the lower High Street, near the junction of lower Seymer Road, into a designated motorcycle parking bay.	Update – Further to Minute No 5c) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 11th June 2025, the proposal was approved by Councillors at the Community Services Committee Meeting held 16 th July 2025 (Minute no 4) Following further advice from Dorset Council’s Highways Team, a communication was issued to local Taxi Operators on 19 th August advising them of the intent to re-purpose the existing Hackney Carriage Taxi Rank. No objections have been received.
c) Heart of Swanage/ Commercial Road	Pedestrian safety concerns were raised regarding the poor road surface, with numerous holes and raised areas	Update - Further to Minute No 4c) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 12 th February 2025, a site visit was undertaken

	from repeated roadworks and tarmac erosion.	by a Highways Community Officer together with Swanage Town Councillors and Dorset Ward Councillors. During this visit, a few jobs were raised for the repair of carriageway defects. In addition, the adopted section of Commercial Lane was referred to DC's Asset Team for inspection. The inspection took place on 9 th September where a recommendation has been made that the site is added to the resurfacing programme for the next year. While this has been added to the list for consideration, the programme has not been finalised and further details will be shared with Councillors in due course.
d) Sitting out Licenses, street furniture and A boards	Concerns were raised regarding obstructions on pavements in the town centre caused by street furniture including tables and chairs and A boards/ Signs.	Update – Further to Minute No 6a) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 11 the June 2025, a Highways Community Officer has reviewed the area and visited local businesses and outlined Dorset Council's policy and guidelines on the appropriate use of street furniture and A boards/ signage.
e) School Streets initiative – Junction of Washpond Lane and High Street, Herston.	Safety concerns had been raised regarding the speed limit along Washpond Lane. Specifically due to children crossing the road at the junction of	Update - Further to Minute No 6c) of the Traffic Advisory Committee meeting held on 12 th February 2025, at the Council meeting held on 15 th September 2025, the

	Washpond Lane and High Street, Herston.	Town Council resolved unanimously to support the introduction of the Schools Streets Initiative Proposals in Washpond Lane under an experimental Traffic Regulation Order.
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FAO: CLW CLIFF SUTTON

SWANAGE TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY HIGHWAYS REQUEST FORM

Please read the Community Highways Request Policy, prior to completing the form to ensure all criteria is met, further information can be found via:

Dorset Council Highway Request new traffic management measures

Date	Friday 6th June 2025....	...the date of a serious traffic incident
Name of applicant		
Address		
Tel:		
Email:		
Location	Concern raised	Suggested solution
Swanage town centre: Station Rd, Institute Rd, Lower High Street, & High Street.	<p>SPEEDING MOTORCYCLIST AT A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING.</p> <p>See attached report and map: I was at the curb of the pedestrian crossing on the pavement by the 'The Fish Plaice' at the Institute Road / High Street triangular junction. The sightlines towards the traffic coming from Institute Road are very restricted. Cars from the direction of the Pier had stopped for me. I did not step out as I heard the ROAR of a motorbike speeding from the Mowlem direction along Institute Road. The motorbike sped past me close to the curb leaning at a 45 degree angle as if in a race. I was extremely shocked as to what might have happened.</p>	<p>Nothing can be done about an individual with suicidal driving habits, total disregard for the highway code, other road users, and especially pedestrians. (See attached report)</p> <p>However, this frightening occurrence has made me wonder if Swanage town centre should be made into a 20 mph zone. One often sees impatient reactions by motorists at that triangular junction.</p>



Outlook

Traffic speed limits in the town

Date Sat 07-Jun-25 11:34 AM

To cllrmonkhouse@swanagecouncillors.uk <cllmonkhouse@swanagecouncillors.uk>

Dear Debby Monkhouse,

Pedestrian crossing outside Tilly Whim shop to The Fish Plaice - Friday 6th June 2025 approx. 4.35p.m.

I could have been killed at this pedestrian crossing today, which raises the question of why there is no sensible speed limit in Institute Road, and for that matter in Station Road as I have often heard other people comment - e.g. 20mph.

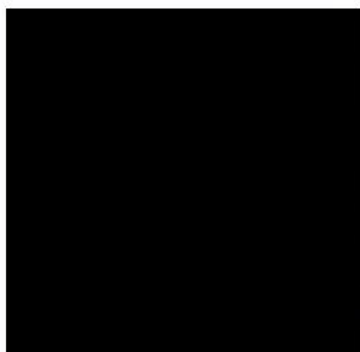
I had come out of Surprise 'N Store and waited at the curb of the pedestrian crossing in order to cross. Traffic from the pier direction came to a halt and there was no traffic from Institute Road. But as I checked that there was nothing coming from Institute Road (always a little worrying as the sight lines are poor) I heard the roar of a speeding motorbike coming from that direction. There was no way of telling whether the bike would proceed left or right at the triangle, so I waited. Astonishingly it took the left, appeared at top speed (possibly 40mph?) leaning at 45 degrees clinging to the curve of the curb like a motorbike in a race. No car followed the motorbike. It was fortunately made to slow down due to the usual bottle neck (due to illegal parking, so maybe no bad thing?) in the High Street. There were many people on road and pavements to have witnessed this frightening incident, but possibly only the driver of the car that had stopped because of the crossing would have realised, like me, how stupid, illegal, dangerous and utterly irresponsible the motorbike rider was.

If I had been deaf/hard of hearing, or a visitor less aware of the dangers of that junction, (or indeed someone with a rollator who had started to cross...) I would not have heard that motorbike and a horrible accident would have occurred. The rider of the bike was 100% at fault on so many counts. But why is there not a 20mph speed limit in Station Road, Institute Road, and the High Street vicinity in the central area? The rider was surely a stranger/visitor and being brought to a halt, in fact then turned right up Park Road; for as I proceeded to walk home up Taunton Road, that bright green bike reappeared from the left (the tiny road that links Park Road with Taunton Road). He did a split second 'double take' when he saw me, but proceeded at a reasonable speed down Taunton Road. I put out my left arm and shouted 'stop, stop' - I was in shock, but knew he would not stop; naturally he proceeded past me and offered me an abusive one-finger hand sign.

P.T.O.

I was in shock with what I had witnessed, and did not think to approach any other potential witnesses, and motorbike reg number plates are only on the back of the vehicle. When I reached home to Drummond Road I could again hear that roar of probably that same bike as it left Swanage going west.

Please pass this account to anyone in the Town Council who might be able to add this incident to a file of some sort about town centre speed limits. I am still in shock (Saturday morning) about what *might* have happened.





SWANAGE

- where I was standing at the pedestrian crossing (outside The Fish Place)



In support	Name	Address
	[Redacted]	
Additional Comments	<p>It is known that slower speed limits are more conducive to an even flow of traffic. Therefore that leads to safer road conditions, especially for pedestrians in a, sometimes confusing, town centre traffic system.</p> <p>There are triangular traffic signs for "Zebra Crossing Ahead".</p> <p><i>This has been a problem for years. Just please get on with it before anyone is killed.</i></p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>[Redacted]</p>

Personal data collected by the Town Council will only be used in the administration of your request, which will include sharing your data with Dorset Council. For additional information on how we handle and store your data, please refer to our Privacy Policy. [Swanage Town Council - Policies](#)

Request for Permanent Disabled Parking Space – Panorama Road, Swanage.

A request has been made for the installation of a permanent disabled parking space outside a residence in Panorama Road.

The request has been made by a person with limited mobility who experiences difficulty walking, with pain that can be severely debilitating.

The applicant finds it challenging to secure a parking space close to their home, particularly when returning home from work.

The Town Council are asked to consider approving the request for a disabled parking space to be installed at the applicants address to support the resident with their mobility challenges.

Samantha Layton- Kelly

Administration Officer

October 2025

Swanage Primary School patrol – Measures to improve resilience of road safety

The current school crossing patrol at Swanage Primary school, Queen's Road, provides a valuable safety service for children. The post is not guaranteed to be permanent as the patrol could be unavailable due to sickness or resignation and the post become vacant for a prolonged period of time.

To ensure long-term and sustainable safety resilience at this site, the following proposals have been put forward,

Maintain Existing Measures with Manual Operation

- Keep the existing flashing lights in place.
- Request that the school operates the lights daily.
- Install a painted safety design on the crossing.
- Estimated cost: £2,000 (one-off).

Upgrade to Automated Flashing Lights

- Install automated flashing lights to remove reliance on manual operation.
- Install a painted safety design on the crossing.
- Estimated cost: £5,000 (one-off).

Considerations

- The site is a sponsored crossing and does not meet Dorset Council's formal criteria for a controlled crossing therefore indicating a relatively low risk site.
- Sponsorship by the Town Council is voluntary.
- Town Council support for either proposal is essential to proceed.
- The long term safety of children remains primarily a parental responsibility, but affordable, sustainable measures will enhance resilience in the event of patrol absence.

Samantha Layton – Kelly

Administration Officer

October 2025

Proposed potential design from Dorset Council Safety Officers

