

Minutes of the Meeting of the **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE** held at the Town Hall, Swanage, on  
**WEDNESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2024** at 2.15 p.m.

Chair:

Councillor M Whitwam

Swanage Town Council

Present: -

Councillor T Foster

Swanage Town Council

Councillor C Moreton

Swanage Town Council

Councillor D Monkhouse

Swanage Town Council

Also Present: -

Councillor W Trite

Swanage Town Council/Dorset Councillor

Dr M Ayres

Town Clerk

Mrs E Evans

Democratic Services Officer

Ms G Percival

Assets and Compliance Manager

Ms M Attwood

Dorset Police

Mr P Channer

Dorset Council

Mr C Moors

Dorset Council

There were two members of the public and one member of the local press present at the meeting.

**Public Participation Time**

The following matters were raised during Public Participation Time:-

- In respect of agenda item 7 a), concern was expressed about the use of the parking bays between the Pier and Gee Whites. It was stated that campervans frequently parked in the bays, for an extended period of time and at times positioned chairs/tables on the footway, which caused an obstruction to pedestrians and spoiled the view for others. The inconsiderate parking of vehicles on DYL's at either end of the bays, was also noted. It was suggested that a change to the TRO be requested, to be consistent with Shore Road where signage states, 'No minibuses, caravanettes, or other vehicles adapted for eating, sleeping or cooking.'  
In response it was noted that further discussion would be held under agenda item 7 a).
- A query was raised regarding the duration of the works to the northern section of Shore Road, which had required a temporary road closure due to the damaged road surface caused by Storm Ciaran. In response it was noted that Dorset Highways had initially indicated an aspiration to complete the works by the Easter holidays, however an update would be sought from Dorset Council officers.
- It was stated that the condition of the surface of De Moulham Road, which was being used as an alternative route due to the northern section of Shore Road being closed, was deteriorating. In response it was noted that the Town Council would make enquiries with Dorset Council.
- A concern was raised regarding the route taken by school children accessing St Mark's Primary School and The Swanage School, via Washpond Lane

(near the junction with the High Street). It was noted that the national speed limit applied and the lane had no footway. In response it was noted that at the Informal meeting of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the issue had been raised and it was suggested that Dorset Council provide a minibus service to transport the children. It was noted that this was unlikely. However, a request to formally reduce the speed limit could be considered by the committee.

1) **Apologies**

Apologies for their inability to attend the meeting were received from Councillor Bishop and Mr S Mepham, Community Highways Senior Team Leader (CHSTL), Dorset Council Highways.

2) **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.

3) **To approve as a correct record Minutes of the Meeting of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

It was proposed by Councillor Foster, seconded by Councillor Moreton and AGREED:-

That the Minutes of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 be approved as a correct record.

4) **Shore Road improvements – To consider options put forward by Dorset Council, for highways modelling work**

Further to Minute No. 180 (b) of the Council Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024, a presentation regarding highways modelling options was provided to the advisory committee by two Dorset Council officers.

At the Council meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Members had agreed to jointly commission, with Dorset Council, a feasibility study to investigate options to amend the layout of Shore Road and the surrounding highway network. This had been suggested following feedback received from the public consultations for both the Swanage Seafront Masterplan and the Swanage Green Seafront Stabilisation Scheme.

It had been agreed, at the Council meeting, that four highway improvement options be considered for the northern section of Shore Road, against each of the two proposed Green Seafront enhancement schemes, the essential and enhanced, as follows:

- a. Close with gates or features such as bus enforcement cameras to restrict vehicular access. Similar to existing closure along southern section of Shore Rd.
- b. Restrict to one-way traffic, remove parking bays and widen pavements.
- c. As option b. with additional changes to the wider traffic network around the town.
- d. As option a. but a full road closure with the removal of highways features and implementation of placemaking measures.

It had been suggested that the modelling would be undertaken during the peak summer season and although the extent of the work had yet to be fully determined, the cost estimates ranged from £15,600 for a desk top study up to £53,000 for a full highway model. Although Dorset Council had indicated that these costs would have to be borne exclusively by the Town Council, a query was raised regarding whether a jointly funded option could be considered. The officers confirmed that they would make enquiries and report back to the Town Council.

The Dorset Council officers provided an explanation of the different types of vehicle count, ATC (Automatic Traffic Count) which involved a device installed across the road to count vehicles that travelled over the rubber strips over a two week period and CTC (Classified Turning Count) which involved the use of a camera for one day between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and could accurately specify the type of vehicle travelling that route. The maps were displayed which indicated the proposed locations for the different methods of vehicle counts (16 ATC and seven CTC locations would cost £53,000).

Members confirmed that the intention of the scheme was to improve pedestrian safety, as had been highlighted in the results of the public consultation, and further acknowledged the benefit of accurate modelling as an effective way in which to mitigate the risks associated with altering the traffic flow. It was suggested that a third highway modelling option be developed to maximise value for money in terms of data collection.

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

That Dorset Council be requested to provide a third option for the highway modelling report, which includes detailed information and a breakdown of costs for consideration at the next meeting of the Community Services Committee.

**5) Station Approach – update following site visit by Accessible Swanage**

The contents of a briefing paper prepared by the Assets and Compliance Manager was noted. It was reported that following an onsite meeting with representatives from Accessible Swanage and Dorset Council a suggestion had been made to move the bus stops due to their position and subsequent pedestrian congestion outside of the Station building. However, a statement had subsequently been received from Dorset Council’s Public Transport and Infrastructure Team, which stated that the bus stops could not be relocated due to various factors. Accessible Swanage had been made aware of the decision and it was noted that other suggested minor amendments to the Station Approach improvement plans, as highlighted by the group, had been incorporated into the revised plan. The position was noted.

**6) Highway Matters – update on previous requests**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Concern raised</b>	<b>Potential solution</b>
a) High Street, Herston.	Improved traffic management for increased pedestrian safety.	Pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of Costcutter, 208 High Street. Refer to Dorset Council to consider improvement to traffic management and determine next steps. – <b>Update.</b>
Further to Minute No. 4 a) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023, it was reported that the Town Council had requested an update from Dorset Council and was awaiting further information. An update would be provided to a future meeting.		
b) High Street, Swanage.	Request for the removal of parking restrictions in the winter months and extension from 1	Alteration to parking restrictions in the High Street (section between Methodist Church and United Reformed

	hour to 2 hours in the summer months.	Church). Refer to Dorset Council to consider a change to the parking restrictions. – <b>Forms received.</b> (Information enclosed)
<p>Further to Minute No. 4 b) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023, and subsequent approval at the Community Services Committee meeting, held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023, the Town Council sent letters and a form to the households directly affected by the proposal, as outlined above. The residents from this section of the High Street had proposed a residents parking permit scheme (eight in favour/one against any change). Members agreed that the next step of the process would be to make a request to Dorset Council to confirm the eligibility criteria for a permit scheme at this location and the associated costs. An update would be provided to a future meeting.</p>		
c) Shore Road, Swanage.	Vehicles parking in front of the gates causing an obstruction and blocking access to emergency vehicles and refuse vehicles.	Refer to Dorset Council to restrict parking at the southern gates. (Blips are situated at the northern gates). (Information enclosed)
<p>Further to Minute No. 5 c) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023, it was reported that the Visitor Services and Business Development Manager (VSBDM) and the Community Highways Senior Team Leader (CHSTL), were reviewing this area in light of the permanent closure of the southern section of Shore Road. A review of signage and the effect on the street scene would be considered as part of this process.</p>		
d) Ballard Way, Swanage (junction of Ballard Estate).	Vehicles parking on both sides of Ballard Way, causing an obstruction and difficulties for refuse/delivery vehicles and emergency vehicles.	Form distributed, no reply to date.
<p>Further to Minute No. 5 d) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023, it was reported that the Town Council had sent a Community Highways Request form to the resident, however, this had not been returned to date.</p>		
e) Greensands Way, Swanage (junction of Northbrook Road).	Vehicles parking close to junction obscuring visibility and speeding vehicles along Northbrook Road.	DYL's on corner of road. <b>DC proposes DYL's.</b> <b>Public Notice issued 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 for comment.</b>
<p>Further to Minute No. 5 e) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023, it was reported that Dorset Council proposed the installation of DYL's on the corner of the junctions of Greensands Way and D'Urberville Drive onto Northbrook Road.</p>		

f) Priests Road, Swanage (near junction of Panorama Road)	Narrow pavement and parked vehicles causing an obstruction to pedestrians.	DYL's and/or road markings. Form distributed, no reply to date.
Further to Minute No. 5 f) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023, it was reported that the Town Council had sent a Community Highways Request form to the resident, however, this had not been returned to date.		
g) Ancaster Road, Swanage (junction of Victoria Avenue)	Vehicles parking close to junction obscuring visibility. Impact on refuse collection.	DYL's on corner of road. <b>DC proposes DYL's.</b>
Further to Minute No. 5 g) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023, it was reported that Dorset Council proposed the installation of DYL's on the corner of the junction of Ancaster Road onto Victoria Avenue.		
h) Northbrook Road (north section) and Washpond Lane, Swanage	Safety concerns	<b>DC proposes a reduction in the speed limit to 30 m.p.h. Public Notice issued 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 for comment.</b>
<p>Further to Minute No. 10) of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023, it was reported that Dorset Council had proposed an extension to the 30 m.p.h. limit at the northern end of Northbrook Road, near to the mini roundabout, and the length of Washpond Lane up to the junction with Ulwell Road.</p> <p>A discussion ensued regarding concerns raised during public participation time in relation to the route taken by school children accessing St Mark's Primary School and The Swanage School, via Washpond Lane (near the junction with the High Street). It was acknowledged that the layout of the road, which contained high banks, corners and a bridge, was not conducive to speeding, however, it was stated that any measures to highlight a lower speed would be beneficial, and signage to indicate children/pedestrians in the road would be of use.</p> <p>It was, therefore, proposed by Councillor Monkhouse, seconded by Councillor Foster and AGREED:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TO RECOMMEND:</b> That a request be made to Dorset Council to reduce the speed limit, the length of Washpond Lane, to 30 m.p.h. and install signage to indicate children in the road, on the grounds of pedestrian safety.</p>		

7) **Highway Matters – to formulate Council views on the following**

Location	Concern raised	Potential solution
a) High Street, Swanage.	Campervans parking in lower High Street, between junction of Seymer Road and the Pier.	Form returned - request to prohibit the parking of campervans in the Lower High Street.

		To consider referral to Dorset Council.
<p>Further to comments made during public participation time, it was noted that the designs for the proposed flood defence scheme may impact vehicle flow and parking in this area and therefore an update on the scheme would be beneficial. A discussion ensued regarding the current restrictions in place and the proposal by the resident to prohibit the parking of campervans, as was the case on Shore Road.</p> <p>The Chairman then invoked Standing Order No.1 p. to briefly suspend the meeting so as to allow a member of public present to address the Committee and respond to questions.</p> <p>Following a discussion it was agreed that officers would contact Dorset Council to ascertain the details of the current TRO for this area in order to determine the next steps.</p>		
b) Queens Road, Swanage.	Entrance to Swanage Hospital car park - no road markings/double yellow lines. Vehicles park right up to the entrance on either side and opposite the car park entrance. Extremely difficult and dangerous to turn into or out of the car park.	Form has been distributed. DC has been contacted by resident.  To consider referral to DC as a safety issue.
<p>Further to the information received from a resident, the chairman confirmed he had visited Queens Road and stated that there were no DYL's at either side of the entrance/exit to the hospital car park.</p> <p>It was therefore proposed by Councillor Whitwam, seconded by Councillor Moreton and AGREED:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TO RECOMMEND:</b> That a request be made to Dorset Council to install DYL's at each side of the entrance/exit to the car park to improve visibility for vehicles exiting the hospital car park on to Queens Road.</p>		

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

- a) Swanage Town Council (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2024 – to note consultation (closes on 28th February 2024).  
Members noted that a majority of the responses to the consultation, to date, had related to an existing condition regarding prohibition of the use of the Town Council's car parks by learner drivers.
- b) Shore Road – to note permanent closure of the southern section of Shore Road  
It was noted that this had been discussed under agenda item 6 c).
- c) To consider the installation of an additional SID post, High Street, Swanage, near the newly installed 30 m.p.h. signs and junction with High Street, Langton Matravers

It was noted that a meeting of the Southeast Purbeck Parishes would be held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and a request would be made for this item to be added to the agenda for discussion.

d) Dorset Council - 20 m.p.h. Limits and Zones and Dorset Road Safe Community Speed Watch.

A presentation was provided by the Dorset Police Community Speedwatch co-ordinator. It was reported that the Speedwatch scheme had been successfully set up in neighbouring parishes, and there were approximately 1,000 volunteers collecting data across Dorset. The data collected was used to inform the Police on the locations where most speeding occurred and where the Dorset Road Safe van should be deployed. An explanation was provided regarding the process to set up a group and the training and equipment provided by the Police. It was noted that the collection of data was a requirement to progress a 20 m.p.h. speed limit zone application, should this be considered in the future. A discussion ensued around possible ways to publicise the scheme and attract volunteers to start a group in Swanage which included promotion on the Town Council's Facebook page, website, and at the Swanage Friday market. It was noted that any interested parties could approach the Community Speedwatch co-ordinator directly.

9) **Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 2.15 p.m.

The meeting closed at 4.00 p.m.

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