

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE
COMMITTEE ROOM, 44 OLD STREET ON MONDAY 20TH JANUARY 2014

PRESENT: Cllr N Pennycott – Committee Chairman in the Chair
 Cllrs A Cotton, A Giles-Townsend, G Hill, J Middleton, P McNeill,
 G Watkins, Mrs I Johnson – Deputy Town Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Paul Smart, Area Manager Area Officer Team Streets & Open
 Spaces NSC and Area Officer for Clevedon

7.30 pm INFORMAL BUSINESS – NEW AREA OFFICER FOR CLEVEDON

Mr Smart the Area Manager of the Area Officer Team for North Somerset is now also the Area Officer for Clevedon following reorganisation of the Team. The Area Officer Team workload now includes highways inspections, waste inspections and parks. Mr Smart introduced himself - he has worked for 30 years in local government and is a qualified Civil Engineer. He emphasised that he would help with any issues under his remit but there were financial constraints on NSC and this affected highways maintenance etc.

Mr Smart confirmed the criterion for potholes on the carriageway is 40mm and 20mm deep on the footway ie deeper than a golf ball or tennis ball. When problems are reported the Area Officer will carry out a risk assessment and depending on this the pothole will be filled in 7 or 28 days. Some potholes that exceed this depth and likely to cause imminent danger will be filled the same day. With regard to insurance claims the highways authority has to be seen to be taking reasonable precautions and this is done by regular inspections of the highway network. Mr Smart emphasised that there is insufficient monies to re-surface roads and only the worst roads can be put forward each year, however this is a national problem. With regard to the permanence of the repairs Mr Smart provided information of various innovative repairs that had been tried by the Council but felt often the tried and tested methods were as effective as and cheaper than the newer methods.

Following questions about road sweeping Mr Smart reminded Members that there is a kerb cleaner assigned to Clevedon and the schedule of cleansing was included in the NSC Waste Contract last year however if there is a particular need the kerb cleaner can be diverted.

Mr Smart asked that Councillors advise Streets and Open Spaces of any highway/footway maintenance issues in the town. This information is plotted on the mapping system which is used by the Highways Engineers. Alternatively Members can inform the Town Council Office who will pass this information on to NSC.

TH/14/375 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs C Hall, J Geldart, B Hatch, D Shopland.

TH/14/376 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest made by Committee Members.

TH/14/377 MINUTES

The minutes of the Transport & Highways Committee held on 13TH November 2013 were approved and signed.

TH/14/378 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION WITH MR SMART;

378.1 QUEENS SQUARE PAVING – Mr Smart reported that there were no areas that could be deemed as potholes ie 20mm deep. Some areas undulated gradually over a 2m area. The main concern is the area near the Church and the toilets; this appears to be caused by tree roots. The Arboriculturalist has inspected the tree and considers the tree to be too large for this site and it is planned to remove the tree and replace it with a smaller ornamental tree in the next two months. Mr Smart hoped that work on Station Road could be carried out next year. Members highlighted the need for the drains to be cleared in this area.

RESOLVED: If possible to issue a press release when a date for the tree work is known.

378.2 PARK ROAD PAVEMENT TH/13/363 – NSC hoped to carry out the work to the footway in February. The Highways Engineer is meeting the Contractor to determine a method of working as this is a complex repair involving an underlying basement. The need to raise the kerbing on the corner of Park Road and Chapel Hill was also highlighted to Mr Smart.

378.3 SURVEY OF PAVEMENTS IN CLEVEDON TH/13/364 – Information from the last meeting had been passed to Mr Smart who has responded. The Donkey Path from Victoria Road to Elton Road was highlighted as needed attention due to overgrowth and obscured street lighting.

ALL TOWN COUNCILLORS TO NOTE that Mr Smart is willing to walk around wards with councillors inspecting problem areas and advising Members as to whether these problems can or cannot be addressed.

Action: All Town Councillors

378.4 REPORTING POTHOLES IN ROADS IN CLEVEDON & HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE WORKS See informal business above. Members also reported potholes in Gardens Road and Elton Road. Works orders had been placed for these.

Mr Smart reported that the following maintenance works would be included in the Local Transport Plan for 2014/15; Halswell Road; B3130 Tickenham Road; Castle Road; B3124 Walton Road; Seavale Road; B3133 Kenn Road; Princes Road.

Other major re-surfacing works for 2014/15 are awaiting approval by the Executive Member in the next month. Roads in Clevedon have been highlighted.

TH/14/379 INFORMATION AND UPDATE ON COMMITTEE BUDGET 2013/14

The Transport & Highways Committee budget statement was NOTED. £9,000 allocated for minor road works to be spent on the Moor Lane Pedestrian Refuge as agreed at the full Council meeting on 15 January 2014 – see min 14/381 below.

TH/14/380 TO RECEIVE A REPORT OF THE 2014/15 TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS BUDGET REVISIONS AGREED AT THE FINANCE & GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8TH JANUARY 2014

Members noted the adjustment to the 2014/15 Committee Budget by the Finance & General Policy Committee; Bus Shelter Cleaning and Maintenance £4000; Bus Shelter Purchase £4000; Nailsea & District Community Transport Grant £8000.

TH/14/381 MOOR LANE PEDESTRIAN REFUGE/REFUGES TH/13/362.2

Following approval by Council for Crossing 1 (near junction with Yeo Moor). It was;

RESOLVED: To place an order with NSC for this pedestrian refuge. The Town Council contribution to be £9,000 from the Committee budget for 2013/14.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk

TH/14/382 OLD STREET ZEBRA CROSSING ADJACENT TO VILLAGE HALL

TH/13/362.1

382.1 REPORT OF DEMONSTRATION OF PROPOSED BELISHA BEACON ON 10 JANUARY 2014

The Committee Chairman thanked so many Members for attending the demonstration. Members considered the detailed costing - £3,500 plus £150-£200 for the installation. It was noted that the new beacons could not be funded from the 2013/14 Committee budget as monies not allocated in that budget had been 'ring fenced' for Council general reserves. Members wished to pursue these new beacons which would address concerns of poor conspicuity at this zebra crossing.

RESOLVED: To write to NSC and ascertain whether a contribution would be required from the Town Council for these works to ensure they are carried out in the next financial year. Consideration could then be given to the virement of an amount in the 2014/15 budget for these beacons.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk

382.2 BUS STOP NEAR ZEBRA CROSSING TH/13/362.1

The Deputy Town Clerk reported a reply from First Bus confirming that the depot management teams will inform drivers and also put up staff notices requesting bus drivers to pull their vehicles into the allocated area at the kerbside. NOTED.

TH/14/383 ENFORCEMENT OF PARKING RESTRICTIONS TH/13/371.1

Sue Mountstevens, Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, had replied advocating a move to Civilian Parking Enforcement (CPE) because at the moment all money from parking tickets issued goes directly to the Treasury. Under CPE all fines collected would go to the local authority to pay for the parking enforcement officers and any leftover could be used to fund local road safety. The Police Community Support Officers would then be freed up to focus on local crime and disorder issues. Sue Mountstevens has written to NSC asking that the Council adopt CPE.

Members noted that North Somerset is the only area in the South West not to adopt CPE. The Committee Chairman observed that most NSC Councillors were keen to change the current system of parking enforcement.

RESOLVED: Cllr Pennycott would follow this up with the NSC SPED Committee.

Action: Committee Chairman

TH/14/384 STATION ROAD BOLLARD

The Chairman of Clevedon PACT had written to the Town Council expressing concern that the bollard is being left down and motorists are driving in and visiting shops on Station Road. Concern was also expressed about the signage at the junction of Station Road and Kenn Road which indicates it is a one way road.

RESOLVED:

1. To send a letter to traders and residents along Station Road asking them to raise the bollard when they see it has been left down and requesting they ask delivery drivers to raise the bollard after making their deliveries.
2. To ask NSC Highways to rationalise the signage at the junction with Kenn Road.
3. To enquire whether it would be possible to replace the locking mechanism and purchase new keys.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk

TH/14/385 UPDATE ON TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS INC HOLLY LANE

NSC has passed the order to the Contractor and the Officer will inform the Town Council when the lining on Holly Lane is undertaken to ensure Police enforcement can be arranged.

TH/14/386 BUS SHELTER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT MONTHLY REPORTS

No concerns raised by the Contractor.

TH/14/387 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

387.1 B3133 KENN ROAD NEW BUS STOPS – No concerns raised.

387.2 B3133 KENN ROAD AND NORTH END ROAD Temporary road closure operative on 2 February 2014 from Sunday to Thursday, between the hours of 7pm-6am. The closure length is advertised between the old Recreation Ground (Clevedon Salesrooms) to its junction with Ham Lane.

387.3 NORTH SOMERSET LOCAL ACCESS FORUM – Agenda for meeting on 21st January 2014 and minutes of previous meetings available.

RESOLVED: To invite the Clevedon Town Council buddy on the North Somerset Local Access Forum to attend a future meeting of the Committee.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk

TH/14/388 TO DETERMINE PART I AND PART II ITEMS

There were no part I items.

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD *The meeting finished at 9.10 pm*

CHAIRMAN:.....DATE:.....