

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING IN THE
COMMITTEE ROOM, 44 OLD STREET ON WEDNESDAY 9TH JANUARY 2019 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr G. Watkins – Committee Chairman
 Cllrs A. Giles-Townsend (7.37pm), S. Hale, G. Hill, S. Moores.
 In Attendance Cllr D. Shopland (7.35pm)
 Ms Paula Heath Town Clerk

TH 19/932 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs J. Norton-Sealey & C. Starr

TH 19/933 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

TH 19/934 MINUTES

The minutes of the Transport & Highways Committee held on 7th November 2018 and ratified by Council on 12th December 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

TH 19/935 RECEIVE THE COMMITTEE BUDGETS/ACTUALS FOR 2018/2019

Copy of the budget over actuals for the financial year 2018/2019 had been circulated with the agenda; members noted the figures.

TH 19/936 [18/921] TO CONFIRM BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2019/2020

Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and **AGREED** the Transport & Highways Budget for 2019/2020

Bus shelters Cleaning & Maintenance	5500.00
Nailsea & District Transport Grant	8000.00
School Crossing Patrol	4000.00
Total budget	£17500.00

In response to a question there had been no identified work on highways for 2019/20 but should a project arise before 2020/21 budget then the Committee has the option to put a business case to council to obtain funds from reserves.

Cllr D. Shopland and Cllr A. Giles-Townsend arrived during the following item

TH 19/937 [18/919] TO RECEIVE, DISCUSS AND MAKE RESPONSE TO NSC RE PARKING REVIEW LETTER FROM NIGEL ASHTON DATED 9TH NOVEMBER 2018; AND RESPONSES TO FOI REQUEST TO NSC.

Members were reminded of the discussions held at the 7th November meeting and the points raised.

Parking on Hill Road was discussed along with resident's request to have residents parking after 6pm, as many residents find it difficult to park due to the evening restaurant trade.

Enforcement – the figures obtained under FOI request were discussed, members were informed that NSC were increasing the number of hours enforcement officers were in Clevedon. It was reported that enforcement had assisted several businesses in Hill

Road/Alexandra Road with increased traffic turnover. It was noticed that there were fewer large vans and lorries parked on the Sea Front, Elton Road and Old Church Road.

Parking Charges – Members discussed at great length and with differing views ranging from all car parks free to all car parks being chargeable but with a low rate i.e first hour free then 20p per hour, equalising the cost across all Clevedon. It was noted that this happens in many towns across the country with all users having to get a ticket but that the first so many minutes were free, examples given ranged from 20 minutes to 2 hours, then a moderate charge for each additional hour. Members noted the comments made by shops and business that charged parking would affect their trade at a time when the high street is struggling against on line purchases. Members expressed concern as to the parking charges being operated in Salthouse and Hawthorns car parks with charges being based on 1 hour or 4 hours with no in between phasing of cost, this impinged on regular visitors who would like to visit for 2 or 3 hours; it was noted that disabled drivers are charged the same price; Members felt was unfair.. Members discussed the need for commercial lorry park with access to facilities such as toilets, there had formally been a unit on Hither Green that had been used by lorry drivers.

Discussions on 7th November 2018 meeting

Parking

A constant area of concern across the Town. Although CPE had started to alleviate problems in some area, the lack of enforcement in recent weeks had seen many of the problems return. Members queried how many hours the CPE officers were in Clevedon. Members noted that any parking solution would need to take into consideration any displacement it may cause.

Car-Parks

There is a need to promote the use of the carparks instead of on-street parking. It would be nice for all the Car Parks to be free, but in this budget strapped age a more sensible parking charge structure could be applied with an hourly increase rather than the 1 hour then 4 hours charge. Members noted that the Salthouse and Little Harp Pubs both charge for parking which is refundable against food and drink purchased in the establishment; this is to discourage non-patrons parking.

Public Transport

Increase in number of buses and more coordinated bus routes and timetables could remove some of the vehicles off the road especially if the fares were reduced to make it financially viable for passengers.

It was agreed that any further points are to be forwarded to the Town Clerk to be discussed at the next meeting or Council dependant on the receipt of the letter and deadline for return.

It was **AGREED** a response would be drafted to NSC encapsulating the discussions over the 2 meetings; a copy would be circulated to all T & H members for confirmation.

TH 19/938 [18/926] TO RECEIVE RESPONSE FROM ICO RE COMPLAINT NO

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The response from ICO was read to members, which supported the Town Council's case. It was suggested, and a document prepared by ICO to give an anonymised list of the responses; this had been sent to the complainant in December, there has been no response to the office. The document sent had been annotated to show whether the person was for the removal of the lines (remove) or against the removal (keep). The Committee Chairman reported that the complainant had responded direct to him and questioned the allocation of one of the responses claiming it was incorrect and should have been delegated differently. The Committee Chairman will pass the complainants correspondence to the Town Clerk.

TH 19/939 [18/929] RECEIVE RESPONSE FROM FIRST BUS, IN RESPECT OF THE BENCHES AT BUS STOPS WITHOUT SHELTERS AND DISCUSS WAY FORWARD.

The Town Clerk reported that having chased the Council's letter of 29th November a verbal response had been received at 4pm that day from the Operations Manager at First Bus. First Bus has no funds in the current budget as it is their year-end, nor do they have an architect's department or access to anyone who could undertake the specification work required by NSC; under statute First Bus cannot own property on the highway other than the bus stop signs and timetable displays. The Operations manager has agreed to look at any future budgets if the costs required to install a bench, including all the specification and drawing work required by NSC can be forwarded to them. If reasonable they may be able to find funds from promotion to assist with the installation of a few benches subject to their contribution being recognised; Details of the offer would be passed to PACT.

First Bus are currently arranging a meeting with NSC in respect of the bus timetables and routes as part of an annual review, following that meeting they would like to meet with Councillors to get a local view and opinions on the bus services and any proposed changes. It was agreed to arrange a meeting.

TH 19/940 RECEIVE AND COMMENT ON THE DISCUSSION BY BID TO AMEND AND CHANGE TRAFFIC FLOW AT THE CLOCK TOWER AND OLD CHURCH ROAD.

The Town Clerk explained how this started as a project for Pocket Parks in Clevedon and following on from an email exchange by BID members a proposal to in phase 1 create a pocket park at the Nat West end of Old Church Road and to look at in phase 2 a creation of a wider paved area encompassing the Clock Tower with two-way vehicles on the east side. Members expressed concern at the stage 2 proposal feeling that any amendment or realignment should be investigated over the wider issues.

- the traffic flow on one side being very narrow for 2 buses or large lorries to pass.
- The sharp right-hand bend would reduce visibility for vehicles travelling north to those turning in or out of Chapel Hill.
- The increased pressure on one side of the Clock Towers foundation could cause stability problems; vehicles have been on either side since the Clock Tower was built
- sharp right-hand bend could compromise pedestrian safety on that side of the road.

Members discussed an idea to pedestrianise the one-way section of Old Church Road. Members were informed that in the past when the proposal had been made to convert the section from two-way to one-way there had been objections from the shop owners and businesses on that section who felt that it would reduce their visibility to passing trade. Members expressed concern that apart for the major and extensive road works required to create new access points for Marson Road, Marson Road Car Park, Queens Road and Lower Queens Road, the removal of traffic could have a major effect on those business that rely on passing trade such as the fast food restaurants.

Concern was expressed at the location of phase 1, in that it could obstruct pedestrians crossing Old Church Road and cause visibility issues for vehicles egressing the area. Members felt the pocket park could be better located in the town.

TH 19/941 DISCUSS ISSUE OF INCONSIDERATE PARKING ON STRODE COURT – RAISED BY CLLR HILL

Cllr Hill explained the concerns that had been raised in respect of this unadopted road and the inconsiderate and sometimes dangerous parking. The Town Clerk reported that NSC

were expected to adopt the road soon and would then investigate the installation of suitable measures including double yellow lines.

TH 19/942 NOTE THE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR WSM TO CLEVEDON CYCLE ROUTE 18/P/4758/FUL.

Members noted the planning application for the cycleway which had been approved by NSC in December 2018. In response to a question it was noted that the English Coastal Path and the Clevedon to Weston Cycleway followed different routes only converging at the new sluice crossing included in the planning application.

TH 19/943 RECEIVE, IF ANY, UPDATE ON ADOPTED SECTION OF OLD PARK ROAD

There is no further update, the resurfacing of the adopted road is in NSC 2019/2020 budget currently.

TH 19/944 BUS SHELTER MAINTENANCE MONTHLY MAINTENANCE REPORT.

There are no issues to report from the monthly maintenance report of the bus shelters and twinning signs.

TH 19/945 CHAIRMAN ITEMS FOR INFORMATION.

There were no Chairman's items for information

TH 19/946 TO DETERMINE PART 1 ITEMS

There were no Part 1 items

The meeting finished at 8.34pm

SIGNED:..... DATE: