

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE
COMMITTEE ROOM, 44 OLD STREET ON WEDNESDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2014

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr L Knott
 Mr D Hoddell of 10 Kings Road

7.30pm INFORMAL BUSINESS – HILL ROAD PARKING ISSUES

Mr Hoddell provided Members with a report of his suggestions to improve the Hill Road traffic flow and parking. The main points were;

- A new one way system from the junction of the existing one way section of Hill Road to the junction with Copse Road.
- New angled (herringbone) car parking spaces where the road width permits on the Pullins Bakery side.
- An onload/offload only layby cut into the wider pavement area on the opposite side of the road from Pullins.
- The outbound bus stop at Bellevue Road removed to Sixways Albert Road bus stop which would be both in and outbound.
- The central island at the junction of Marine Parade and Elton Road may need to be altered to aid easier outbound bus navigation from the sea front to the existing Victoria Road bus route.

Members initial comments on this new suggestion were;

- Whether the privately owned cellars below Hill Road would hold vehicle weight.
- The effect of increased traffic and buses along The Beach area – well used by visitors and sometimes closed due to bad weather.
- The suitability of Marine Parade for buses and large vehicles.
- To question how many additional parking spaces could be made available by herringbone parking.

Mr Hoddell emphasised that this traffic system would require a traffic flow assessment however he hoped his suggestions would contribute to the debate under agenda item 9. The proposals remodelled the existing infrastructure and could therefore be considered cost effective.

7.52 PM FORMAL BUSINESS

TH/14/446 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Committee Members present.

TH/14/447 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Shopland declared a pecuniary interest in the Nailsea to Clevedon Cross Moor Link Path and would leave the meeting when this is discussed.

Cllrs Hatch and Knott declared personal interests in St Nicholas Chantry School Travel Plan as they both have grandchildren at the school. Cllr Geldart also declared a personal interest as she has children at the school and is a school governor.

TH/14/448 MINUTES

The minutes of the Transport & Highways Committee held on 16th July 2014 were approved and signed.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY THE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL

PART 1

TH/14/449 DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES & LOCAL GOVERNMENT – THE RIGHT TO CHALLENGE PARKING POLICIES: A DISCUSSION PAPER REQUESTING THE VIEWS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The Government wants to make it easier for local residents and businesses to make their council review the provision of parking, parking charges, use of yellow lines and parking strategies. The report suggests a minimum of 50 signatures or at least 10% of the residents or businesses in the affected local areas. The report proposes that as a minimum in responding to petitions the local authority should;

- Provide a public statement on how they will manage any challenges to their parking policies and any circumstances where a petition will not be considered.
- Publication of the details of all petitions received.
- A report of the review with any recommendations being considered and voted on by councillors.
- The organiser of the petition should be kept updated on progress and notified when the report is due to be considered and the outcome of the challenge.
- Publish the outcome of all reviews.

The Committee had concerns as to what powers would be available to ensure Local Authorities carried out actions raised via these petitions and subsequent reviews, bearing in mind the financial constraints on local authorities at present.

RESOLVED: To ask Council to consider the response to this discussion paper available <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-right-to-challenge-parking-policies>.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk

PART 2

TH/14/450 TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON COMMITTEE BUDGET FOR 2014/15

The Transport & Highways Committee budget statement was NOTED.

TH/14/451 REVIEW OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS IN CLEVEDON TH/14/436

451.1 CASTLE ROAD DOUBLE YELLOW LINES – Cllr Middleton highlighted the fact that although the installation of double yellow lines on the blind bend had been included in the last traffic review it had not been implemented at the last minute.

RESOLVED: To ask NSC to include this proposal in the current review of waiting restrictions.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk

TH/14/452 PARKING ON ALBERT ROAD TH/14/435

The Committee received a reply from NSC which stated that the dropped kerb does not require parking restrictions as it is enforceable without markings and NSC could not justify spending £1500 to revise the TRO.

RESOLVED: To ask again that the Contractor be asked to extend the double yellow lines up to the dropped kerb as they were prior to re-surfacing as this should be covered by the existing TRO.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk

TH/14/453 NORTON WOODS LANE TH/14/433

It was reported that there had been no reply from NSC to date.

RESOLVED: To follow up the enquiry as to how much the Highways Authority, will contribute towards this scheme.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk

TH/14/454 TRAVEL TO SCHOOL ST NICHOLAS CHANTRY

The Committee Chairman gave her own observations on the Travel Plan produced by NSC. She felt NSC had a clear view of what they expected the school to do to work with parents to minimise car use, however there was no funding to support this initiative. She observed that many parents work out of town and do not have time to walk to school. Also many grandparents drop off and pick up grandchildren some of these are not local and some could not walk long distances.

The travel plan has the following initiatives;

- A 'stop and drop' policy on the horse-shoe entrance drive on Highdale Avenue
- Improvements to the staff car parking facilities.
- Encourage 'park and stride'; parents asked to park in Thackeray Road or Princes Road to access the school on foot via Highdale Road and roads around Old Street to access the school on foot via Highdale Avenue.

The following school travel figures from a report in 2013 were noted; Walk = 149 (52.3%); Cycle = 1; Car = 69 (24.2%); Car share = 66 (23.2%).

Members felt it was unlikely a compulsory purchase for School Road would be initiated by NSC. There was a request from a Member for a barrier at the horseshoe entrance between the pavement and the road to assist with child safety. It was suggested that a small bus could pick up and drop off children at the schools in Clevedon if school opening hours were staggered. Members felt parents would not be prepared to pay for this service and it would be costly and not feasible. Concern was expressed at the speed of traffic along Highdale Avenue.

NSC had responded to the Committee's request that consideration be given to off street parking on NSC land in front of the Fir Woods on Highdale Road stating 'a land search will identify ownership and the creation of a lay by dedicated to parent drivers will have to be carefully considered. New formal car parking areas will always encourage and increase car use to a site rather than necessarily free up road space. Also managing a lay by amenity to avoid residential or casual parking is extremely difficult.'

The Chairman of the Planning Committee highlighted the fact that NSC was likely to approve the development of the school for all the reasons given in their letter dated 4th July 2014 which answered queries raised by Members of the Planning Committee.

RESOLVED: To ask the Planning Committee to take the following comments into account when considering the application to extend St Nicholas Chantry School; Members disappointment that the extension of the school is progressing without sufficient specific funding to assist in alleviating existing traffic problems for nearby residents and children accessing the school. It is considered issues are likely to be exacerbated with the increase in pupils. **Action: Planning Committee**

TH/14/455 HILL ROAD – PARKING ISSUES UPDATE TH/14/432

The Committee Chairman reported she had been unable to attend recent meetings with the traders. There were concerns that a minority of traders supported pay and display. The Chairman of Council and NSC North Ward Councillor had met with these traders and a NSC Highways Inspector who had talked to many shop owners in Hill Road dealing with passing trade (not hairdressers or offices) about the possibility of pay and display. The Inspector would be producing a report of this survey for both NSC and CTC. Members were reminded of a recent petition signed by 7,500 people against the introduction of pay and display. It was felt there would

TH/14/455 HILL ROAD – PARKING ISSUES UPDATE continued...

need to be widespread public consultation prior to further consideration of pay and display for the Hill Road area.

There was some discussion of the possibility of car parking at the top of Alexandra Gardens. Some of the traders and the Civic Society had raised this subject with Julia Elton.

It was noted that Jasmine Chadwick, a new PCSO, had been enforcing the two hour waiting restrictions and double yellow lines on Hill Road by issuing parking tickets and talking to motorists. The Police also intended placing notices in shop windows advising people to park in accordance with the restrictions. It was noted that cars parking all day on Hill Road should be reported to the Police. It was regrettable that the money from the fines goes to central government rather than the local authority as NSC does not have CPE.

RESOLVED: 1 To monitor the enforcement of the parking restrictions and at this stage not to pursue any other action.
2 To discuss at the next meeting of the Committee the suggestions made by Mr Hoddell during informal business above.

Mr Hoddell left the meeting.

TH/14/456 NSC OFF STREET PARKING PLACES CHARGES FOR CLEVEDON CAR PARKS TH/14/437

The reply from Cllr E Ap Rees was noted. A Councillor raised concerns about the charging structure and motorist's confusion when paying for say 3 hours parking. The charges being shown for 1 hour and 4 hours only.

RESOLVED: To invite Cllr Ap Rees to meet Councillors at the seafront car parks to demonstrate the lack of clarity of the parking charges.

TH/14/457 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND SCRUTINY PANEL 8TH SEPTEMBER 2014 – RESPONSE OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING, HIGHWAYS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGARDING CIVIC PARKING ENFORCEMENT (CPE)

The Executive Member gave reasons why at the present time he cannot guarantee that NSC will be in a position to make a decision and application for CPE by April next year. NOTED.

TH/14/458 TO CONSIDER A POSSIBLE REDUCTION OF THE SPEED LIMIT IN THE TOWN CENTRE AND AREAS ADJACENT TO SCHOOLS

Deferred to the next meeting.

TH/14/459 JUNCTION OF CONYGAR CLOSE WITH WALTON

The NSC Councillor for East Ward reported NSC would be writing to the garage concerning parking and the need for visibility from Conygar Close. NOTED.

TH/14/4560 ROADSIDE VEGETATION

Members considered an email from Locking Parish Council asking whether the Town Council wish to put their name to a letter to NSC concerning the state of roadside vegetation and the lack of follow up when problems are reported.

RESOLVED: Members felt the Area Officer for Clevedon is doing a great job, the main problem being private individuals not cutting back overhanging vegetation.

It was agreed to take item 16 as the last item before the for information items.

TH/14/461 GORDANO GREENWAY PROJECT STEERING GROUP

Nothing to report.

TH/14/462 NAILSEA & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Cllr Hill had a copy of the accounts for the financial year 2013/14. He also reported a small loss for the three months of the new financial year.

- 462.1 NDCT Grant Request 2014/15 for £9,500 This will be considered at the next meeting of the Transport & Highways Committee. It was agreed not to invite representatives from the organisation to the meeting as there appeared to be sufficient information to make a decision. **Action: Deputy Town Clerk**

9.35 pm Cllr D Shopland left the meeting.

TH/14/463 NAILSEA TO CLEVEDON CROSS MOOR LINK PATH TH/14/440

Cllr Watkins reported on two meetings he had attended. It is unlikely that the land owners would support the path, the Nailsea representatives have therefore decided not to continue with this proposal. Cllr Watkins questioned whether the Clevedon end of the path should still be investigated, as there is currently no funding and the six months timescale has already passed.

RESOLVED: Not to pursue the Nailsea to Clevedon Cross Moor Link Path.

TH/14/464 FOR INFORMATION Members received and noted;

- 464.1 All Committee Members to note the Transport & Highways Committee Budget for the next financial year will be considered at the meeting on 5th November 2014. Any items that require costings to be submitted to the Deputy Town Clerk by 15th October 2014. **Action: All Councillors**

- 464.2 Moor Lane Pedestrian Refuge TH/14/392 – Now installed and being well used by schoolchildren.

- 464.3 Bristol Airport – Summer newsletter.

TH/14/465 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

There were no items

TH/14/466 TO DETERMINE PART I ITEMS

The Right to Challenge Parking Policies: A Discussion Paper.

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD *The meeting finished at 9.40 pm*

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