

Minutes of the Meeting of the **TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** held at the Town Hall on **Wednesday 12th January 2011 at 2.15 p.m.**

Chairman: -

Councillor S. Poultney

Swanage Town Council

Present: -

Councillor C. Bright

Swanage Town Council

Councillor M. Hadley

Swanage Town Council

Councillor M. Whitwam

Swanage Town Council

Also Present: -

Dr M. Ayres

Town Clerk

Mrs C. Anstey

Administration Assistant

Mr G. Brookes

Operations Manager

Public Participation Time

There were six members of the public in attendance.

MR. B. BARKER spoke on behalf of the Chamber of Trade with regard to the posters used in 2009, advertising free Christmas parking in the Council's car parks. It was requested that the same format be used for Christmas 2011 posters and that they be distributed to retailers well in advance for display. It was noted that this matter would be placed on an agenda for discussion in May 2011.

REV. E. PRATT presented a traffic survey and over one thousand signatures on a petition for two extra disabled spaces to be made available in the taxi rank in front of Swanage Medical Practice. He highlighted the difficulties experienced by blue badge holders when attending doctor's appointments and asked that this matter be looked at sympathetically.

MR. P. KLEIN highlighted the difficulties experienced by residents of Durlston Road in the recent severe weather conditions due to the lack of gritting. He reported that volunteers would be prepared to take responsibility for gritting the road if grit bins could be supplied.

MS. P. KEELING raised concerns with the road conditions in Church Hill in the recent icy conditions. She highlighted the need to ensure that if the road was not gritted, an early decision to close the road should be made to prevent an accident occurring. The need for re-designation of Church Hill was also raised.

MR. J. JAMES requested that the signage regarding overnight camping in North Beach car park be removed.

1) Apologies

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor Audley, Councillor Mrs Patrick, Councillor Trite (Town Mayor) and Mr I McKenzie (Purbeck Cycling Club).

2) **Matters arising from Minutes of the Meeting of the Transport Committee held on 20th October 2010**

Further to minute 6)a) it was agreed that the Christmas parking arrangements for 2011 in the Town Council's car parks, be placed on the agenda for the Transport Committee meeting due to be held on 25th May 2011.

3) **Matters arising from Minutes of the Meeting of the Transport Committee Meeting held on 30th November 2010**

Further to minute 2) it was agreed that wherever possible, coach operators should be notified of the increase for 2011/12 to parking charges for coaches in the Town Council's car parks.

4) **Highway Matters:**

a) **Concerns over parking and refuse collection, Locarno Road**

Following a brief discussion it was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Hadley and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the Town Council request Dorset County Council to consider the introduction of measures to address the concerns of residents in Locarno Road.

5) **Taxi Rank and provision of disabled parking**

The meeting was suspended under Standing Order 69 to enable members of the public to participate.

Consideration was given to a survey undertaken by Rev. Pratt on the usage of the disabled bays by the taxi rank. After a brief discussion it was AGREED:

That a working party be formed, consisting of the Chairman and Councillor Whitwam to research the parking problems and liaise with the Operations Manager.

It was further proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Bright and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That signage be erected restricting waiting time in the bays to 1 hour only.

6) **Provision of Grit Bins**

It was reported that across the country, County Councils are no longer clearing minor roads in severe weather conditions, but are continuing to ensure that main roads are prioritised. It was noted that when problems have been reported to the Town Council, although not legally responsible, the Operations Department have assisted with gritting. However, it was noted that difficulties obtaining salt and grit supplies from Dorset County Council had been experienced. The need for information on the Council's website with regard to who is responsible for works in different areas of the town was highlighted. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Bright and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That officers liaise with Dorset County Council to establish suitable areas for grit bins and report to the Chairman to be discussed at the Policy and Planning Meeting due to be held on 21st February 2011.

7) Dorset County Council – Traffic flow survey

Consideration was given to a presentation document prepared by the MCTI Working Group on traffic flow within the environs of Swanage. Concerns were expressed at a lack of transparency of the MCTI and Swanage Town Partnership. It was noted that the document presented some positive ideas for enhancing areas of the town. Attention was drawn to the importance of retaining the stone pavements in Swanage as part of its heritage, and it was suggested that any stone removed by utility companies could be stored at the Council's Depot, to be re-instated at a later date by Dorset County Council.

It was reported that a full presentation of the document would be available for the general public if requested. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Hadley and RESOLVED:

That the Town Council meet with the Town Partnership in the near future to discuss and prioritise schemes from the presentation.

8) Items of Information and Matters for Forthcoming Agendas

- a) Attention was drawn to the need for clarification on the current role of the school crossing patrol, it was noted that it was important to ensure that this role was protected from any future cuts.
- b) Thanks were given to the Chairman for his contribution in making the establishment of the new committee a success.
- c) It was reported that a useful website for reporting highway problems can be found on www.fixmystreet.com
- d) Concerns were raised with parking in the hatched area in front of the station.
- e) It was reported that there may be a sixteen week closure of Victoria Avenue for major gas works to take place in the future.

9) Date of next meeting

It was noted that the date of the next meeting had been scheduled for Wednesday 25th May 2011.

The meeting closed at 4.05 p.m.
