

SOUTH HAMS HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC ORDERS COMMITTEE

24 November 2017

Present:-

Devon County Council:-

Councillors J Brazil, J Hart, J Hawkins, J Hodgson and R Hosking

South Hams District Council:-

Councillor Trevor Pennington, South Hams District Council
Councillor Peter Smerdon, South Hams District Council

Apologies:-

Councillors R Croad and R Gilbert

* **14** **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2017 be signed as a correct record.

The Committee noted the Cabinet on 13 September 2017 had supported the HATOC's request to make representations to Government regarding the timeline for the Government's 20mph research report publication (Cabinet minute 52/HATOC minute 7(b)).

* **15** **Marley Head Roundabout A385**

(An item taken under Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972).

The Chair had decided that the Committee should consider this item as a matter of urgency, in order that members may be appraised of travellers recently located at Marley Head roundabout (A385).

Councillor Smerdon reported that travellers were camping on the roundabout with horses staked out and retailing goods. There was concern that this was an unsuitable location, particularly regarding the securing of the horses, the proximity of the A38 dual carriageway and potential road safety issues.

RESOLVED that officers investigate the matter further, liaise with the Highways Agency as appropriate and report back to members.

* **16** **Traffic Sensitive Streets Review 2017**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/17/70) on the process for a full review of the traffic sensitive streets network across the county to be completed by 1 April 2018. When a street was designated 'Traffic Sensitive', timings of street works (County Council and utility companies) could be better regulated to ensure free flow of traffic so far as was reasonably practicable (i.e. no works on major roads during peak morning and afternoon traffic flows, or in coastal towns during peak summer season) under powers conferred by the Traffic Management Act 2004/Section 59 New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 to co-ordinate works activities on the road network.

Members' views on proposed designations could be discussed with the Highways Neighbourhood Team prior to public consultation. Formal consultation with local County Councillors, town and parish councils and the public would be undertaken in March 2018. [N.B a Review consultation webpage would be published shortly]

RESOLVED that Devon County Council proposals to undertake a full review of the traffic sensitive streets network across the county (with a proposed completion of 1 April 2018) be noted.

* **17** **Petitions/Parking Policy Reviews**

The Head of Highways, Capital Development & Waste was presented by Mr Barker, resident, with a petition organised by local residents containing approximately 62 signatures, seeking double yellow lines at the junction of Mount Boone Way and Mount Boone on road safety grounds.

[NB: The relevant Head of Service would be asked to respond direct to the petitioners on the issues raised, within 15 days, letting him/her know how long it would take to undertake the requested review in line with the Council's Petition Scheme (<http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=416&MId=2487&Ver=4&info=1>) and when that would be concluded and published and/or considered by the relevant Highways & Traffic Orders Committee thereafter.]

* **18** **Annual Waiting Restriction Programme**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/17/92) following regular requests received for waiting restrictions. The waiting restriction proposals were intended to rationalise on street parking and improve mobility and access within the South Hams District area.

Members discussed the proposals contained within Appendix III of the report which had attracted objections (rather than comments). It was noted that some Member requests were outside the scope of this Programme and could be taken up separately with Officers.

RESOLVED

(a) that the work on the annual waiting restrictions programme process for 2017/2018 be noted;

(b) (i) that the recommendations contained in Appendix III to the report be agreed and the proposals implemented where relevant, subject to:-

- ENV5606-011 North Ford Road, Dartmouth - Proposal to be withdrawn for further investigation in light of objections received;
- ENV5606-028 Bidders Close, Stoke Fleming - Site visit to be arranged and a decision on the matter be delegated to the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste in consultation with the Chair and Local County Councillor;
- ENV5606-004 Manor Way, Totnes - Site visit to be arranged and a decision on the matter be delegated to the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste in consultation with the Chair and Local County Councillor;

(b)(ii) that arising from Appendix III the following action also be taken:-

- ENV5606-001 A385, Dartington Gidleys Meadow - officers explore the possibility of a pedestrian crossing and report to a future meeting;
- ENV5606-002 A385, Dartington Gidleys Meadow – that the local member explore the feasibility of residents' parking with officers;

(c) that the proposals detailed in Appendix I which attracted no objections be implemented as advertised.

* 19 **Review of Yealmpton Crossing**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/17/93). A zebra crossing was advertised at Underhay on the A379 at Yealmpton in July 2014 but, following a number of objections, the proposal was not progressed. Members noted that the original developer funding was no longer available. In light of representations received from the Parish Council and Primary School Devon County Council had recently been asked to review the previous proposals to determine whether a suitable site could be found and funding identified for the installation of a zebra crossing at this site.

The Local County Councillor referred to the need for a safe school crossing for the new development of some 100 houses.

RESOLVED that a review of the options for installing a crossing facility of the A379 at Underhay, Yealmpton be undertaken, with a view to identifying funding for implementation, if an acceptable site can be identified.

* 20 **Item under SO23(2) - Safer and More Attractive Roundabouts - Cyclists and Pedestrians**

(a) The Committee noted that, in accordance with Standing Order 23, Councillor Hodgson had asked that the Committee consider roundabout design (eg Totnes Redworth junction) to create a safer and more attractive environment, particularly for cyclists and pedestrians.

Councillor Hodgson reported that at a recent Totnes Traffic and Transport Forum meeting videos of roundabouts in Holland which had been developed to allow cyclepaths and safer pedestrian and cycle routes were viewed:-

- Live Webcam of roundabout in Holland <http://rotondecam.nl/>
- A modern Amsterdam Roundabout
<https://bicycledutch.wordpress.com/2013/05/09/a-modern-amsterdam-roundabout/>

Councillor Hodgson also provided the link about poll supporting segregated cycle tracks:

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/segregated-cycle-lanes-protected-tracks-support-polls-a6907026.html>

Councillor Hodgson had also provided details of cycle priority crossing in Cheltenham and a 'floating' bus stop.

Councillor Hodgson further referred to other potential beneficial effects of roundabouts operating smoothly, in improved traffic flow and air quality.

Whilst Officers considered that in many instances roundabouts would be the preferred option over traffic light controlled junctions, sufficient land was not always available for a roundabout particularly one with enhanced pedestrian/cyclist facilities. However all suitable options/new design models would continue to be considered for future schemes.

RESOLVED that in view of potential county wide implications of roundabout design with improved cyclist and pedestrian facilities, this matter be referred to the Corporate, Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee, with a request that a task & finish group look into this matter.

(b) Councillor Hodgson also brought to the attention of members the ongoing increasing traffic flow using the Redworth (traffic controlled) junction, Totnes (in part due to new developments and increasing Torbay traffic accessing the A38). Considerable investment was made in the

Redworth junction just a few years ago, however with the increased traffic there was a greater need to reduce congestion and traffic in that area and with the opportunity of section 106 developer funding investment could be made in sustainable transport measures. Given the long lead in time for highway schemes the Traffic and Transport Forum in Totnes would welcome early planning in preparation for any changes required, to continue to keep nearby KEVICS pupils and the general public safe when using the junction as pedestrians/cyclists. The Local County Councillor also shared with the Committee a suggested remodelling of the roundabout.

Officers explained the particular constraints and factors influencing the current Redworth junction design and were happy to continue to discuss developments with the local County Councillor.

* **21** **Member Induction - Duties and Responsibility and Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) Approval Process (minute *5)**

Members received a briefing note as requested at the last meeting on the transport capital programme generally agreed by Cabinet on an annual basis between the autumn and February, including:-

- Core Integrated Block Funding
- Strategic Policy Framework
- On-street Car Parking account projects
- Developer contributions.

* **22** **Actions Taken Under Delegated Powers**

The Committee received the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HCW/17/94) setting out action taken under delegated powers on advertised Traffic Regulation Orders since the last meeting, following consultation with the Chair and local County Councillor:-

Bovisand, Wembury (Road from Staddon Lane to Bovisand), No Waiting At Any Time –Traffic Regulation Order advertised then sealed.

* **23** **Dates for Future HATOC Meetings**

Members noted the dates of future meetings, in line with the Councils calendar;
<http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

at Follaton House (Fridays):-
20 April 2018
6 July 2018
23 November 2018
5 April 2019

Members also identified the following for the next meeting:-
Air Quality Management Action Plan (verbal update).

* **24** **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 5 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to an individual and information likely to reveal the identity of an individual and information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings which would be likely to inhibit the free and frank provision of advice and exchange of views for the purpose of deliberation or the effective conduct of public affairs and in accordance with Section 36 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 by virtue of the fact that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

* 25 **Beacon Road Closure, Kingswear**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/17/95). The Chief Officer, together with the County Solicitor reported that following a cliff failure on the south side of Beacon Road in Kingswear in December 2012, the road had been closed because it was considered unsafe for use by members of the public. The report set out various options for the future of the road, together with the estimated cost of stabilising the cliff face in order to allow it to be reopened.

Negotiations had continued with various parties since the failure of the cliff face in December 2012, but to date a resolution had not been achieved.

Kingswear Parish Council and The Dart Area Landscape Access Group (DALAG) had also made representations to the Committee seeking to have work undertaken to allow the road to be reopened.

RESOLVED that a further update report be made to the next meeting examining whether there was any merit in downgrading the section of affected road to footpath status.

***DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 10.30 am and finished at 12.05 pm

