

SOUTH HAMS HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC ORDERS COMMITTEE

23 November 2018

Present: -

Devon County Council: -

Councillors R Croad (Chair), J Brazil, R Croad, R Gilbert, J Hart, J Hawkins, J Hodgson and R Hosking

South Hams District Council

Councillor P Smerdon

Apologies: -

Councillors P Dredge and T Pennington

* 48

Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2018 be signed as a correct record

* 49

Items Requiring Urgent Attention

(Items taken under Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act 1972)

The Chair had decided that the Committee should consider these items as matters of urgency: (a) in order that a scheme could be progressed and completed in the current financial year; and (b) in view of the local concerns expressed by residents following a road traffic collision and personal injury at A381 Crossing Totnes – Plymouth Road – request for a pedestrian link.

(a) Yealmpton Crossing Scheme

The Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste reported that a drawing had been received for the Yealmpton Crossing scheme which the Committee had last discussed at its meeting on 24 November 2017 when it had 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'*.

Subject to approval the Scheme could now be progressed within the current financial year.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Croad, **SECONDED** by Hodgson and

RESOLVED that the Scheme as shown on drawing No. B18012/1 circulated at the meeting be approved, subject to details being agreed by the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste in consultation with the Chair and the local County Councillor.

(b) A381 Crossing Totnes – Plymouth Road – Request for a Pedestrian Link

(Mrs Lawson attended and spoke at the invitation of the Committee)

Mrs Lawson presented a petition requesting an additional crossing near the current traffic lights to facilitate a safe pedestrian link, following a recent personal injury to her son, a pedestrian in collision with a car at this location.

A Report on the request would be submitted to the next meeting.

* **50** **Petitions/Parking Policy Reviews**

The Chair was presented by Councillor Hodgson with a petition organised by a local resident, seeking a Residents Parking Scheme at Shidders Bridge Cottages and Spedding Cottages, Cott Road, Dartington.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Hodgson, **SECONDED** by Councillor Croad and

RESOLVED that a Report on the request be presented to the next meeting.

[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.]

* **51** **Annual Local Waiting Restriction Programme**

(Mr Martin attended under the County Council's Public Participation Scheme and spoke against the proposal in respect of Bayard's Cove, Dartmouth)

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/18/85).

Proposals for the South Hams HATOC Annual Waiting Restriction Review for 2018 had been presented to this Committee on 6 July 2018 and subsequently advertised and those which had not attracted objections would be implemented as advertised.

Details of proposals where objections had been received were shown in Appendix I to the Report with plans shown in Appendix II.

RESOLVED:

(a) that work on the annual waiting restrictions programme process for 2018/2019 be noted;

(b) that the recommendations contained in Section 4 of Report HIW/18/85 and detailed in Appendices I and II be agreed subject to: no action to implement the proposal at Waverley Road, Kingsbridge (Plan ENV5670 refers).

* **52** **Totnes Rainbow Crossing (Minute *86, 24 March 2017)**

The Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste reported on discussions with the local community group, Proud2Be and the local County Councillor regarding potential sites for a rainbow crossing. The suggestion had been made to site the crossing in the Civic Square, as part of part of the current refurbishment plans. However, the Town Council had raised objections to the proposal.

A further option submitted by the Community Group for distinctive and colourful markings on the highway in the High Street could not be recommended by Officers in view of the potential legal and safety issues and Members concurred with this view.

Members asked that the Community Group be requested to submit revised proposals to Totnes Town Council for an appropriate marking in the Civic Square.

* **53** **Littlehempston Cycle Route/South Devon Railway (Minute *44, 6 July 2018)**

The Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste reported that, regarding establishing a cycle route between Littlehampton and Totnes using the existing pedestrian bridge across the river Dart, an offer from a Director of the South Devon Railway Trust for a meeting with Members had been received, subject to several conditions.

The Committee noted that the proposed link would benefit all Parish Councils north of the river, it promoted sustainable tourism and supported the District Council's Clean Air Strategy. South West Water, the owners of adjacent land, were also amenable to supporting a scheme.

A meeting on this matter had been arranged with the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment on 7 January 2019 at County Hall, Exeter and Members asked that as well Councillors Hodgson and Hawkins, the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste, the Chair and Councillor Sheron be also invited.

* **54** **Air Quality Management Action Plan (minute *41, 6 July 2018)**

Mr J Kershaw (South Hams District Council, specialist Adviser) attended at the invitation of the Committee and spoke regarding the Clean Air Strategy and Air Quality Management Areas which had been declared, due to poor air quality associated with road transport. Public consultation exercises across the District had been carried out and Action Plans were being developed for Totnes and Ivybridge in consultation with the County Council in terms of waiting restrictions and other presales which would have a significant impact. There was ongoing discussion in relation to the Totnes Plan including with the Totnes Travel Forum and there were significant financial Section 106 developer contributions available to support the Totnes Plans.

The Committee noted the position and expressed its support for the proposals and planned actions.

* **55** **Dartington site visit report (Minute *45, 6 July 2018)**

(Mrs Balch attended and spoke at the invitation of the Committee on the discussions held that morning at a site meeting attended by Members and referred to excessive speeding on the narrow road and associated safety issues for pedestrians).

The Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste reported on the Committee's site visit held that morning and the results of traffic surveys and that Officers would continue to liaise with the Parish Council about a Traffic Management approach using S106 developer funding associated with local development, which was to be programmed for the next financial year. The Officers received an informal survey of Residents' Parking needs in Gidleys Meadow, Dartington, conducted by the local County Councillor.

Members referred to traffic issues at Huxham Cross, Dartington (A384) including alleged excessive speeding, location of a bus stop at Shinners Bridge, the need for a pedestrian crossing and access to the local shops.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Hodgson, **SECONDED** by Councillor Croad and

RESOLVED that a Report on the traffic issues at Huxham Cross (A384), Dartington be submitted to the next meeting and that a letter be sent to the Dartington Hall Trust supporting proposals to relocate the bus stop and improve pedestrian access and funding options to progress the requested zebra crossing on the A3585 at Dartington be explored.

* **56** **Drop Kerbs and Loss of Public Parking Provision, Item under SO23(2)**

The Committee noted that, in accordance with Standing Order 23, Councillor Brazil had asked that the Committee consider the above item, which could have implications across Devon, but

with specific examples of difficulties experienced within his electoral division of Kingsbridge, with private householders constructing dropped kerbs to facilitate off-street parking and therefore reducing the availability of on-street parking spaces. There were also environmental impacts with the loss of gardens etc.

The Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste reported on the rules relating to the construction of dropped kerbs. Subject to construction by a qualified approved contractor the County Council had limited power to control the numbers, other than where there was an overriding safety impact.

Members also referred to the enforcement issues by the County Council's Enforcement Officers (CEOs) and the Police and noted that on occasion construction of dropped kerbs and creation of several additional off-street parking places was beneficial. Where on-street parking caused an obstruction, which prevented egress by a resident action could be taken by the Police. Where a complaint was received the County Council's Civil Enforcement Officers would consider attendance and could enforce where a parked vehicle obstructed a "dropped kerb".

* **57** **Actions Taken Under Delegated Powers**

The Committee received the Report of the Chief Officer for Infrastructure Development and Waste (HCW/18/86) setting out action taken under delegated powers on advertised Traffic Regulation Orders since the last meeting.

* **58** **Dates for Future HATOC Meetings**

Meetings to be held at 10.30am at South Hams District Council, Follaton House, Totnes: -

Friday 5 April 2019
Friday 5 July 2019
Friday 29 Nov 2019
Friday 3 April 2020.

The County Council's calendar can be viewed at;
<http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

* **59** **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.

* **60** **Beacon Road Closure, King swear, Item under SO 23(2)**

The Committee noted that, in accordance with Standing Order 23, Councillor Hawkins had asked that the Committee consider the outcome of recent court proceedings which required a private resident to undertake works to repair the cliff face to a standard that would allow the footpath to be reinstated. Officers reported that a drainage pipe had been identified at the location and there would be some additional delay pending further survey work. They would however endeavour to expedite matters with the contractor. The Committee noted the position.

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

The Meeting started at 10.30 am and finished at 12.25 pm