

SOUTH HAMS HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC ORDERS COMMITTEE

30 June 2023

Present:-

Devon County Council

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

South Hams District Council

Councillor O'Callaghan

Apologies:-

Councillors Birch

* **31** **Election of Chair**

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Hart and **SECONDED** by Councillor Brazil and

RESOLVED: that Councillor Croad be elected Chair for the ensuing year.

* **32** **Election of Vice-Chair**

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Hart and **SECONDED** by Councillor Gilbert and

RESOLVED: that Councillor Hawkins be elected Vice-Chair for the ensuing year.

* **33** **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2023 be signed as a correct record.

Note: Members noted that in relation to minute *29, the Cabinet had considered the matter at their meeting on the 10 May and had **RESOLVED** that the matter be deferred and officers be asked to develop proposals or consider alternative solutions for the route to address the concerns raised.

Members further expressed a desire for Cabinet to agree to another in-person site meeting to include Local Member, Chair of Hatoc and local representatives (Parish) to explain the concerns to officers.

34 Local Waiting Restrictions Programme

The Committee considered the Report of the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport (CT/23/43) on Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) restrictions proposed to support the priorities in the Strategic Plan, aiming to improve road safety, health and wellbeing and to better manage traffic and parking in the areas to respond to the climate emergency and support sustainable economic recovery, through rationalising on street parking and improving mobility and access within the South Hams area.

Details of the objections received to these proposals, and the County Council's response were shown in Appendix 2 to the Report.

Following advertisement, the proposals that did not attract objections would be implemented. Proposals that received objections were detailed in Appendix 2 with a recommendation for each location.

Members further expressed concern that in a limited number of cases where TROs were made, highway contractors were unable to complete the marking of the highway due to vehicles that were permanently parked in one place. Officers advised that legal advice was being sought on four locations within the County, but that there were limited powers available to the County Council. Whilst the police could take action, they were reluctant to do so except in exceptional circumstances. A Government consultation was also being undertaken, with local authorities seeking parliamentary legislation to make it a criminal offence to obstruct a footpath or highway, due to concerns including disability, other safety access concerns and operational reasons.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Hart and **SECONDED** by Councillor Hawkins and **RESOLVED**:

*(a) that the work on the local waiting restriction programme be noted;

*(b) that the recommendations contained in Appendix 2 to Report (CT/23/43) be approved, subject to the amendment as follows:-

ENV6035-127 - Elm Tree Close, Yealmpton: that a site meeting be undertaken with the local County Councillor to consider his concerns in relation to the south carriageway and to review objections, with a final decision on the advertised order delegated to the director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport in consultation with the local County Councillor and HATOC Chair; and

(c) that Cabinet be requested to write to Devon's Chief Constable and MPs, expressing concern at the problems encountered by local highways authorities, seeking their support in lobbying Government to make it a criminal

offence to obstruct a footpath or highway at the earliest opportunity and further requesting the police to take action against obstruction on a more regular basis.

* **35** **Petitions/Parking Policy Reviews**

No petition had been received.

* **36** **Bus Users and Stakeholders (BUS) Forum**

This Committee's representative advised Members there had been no meetings/progress on which to currently update them.

* **37** **Dates for Future HATOC Meetings**

Please use link below for County Council Calendar of Meetings to check meeting arrangements

<http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

Meetings normally held at 10.30am:-

Friday 20 October 2023

Friday 16 February 2024.

NOTES:

1. *Minutes should always be read in association with any Reports for a complete record.*
2. *If the meeting has been webcast, it will be available to view on the [webcasting site](#) for up to 12 months from the date of the meeting*

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

The Meeting started at 10.30 am and finished at 11.10 am