

## AXMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Held at The Guildhall on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 2.15 p.m.

1. PRESENT : Cllr. B. R. Watson (Chairman), Cllr. J.W. Walden, Cllr. A. Young, Cllr. I.L. Hall (County and District), D.R.H. Hull (District Councillor), Mr. B.W. Hoare (Neighbourhood Highway Officer, Devon County Council), Mrs. Z. Adamson-Drage (Deputy Town Clerk) and Miss H. Kirkcaldie, (Town Clerk).

In attendance Cllr. D.J. Moore.

2 members of the public.

2. APOLOGIES: Ms. J. Collins (Parking Services Manager, East Devon District Council), Mr. S. Morgan (Axminster Chamber of Commerce), Cllr. A.T. Moulding, (District Council) and Cllr. L.A.Rowe

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN: Not required as elected Chairman was able to be present.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING : the minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 having been approved and adopted by the Town Council, were signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2017 : Mr. Hoare had provided a comprehensive report covering the following points:

- a. Potholes and resurfacing works – potholes in Castle Street and Vale Lane had been filled. The A358 adjacent to the George Hotel will be resurfaced using a night time closure order. The defective rumble strips outside St. Mary's Primary school will be removed and the area patched.
- b. Footway matters – slabs will be replaced with bitmac surfacing as soon as funds are available, with the sites outside Trinity House and in West Street opposite the Post Office being the immediate priority but with South Street and part of Church Street also being listed. Cllr. Hull asked that Silver Street be added to the list.
- c. Loading Bay in West Street – Councillors were keen that action be taken to enforce the new regulations. Cllr. Walden regretted that manual issuing of tickets did not appear to have been a possibility on a recent occasion when a ticketing machine had failed. Cllr. Hull said that the signage was not very prominent. Mr. Hoare will look into this.
- d. Speeding at Marshwood end of Crewkerne Road. Cllr. Hall will fund installation of roundels on the road surface from his Locality Budget.
- e. Banning of heavy goods vehicles from Town Centre – this will be referred to the Traffic Engineer so that he can outline the possible options.
- f. New Traffic Orders – these had been advertised recently for Alexandra Road. Concerns were expressed that Widepost Lane had not been mentioned.
- g. Community Road Warden Scheme – the Town Clerk reported some of the potholes which had been infilled. Mr. Hoare explained that he needed to be kept informed of what was being done and where. Cllr. Walden said that he was willing to undertake the necessary training for infilling potholes. It was not yet known whether further supplies of macadam would be made available in the next financial year.
- h. Footpath 80 – the temporary diversion order can be renewed on an indefinite basis at 6 monthly intervals. Mr. Hoare advised that it appeared that various road widening works to serve the development at Cloakham would be undertaken soon on Chard Road as part of the planning conditions.

5. PUBLIC FORUM: a resident from Millbrookdale raised the following concerns:

- a) Hazard to Pedestrians from Multi-directional Traffic in Vicinity of George Hotel – of especial concern was the area at the top of Castle Hill.
- b) Dangers for Pedestrians Crossing Stoney Lane at Millbrook Roundabout.

A different member of the public raised the following points:

- c) Possibility of Banning Heavy Goods Vehicles – to be achieved by putting advisory signs on the A35 at Gammons Hill.
- d) Crossing Points on Stoney Lane – the safety officer will be alerted to the absence of a sign indicating that children would be crossing the road. Cllr. Watson said that improvement of the visibility

splay on the west side would be helpful. Questions were asked regarding the future of the permissive path through the school.

- e) Speeding in Lyme Road/Lyme Street – a request was made for repeater roundels in Lyme Street, both in bound and out bound. Mr. Hoare will find out whether this would be permitted.

**6. MATTERS SUGGESTED FOR DISCUSSION:**

- a) **Stoney Lane** – public opinion regarding the value of the improvements appears to be varied. An issue raised was whether it was necessary to keep both pedestrian access points off Stoney Lane. The Town Clerk will respond to the member of the public who had submitted a possible one-way circulatory system for when Stoney Lane has to be closed.
- b) **Parking at Crest of Foxhill and other Parking Related Matters** – on-street parking can deter drivers from speeding in residential areas. Cllr. Hull it was stated was told that it was legal for a resident to park a car in the street even although that resident might have space within his or her own curtilage to park that car.
- c) **Effectiveness of Hunter’s Lodge Improvements** – agreed that these were working but that there were several snagging matters relating to the electronic signage which would be dealt with in October. Cllr. Hall said he was trying to find a solution to the problem of buses waiting by the inn to meet timetable requirements thereby blocking the road for several minutes. It was felt there was sufficient room to create a pull-in but ownership and funding were problems.
- d) **Report from H.A.T.O.C. Meeting** – the Town Clerk will send a link to the latest minutes for members to access these.
- e) **Report from Neighbourhood Highway Officer** – nothing to add.
- f) **Works Undertaken by Community Road Warden** – various grass areas had been cut. Potholes had been filled in in Beavor Lane, Evil Lane and Coombe Lane. A record of such works needs to be kept and the Neighbourhood Highway Officer informed when they are done so that a check can be kept on how long the holes stay filled.
- g) **Parking Cones** – enforcement depends on the circumstances of use.
- h) **Portable Vehicle Activated Signage** – a member of the public with knowledge of such equipment who had contacted the Town Council was invited to speak. Consideration is being given to the possibility of this being a Parishes Together Project with neighbouring parishes which are interested in such signage. Mr. Hoare had provided guidelines. It was suggested that the experience of police forces in various local counties should be sought as signs which would meet the aspirations each parish would need to be sourced.
- i) **Junction of George Street and Lyme Street** – Cllr. Walden had requested NO ENTRY roundels at this junction. Mr. Hoare had discussed this with a colleague. The existing pole mounted sign in Lyme Street will be lowered. NO ENTRY is not possible but an alternative would be and arrow indicating AHEAD ONLY

**7. PROGRESS MADE SINCE LAST MEETING**

Most matters had been covered under Matters Arising.

- a) **Cycle Way Matters:** the underpass at Gammons Hill had been cut. Reduction in width of the path from encroaching grass is a problem. Mr. Hoare said that the cycle path needed to be ploughed, as will be done on Lyme Road by the reservoir. Cllr. Watson said that the Stop Line Way at Cloakham needs attention. This is the responsibility of the land owners, in this case Bovis Homes. The Town Clerk will contact the Public Rights of Way Officer and Bovis.

**8. ANY OTHER AREAS OF DISCUSSION OR MATTERS OF URGENCY:** Mr. Hoare said that repairs to the steps at Woodbury Lane would be undertaken shortly.

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:** 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018 and 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Signed ..... Dated .....