

# HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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**DRAFT MINUTES** of the **Highways and Transport Committee** held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 7pm in The Library Building, Hungerford.

**Present:** Cllrs Brookman, Chicken, Downe, Knight, Simpson,  
Also, present Cllr Crane, John Garvey (Press) and member of the public

- 1. Apologies noted** – Cllrs Cusack & Hudson.
- 2. Co-option of Cllr Gaines** - Cllr Simpson proposed Cllr Gaines to join the H&T committee, which was seconded by Cllr Brookman. All in favour.
- 3. Declarations of interest** – Cllr Chicken’s wife works for GWR.
- 4. Minutes of meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018** - *Cllr Brookman proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Knight, rest in favour.*
  - Update on actions not covered in the agenda** –
    - Update on purchase of CCTV key- purchase made and key received
    - Update on One-stop deliveries – smaller delivery lorries are being used, but some larger lorries have been seen. Discussion was held on topic, as planning had not restricted delivery times when the shop was functioning. The issues of drainage in Clark’s Garden was highlighted.  
**Action:** Cllr Simpson would make enquiries to determine who was best to approach through the company structure.
    - Action:** Cllr Brookman would contact WBC to determine if a weight restriction can be put on the road.
    - Update on Tidying of soil and weeds on the Kennet Bridge – Cllr Knight gave thanks to Cllr Crane for his hard work in clearing the area by the Kennet Bridge.  
**Action:** Cllr Simpson to speak to T&M for help to dispose of green waste.
    - Feed-back on change of feed of the ducks – work in progress.
    - Update on Highway Winter Service Plan for arrangements for Priory Road, Priory Avenue, Croft/Parsonage Lane – error was made by WBC and Priory Road and Avenue would be gritted. Parsonage Lane/Croft was a secondary network and would require 3 days of hoar frost. No snow clearance would occur in this area as there is insufficient access for the snow plough.
    - Report from Cllr Chicken following his meeting with Calne TC (see attached report) – met with volunteer in Calne. The voluntary group would meet once a month to pick litter and spend one hour a week on a street. This has been running for 1.5 years and the litter levels are less. Cllr Crane suggested speaking to the Neighbourhood watch co-ordinator to put on their agenda.

## 5. **Illegal parking on Atherton Crescent**

It was brought to the attention of the committee that parking at Atherton Crescent was becoming hap-hazard. Cars are parking on the grass, on pavements, blocking dropped kerbed paving. The road markings are not being followed. Cllr Brookman expressed that the committee understood how frustrating it was, but HTC had no control over this as we have no control over traffic wardens or police. The committee discussed this situation. Cllr Brookman suggested contact PCSO in the first instance. A three-month period was given before the situation was reviewed again.

**Action:** Office to contact Sargent Alan Hawkett

**Action:** Office to contact WBC about role of traffic wardens in Hungerford.

## 6. **Floral displays in the High Street –**

- Response of WBC to planters on the footway: WBC is happy for this but asked that we maintain sight lines and width of footpath.
- Consideration of location of new planters: The difficulty in finding locations for three-tier planters was acknowledged, though use of lamp-posts was suggested.
- Setting of a budget (cost of planters, filling and stocking with plants): An email from the clean up Hungerford Team found that the cost of planter was £1500. Office had produced price comparisons on the cost of planter and had received email from the management company of Parkway who gave information about number of plants required and named the company that they used.

**Action:** Office staff to gain prices for lettering on units, determine what the units are made of and cost of maintaining them.

**Action:** Place on agenda for October meeting.

- Maintaining of planter – use of volunteers or private company: Not discussed.

## 7. **Hungerford Station**

- Up-date on passenger shelter extension and CCIF: Design received from GWR, who intend to extend the raised area and the retaining wall. The shelter is slightly smaller and still awaiting a start date.
- Up-date on Adopt a Station: Hungerford station has been adopted giving access to ACORP who can provide grants. The priorities are for water and electricity, but an agreement is required before this can occur with Network rail. Other ideas are being discussed for future improvements.
- Update from meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September with Network rail and GWR on parking: No comments on this, see attached report.

## 8. **Buses**

- Progress on the purchase of the bus shelter: Using Queensbury Shelters to supply a simple shelter and currently waiting for a site survey. [*Note added post meeting, company is no longer trading*].
- Update on alterations to the No. 46 bus stop: Slow progress is being made on this.
- H1 service – update from usage of the buses: Cllr Knight reported that 30-40 passengers use the H1 in a day. Increasing the service to run on Mondays would cost an extra £4500, and there is no available budget to cover this currently. It was highlighted that the current money that covers this bus is from S106 funds and is due to run out next year. Discussions followed as new councillors were brought up to speed on the history associated with the funding of this route.

**Action:** Place H1 bus funding on next F&GP agenda.

## 9. Library Notice Boards

- Consider budget for new exterior board on the library wall including the HTC branding (report from office): Proposed by Cllr Simpson that the office can use money from the contingency budget to fund a new appropriate noticeboard. This was seconded by Cllr Knight with all in favour.

Cllr Chicken suggested that a community notice board could be placed in the station, and there is one in Newbury Station that we could have.

**Action:** Cllr Chicken to follow up.

- Office suggestions of items displayed in the notice board: Not discussed.

## 10. Pigeons control

- Update on the meeting with Network rail to discuss the holes in the wire netting under the Railway Bridge: Still waiting for a meeting with Network Rail
- Follow up on the successfulness of fire gel on the Corn Exchange: Fire gel was initially successful, but during the high winds the dishes had been lost.
- Current state of the High Street (report from the office): Member of the public came in to complain about the state of the High Street, with significant mess outside several shops. Also, pigeons had been entering premises through open doors leaving excrement behind.

Discussions on this topic covered use of fire gel, lack of follow-up on the use of fire gel to encourage other businesses to use the product, falcons and other alternative control methods.

**Action:** Office to contact WBC contractor about the street cleaning.

## 11. Christmas Light Funding Initiative

- Update on letters for businesses for donations: Cllr Simpson is due to meet Cllr Crane in the office to discuss donations.
- Funding raising ideas – in form of written report for consideration  
Cllr Simpson ask to purchase collection pots and buckets to help with the fund raising, which could be placed in specific locations and used on specific occasions to raise money.

**Action:** Office to determine price of collection pots and buckets.

It was suggested that residents could understand the costs involved in the lights e.g. price of trees, lights. A further suggestion was made of having a target amount indicated on a Christmas tree and how the funds are growing.

## 12. Lengthsman – does this have a role in Hungerford?

This is based on an ancient idea whereby a village employed a man to clear roads outside houses and was then later extended. This role has been re-started by councils allowing volunteers, who provide their own tools, to carry out maintenance jobs e.g. litter picking, cleaning road signs.

**Action:** Committee was asked to consider the types of jobs that could be carried out by this role.

**Meeting closed at 8.35 pm.**