

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

DORCHESTER JOINT HERITAGE COMMITTEE

23 APRIL 2018

At a Meeting of the Dorchester Joint Heritage Committee held on 23 April 2018:

PRESENT:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Dorchester Town Council | Councillor: C. Biggs |
| | Officer: S. Newman |
| West Dorset District Council | Councillors: A. Canning (Chairman) |
| | J. Dunseith |
| | S. Jones |
| Blue Badge Tourist Guides | T. Loasby |
| Dorchester Local Nature Reserve | C. Hebditch |
| Dorchester Civic Society | P. Mann |
| Dorset County Council | R. Biggs |

42. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from A. Chisholm (Dorchester Chamber for Business), J. Smith (Dorchester Association), J. Murden (Dorset Natural history and Archaeological Society), A. Bright (Shire Hall) and C. Copson (The Keep Military Museum).

43. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2018, a copy of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

The Chairman updated the Committee on the latest meeting with Dorset County Council officers regarding improvements to the Roman Town House and that a HLF grant application for £250,000 was to be submitted over the summer. The Committee was supportive of the proposal. Whilst discussing this matter Members expressed concern regarding the totally inappropriate pedestrian warning sign that had been put into the corner of Colliton Walk / North Walk and requested that the Director of Environment and the Economy be contacted with a request that it be removed.

44. **DECLARATIONS OF PRE-DETERMINATION**

There were no declarations of pre-determination.

45. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Members considered correspondence from the representative of the Civic Society suggesting that the popular walk around the town walls and riverside be improved by better signing and moving the existing pedestrian crossing across High East Street to the point where pedestrians actually try and cross the road at Fordington High Street to the Millstream path.

The Committee noted that the new pedestrian wayfinding project would improve the signing. With regard to the crossing it was noted that it had been located in its present position further up High East Street as Highway policy at the time of installation was that it could not be located at the suggested location because of the proximity to the road junction. It was felt that Highway policy may have changed since the original installation and that the Town Council's Planning and Environment Committee should therefore be requested to consider recommending this change of location to the Highways Authority.

RESOLVED

That Dorchester Town Council's Planning and Environment Committee be requested to consider recommending to the Highways Authority that the existing pedestrian crossing across High East Street at Majestic Wine Stores be relocated to where the Millstream path meets the road opposite Fordington High Street.

46. **PEDESTRIAN WAYFINDING SIGNAGE**

The Committee was informed that a draft signage scheme had now been produced which was presently being amended following the comments received from the group established by the Committee. A wider consultation to which all Members of the Committee, Town Councillors and Heritage Tourism Forum would be invited, was being arranged.

Members had been circulated with a copy of the proposed sign design and mapping details.

The Committee was generally supportive of the design and requested that the monoliths in particular include appropriate links, QR tags and Heritage Committee branding.

47. **DORSET ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE WEEK – DORCHESTER EVENT – SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2018**

The representative from the Local Nature Reserve reported on progress with arrangements for the event proposed for High West and East Streets on 16 September 2018 as a part of Dorset Architectural Heritage week. It was noted that the event had been registered and road closures were being arranged which included appropriate signage. A number of local businesses had volunteered to be a part of the event and Blue Badge Guides had also agreed to help. It was noted that it was free parking on a Sunday which was helpful.

The Committee hoped that there would be some cafes open for visitors and that a small printed guide be produced which outlined the architectural points of interest with the

various buildings along the streets. It was also suggested that contact try and be made with the owners of the King's Arms to see if that property could be available to view together with plans for its refurbishment.

RESOLVED

That the arrangements made to date be noted.

48. **QUESTIONS**

No formal questions had been submitted.

49. **URGENT ITEMS**

The Civic Society representative reported that Heritage England was in the process of compiling a register of war memorials. It was noted that there were at least nine such memorials in the town and the Committee agreed that it would be appropriate to respond to the consultation.

The Local Nature Reserve representative updated the Committee in respect of the 'Poppy Trail' project which was progressing well.

50. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Monday 23 July 2018 commencing at 7.00pm.

Chairman:

Dated: 23 July 2018