

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

3rd JANUARY, 2012

At a Meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 3rd January, 2012:

PRESENT Councillors K.E. Armitage, C.S. Biggs, R.M. Biggs, A.J. Canning, T.C.N. Harries, S.C. Hosford, Trevor Jones, F.E. Kent-Ledger (Chairman), T.F. Loakes, R.B. Potter, M.E. Rennie and D.S. Roberts.

APOLOGIES for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor T. James) and Councillors V.J. Allan, D.J. Barrett, E.S. Jones and D. Taylor.

46. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 5th December, 2011, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members of the Committee, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

In response to a question the Clerk confirmed that she had not received a reply from Mr. Doyle in respect of the issue of A boards referred to at Minute 42.

It was

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk be requested to pursue Mr. Doyle as a matter of urgency to ensure that the presentation on A boards takes place as early as possible in 2012.

47. **DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL**

(a) **Traffic Regulation Order – Wessex Place, Somerleigh Road**

Further to Minute 36 the Committee received and noted a letter dated 28th November, 2011 from the Director for Environment, indicating that the traffic regulation order for Somerleigh Road would be added to the Dorchester list for 2012-13.

b) **Herringston Road**

Further to Traffic Panel Minute 2 the Committee received and noted a letter dated 2nd December, 2011 indicating that an extension to the 30mph speed limit beyond the Town boundary toward Winterborne Herringston did not meet the specified criteria. The Committee also noted that Dorset Police had indicated that they would not support such a measure as it would need to be self-enforcing either by the introduction of traffic calming measures or the environment.

The Committee also noted that the safety camera had been deployed in Herringston Road on seven occasions in 2010 and six in 2011. On the last visit for two

hours in October, 2011, 13 speeding cars had been detected but the speeds were not excessive.

The Committee also note that recent information received from Dorset Police indicated that within the last 3 years there had been five injury collisions on Herringston Road between South Court Avenue and Herringston House. In the 30mph limit, one slight injury, in the national speed limit (60mph), three slight injuries and one serious. None had a causation factor record against them of either 'exceeding the speed limit' or 'travelling too fast for conditions'. One had a causation of 'driving too slow' in the 30mph limit and another for 'loss of control' in the 60mph limit.

The Committee considered the request from Dorset Police for the Council to purchase a Speed Indicator Device at a total cost of £4,300.

It was

RESOLVED

That no further action be taken in the light of the above information.

48. **WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL**

(a) Consultation of Review of Parking Charges

The Committee received and considered a letter and report dated 14th December, 2011 regarding the review of parking charges and arrangements for 2012-13.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Town Clerk be requested to inform the West Dorset District Council that this Council supports the recommendations contained in the report.
- (2) That the District Council be again requested to consider long term parking arrangements for residents in the town centre, who can no longer park at Wollaston Field.

(b) Tree Work – Application

The Committee noted that an application had been received to carry out a crown reduction on a Beech tree at Fourgates Road.

(c) Tree Works – Approvals

The Committee noted that the following tree works had been approved;

- To remove two low limbs and a branch from 1 Tree of Heaven at 50 High West Street;
- To reduce by 30% 1 Magnolia Grandiflora at 42 High West Street;
- To reduce and crown lift 4 Sorbus, 1 Birch and 1 Plane and remove 1 Birch at Somerleigh Road.

49. **WINTER MAINTENANCE PLAN**

Further to Minute 47(1) (2010-11) and Policy Minute 19 the Committee considered copy plans which would be included in ;the Council’s Winter Maintenance Plan showing the areas to be dealt with by Dorset County Council, West Dorset District Council and this Council in the event of future major snow events.

The Clerk informed the Committee that Dorset County Council would concentrate on major roads in the Town including roads leading to the Hospital and the depots of the Town and District Councils. The District Council would concentrate on pavements leading to local shops and doctors surgeries, schools and old peoples accommodation whilst this Council would be responsible for pavements in the town centre followed by car parks as prioritised by the District Council.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED

- (1) That this Committee fully support the Winter Maintenance Plan as now produced.
- (2) That Whitfield Road should be removed from the District Council’s map as it is not a priority route but that the area around the doctors surgery in Fordington High Street should be added if possible.

50. **MONMOUTH ROAD**

The Committee received and considered a letter dated 17th December, 2011 addressed to The Mayor seeking the Council’s support for the introduction of restricted access to local residents only along Monmouth Road, Culliford Road, Alfred Road and Cromwell Road with all other vehicles using Rothesay Road to access Manor Park.

A Member suggested that, whilst supporting the need for action to be taken in this area, it was premature at this time with the Brewery Square development still ongoing. She also suggested that a meeting with local residents should be held first to determine their views.

It was

RESOLVED

That no action be taken at this time.

51. **ESTIMATES – 2012-13**

It was

RESOLVED

That the draft estimates for 2012-13 as now submitted be approved so far as this Committee is concerned.

52. **RECYCLING & CAR PARKING FACILITIES – CHARLES STREET**

A Member raised her concerns that members of the public no longer knew where to access recycling facilities since their removal from the Old Market Car Park. She also expressed her concerns that several parking spaces had been lost in Charles Street due to overgrown shrubs and poles.

It was

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Town Clerk be requested to write to the West Dorset District Council suggesting they erect a notice in Charles Street Car Park indicating the locations of recycling facilities in the Town.
- (2) That the District Council be requested to tidy the remaining car park in Charles Street removing all unnecessary items from the area to maximise its capacity.

53. **QUEEN MOTHER SQUARE, POUNDBURY**

The Committee considered concerns raised by a Member regarding conflict between pedestrians and traffic in Queen Mother Square, particularly since the opening of the new supermarket in the area.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk be requested to write to the Dorset County Council and the Duchy of Cornwall raising this Council's concerns and suggesting that the problem needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

(Councillor Trevor Jones left the meeting at this point.)

54. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS – GENERALLY**

The Committee considered planning applications referred to this Council for comment by the West Dorset District Council.

It was

RESOLVED

That the comments on the various planning applications as now agreed and set out at Appendix I be notified to the West Dorset District Council.

Chairman

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED

Planning Applications considered on 3rd January, 2012:

1 10880

Advertisement consent for an externally illuminated fascia sign at 65 High West Street. 1/D/11/1179 (CA & Grade II LB)

No objection.

2 10881

Demolish Fire Station Bar & Nightclub annexe & Switch House including the removal of 2 transformers & overhead structure posts to facilitate the reconfiguration & erection of new switch house & 2 new transformer bays at Dorchester Town Sub Station. 1/D/11/1949 (CA)

No objection.

3 10882

Conservation Area consent to demolish Fire Station Bar & Nightclub annexe & Switch House including the removal of 2 transformers & overhead structure posts to facilitate the reconfiguration & erection of new switch house & 2 new transformer bays at Dorchester Town Sub-Station. 1/D/11/1950 (CA)

No objection.

4 10883

Single storey extension at 49 Queens Avenue. 1/D/11/1978 (CA)

No objection.