

**LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL**

**TOWN MANAGEMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2020**

**Present**

**Chairman:** Cllr J. Broom

**Members:** Cllr B. Bawden, Cllr K. Ellis, Cllr M. Ellis, Cllr B. Larcombe, Cllr D. Sarson, Cllr R. Smith, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr G. Turner

**Officers:** M. Adamson-Drage (operations manager), M. Green (deputy town clerk) A. Mullins (administrative officer)

**Other members:** Cllr C. Reynolds

**19/60/TMH Election of Vice-Chairman**

Cllr B. Larcombe nominated Cllr R. Smith as vice-chairman of the Town Management and Highways Committee, seconded by Cllr G. Turner.

There being no other nominations, Cllr R. Smith was duly **ELECTED** as vice-chairman.

*The operations manager arrived at 7.05pm.*

**19/61/TMH Public Forum**

**Mr K. Gollop**

Mr K. Gollop said the signs about the current roadworks were still stating the work had finished the previous week and some of the signs were face down on the road. He asked if the council could try to resolve this.

The operations manager said he had contacted SGN the previous week and had been assured it would be rectified, but clearly this hadn't happened. He said he would follow this up.

Mr K. Gollop also spoke in relation to agenda item 12, Anti-Social Behaviour, and asked why the resident's name was not on the letter. He didn't believe anonymous letters should be included on agendas.

The operations manager said the name was supplied but the resident asked that it wasn't made public.

**Mrs W. Matthews**

Mrs W. Matthews said she had sent a letter to the council regarding lighting in Haye Lane. She said she frequently walked along the lane in the dark and it was quite dangerous with passing traffic as there was no lighting. She said she had had a few near misses and it was quite frightening walking along that stretch of road because it

was pitch dark. Mrs Matthews said vehicles were probably not expecting people to be walking along the road but if there was lighting, she would feel safer. She suggested solar lighting could be an option and it would be more cost-effective. She believed it would require only one light.

Cllr J. Broom said as the town council was not responsible for street lighting, all it could do was to put the complaint to Dorset Council (DC).

The operations manager said a meeting had taken place with Dorset Highways the previous day when this was one of the issues raised, and they had agreed to investigate it further.

Although the ward member Cllr D. Turner was already aware of this issue, Mrs Matthews was advised to contact him again.

As background information, the deputy town clerk said the former Dorset County Council (DCC) made a policy decision around 10 years ago that there would be no additional funding for street lighting, and that policy hadn't been reviewed since by either DCC or DC. He said officers at DC referred back to that historical decision but Cllr D. Turner had suggested the decision should be reviewed. He added that even if the policy decision was reviewed, DC would not normally take forward a request without the support of the local council.

#### **19/62/TMH Apologies**

Cllr R. Doney – personal commitment  
Cllr K. Ellis – other commitment  
Cllr S. Williams – holiday

#### **19/63/TMH Minutes**

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr G. Turner, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 December 2019 were **ADOPTED**.

#### **19/64/TMH Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were none.

#### **19/65/TMH Dispensations**

The deputy town clerk said a request for a dispensation had been received from Cllr R. Smith in relation to agenda item 13, Electric Vehicle Charging Points, as he owned an electric vehicle and there was the possibility for him to benefit financially as he could use the charging points.

The deputy town clerk said the town clerk had granted Cllr R. Smith with a dispensation to speak and vote until the end of December 2020 and this applied to the Full Council and all its committees.

### **Gardens' lighting**

The operations manager confirmed all the lights were working again and the council didn't have to pay for the repairs.

### **Highways' meeting**

The operations manager said the highways' officers had agreed to take forward and investigate the majority of the issues raised and updates would be reported back.

Cllr B. Larcombe said the highways' officers had also agreed to take up the issue of park and ride signage with neighbouring authorities.

### **Blue Sea Cafe**

The deputy town clerk said some additional work had to be carried out to the internal tanking, which had used up the contingency in the contract. He added that the works were on target to be completed by 13 February 2020.

### **Roof of the amusement arcade, SWiM and antique and craft centre**

Cllr M. Ellis said the signs informing the public about restricted access were inadequate. The operations manager said he would enhance the signage.

The deputy town clerk said there had been no major issues with the works and they were on programme, but weather dependent.

### **Office refurbishment**

The deputy town clerk said costed proposals had been received from three architects but the successful company couldn't be named yet as confirmation of acceptance had not been received.

### **Unit 1A**

The deputy town clerk said he had received a response from the solicitors acting for Lyme Regis Development Trust and a small reduction in the proposed rent had been agreed.

Cllr B. Larcombe said he understood someone had taken occupation of Unit 1A.

The deputy town clerk said he was aware of a potential issue and was looking into it.

## 19/67/TMH Update Report

### Cemetery gate – Elizabeth Close entrance

Cllr B. Larcombe asked that the gate was sprung to prevent dogs getting into the cemetery.

### Guildhall tower

The operations manager said the external works' team was currently removing the paint from the rest of the tower. He said if members preferred it that way, the stone would be sealed but if not, it would be re-painted.

### Park and ride – temporary signage

The deputy town clerk said Devon County Council (CC) had objected to signs at Boshill on the grounds people would find their way to Lyme Regis on the A3052, although this wouldn't avoid vehicles driving unnecessarily through the town centre. He said approval had also not been given for signs directing vehicles to turn off at Charmouth roundabout.

The deputy town clerk said DC's community highways manager had agreed to speak to colleagues at Devon CC to hopefully re-consider. If this was not successful, the council could appeal to the AA, although this would take a minimum of four weeks.

It was agreed officers would wait to hear from the community highways manager before appealing.

## 19/68/TMH Trees on Anning Road Playing Field

Cllr C. Reynolds said she had spoken to residents living opposite the playing field who liked being able to watch their children and keep an eye on things happening there, especially as there had been issues with anti-social behaviour in the past. She said was sure there were other places trees could be planted.

Cllr B. Larcombe said he had proposed this idea as there used to be trees in the playing field. He said visibility would not be an issue as it was proposed to plant only six ornamental trees on a lengthy stretch so there would be large gaps between them and the height was not prohibitive.

Cllr M. Ellis said this was suggested several years ago but the gardeners believed the trees wouldn't grow because of the soil in the area.

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr G. Turner, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to plant six cherry trees along the fence line in Anning Road playing field.

## 19/69/TMH Lighting in Haye Lane

Members agreed the lack of lighting in Haye Lane was a problem, especially as it was narrow with blind bends, and agreed a request for improved street lighting should be made to DC.

Cllr C. Reynolds suggested the council also made a request to DC to review its general policy on street lighting and felt a member should attend a DC meeting when the request for Haye Lane was discussed.

Cllr B. Larcombe said support to review the policy should also be sought from Cllr D. Turner.

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to support a request from local residents to Dorset Council for improved street lighting in the area around the 'top' end of Haye Lane, to request that Dorset Council reviews its general policy not to install additional street lighting, and to seek Cllr D. Turner's support in this request.

## **19/70/TMH Park and Ride 2020**

The deputy town clerk said a small increase was suggested for the group ticket price to offset the RPI increases of the hire of the land and the bus operator's costs.

Cllr J. Broom asked if the types of people who could be included in a group ticket would be stipulated, i.e. two adults and three children.

The deputy town clerk said First Group felt this would create problems for its drivers, especially at busy times, so it was decided the group of five could be any combination.

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to approve the appointment of First Group as the operator for the 2020 Lyme Regis park and ride, to the same timetable and frequency as in previous years and incorporating the fare tariff set out below:

- Adult single - £2
- Adult return - £3.50
- Child single - £1.50
- Child return - £2.50
- Group (up to 5 people) - £7.50
- Concessionary passes accepted

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to approve the operation of the 2020 Lyme Regis park and ride on the following dates:

- 4 April to 19 April inclusive (every day, including weekdays) to cover Easter and school half-term
- 2 and 3 May to cover Fossil Festival
- 8 to 10 May inclusive (each of 3 days) to cover bank holiday + VE day commemorations
- 23 May to 31 May inclusive (every day, including weekdays) to cover school half term
- All June and July weekends from 6/7 June to 11/12 July inclusive.
- 18 July to 4 September inclusive, i.e., the entire school holiday period (every day, including weekdays).
- Weekend of 5 and 6 September to cover Food Rocks.

## 19/71/TMH Anti-Social Behaviour

Cllr B. Larcombe said he had received several emails from different people complaining about the same issue. He believed the council should write to the police and crime commissioner (PCC) and the licensing authority (DC) expressing the council's concerns about anti-social behaviour. He said DC should be asked to review its licensing approach, and the PCC should be asked to review levels of police presence.

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr R. Smith, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to raise concerns about anti-social behaviour on the seafront late at night with the police and crime commissioner and Dorset Council as the licensing authority, and with the permission of people who have written to the council about this issue, also forward their letters.

Cllr M. Ellis asked that members were provided with copies of the complaints.

## 19/72/TMH Electric Vehicle Charging Points

The operations manager said it was no longer necessary to dig a long trench to connect the power and he was progressing this with Western Power. He said the final cost would be reported back to members, but it would significantly reduce the costs at Monmouth Beach.

Cllr C. Reynolds questioned whether it was necessary to install four charging points as the existing points at Charmouth Road car park were not well used. She suggested installing two at Monmouth Beach and monitoring their use before considering any more.

Cllr R. Smith said the charging points at Charmouth Road car park were different to those this council was proposing. He said they were rapid chargers, which were expensive to use, and they hadn't been working for long periods. He added that the proposed charging points would charge vehicles over several hours and this was called 'destination parking'.

The deputy town clerk said there was funding available from the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) to help with the costs of installing charging points, which was primarily aimed at meeting the needs of local residents but would also support schemes where there is wider benefit. As Woodmead car park was used by both residents and visitors, he was fairly confident funding could be secured, although Monmouth Beach was less certain.

The operations manager said members were not being asked at this point to discuss the management of the spaces and the parking charges as this would come at a later date.

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** that under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of the quotes as it included confidential matters relating to relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person within the meaning of paragraphs 1 and 8 of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (see Section 1 and Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985), as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

#### **19/73/TMH Marine Parade Shelters Lift**

Members were concerned about the cost of replacing the lift, especially as it only provided access to the Langmoor Room and the roof promenade along the top of the shelters. However, members were also concerned removing the lift would prevent disabled access and where this would leave the council from an equality and diversity perspective.

Cllr M. Ellis said when the shelters were developed, the council had considered extending the ramp on the western end but it was too costly, and suggested this could be looked at again before deciding whether to replace the lift.

It was agreed the cost of a ramp on the western end would be looked into and brought back to this committee for further consideration.

#### **19/74/TMH Church Railings Replacement**

Cllr M. Ellis believed the council would need to consult with the church architect to determine which kind of railings would be acceptable, as the diocese was involved when the railings to the front of the church were replaced.

The deputy town clerk said he would be surprised if the council didn't have to go through a planning and listed building process because of the railings' proximity to the Grade I listed building. He believed there may also need to be consultation with the diocese and faculty applications.

It was agreed officers would have discussions with the church and/or diocese and listed buildings officers to determine what permissions would be required and report back to this committee to allow further consideration.

#### **19/75/TMH Seasonal Concessions**

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** that under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of this item of business as it included confidential matters relating to relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person within the meaning of paragraphs 1 and 8 of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (see Section 1 and Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985), as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

#### **19/76/TMH Exempt Business**

##### **a) Electric Vehicle Charging Points**

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr R. Smith, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to select Pod Point to install four electric vehicle charging points in the car parks; two at Woodmead and two at Monmouth Beach.

**b) Seasonal Concessions**

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr J. Broom, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to award the deckchairs' concession for 2020-2022 to Henry Herbert at the tender amount offered.

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr J. Broom, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to award the trampolines (or similar) concession for 2020-2022 to Henry Herbert at the tender amount offered.

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr J. Broom, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to award the children's games and activities concession for 2020-2022 to United Beach Missions at no cost.

*The meeting closed at 8.52pm.*