

# LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

## TOWN MANAGEMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 2025

#### Present

**Chairman:** Cllr M. Ellis

**Members:** Cllr C. Aldridge, Cllr G. Caddy, Cllr S. Cockerell, Cllr S. Larcombe, Cllr P. May, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr A. Wood

**Officers:** A. Mullins (support services manager), P. Williams (acting operations manager), J. Wright (town clerk)

#### 24/86/TMH Public Forum

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

#### 24/87/TMH Apologies

Cllr M. Denney  
Cllr P. Evans – family commitments  
Cllr C. Reynolds – medical appointment  
Cllr G. Turner

#### 24/88/TMH Minutes

Proposed by Cllr A. Wood and seconded by Cllr G. Caddy, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 February 2025 were **ADOPTED**.

#### 24/89/TMH Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were none.

#### 24/90/TMH Dispensations

There were none.

#### 24/91/TMH Matters arising from the minutes of the Town Management and Highways Committee meeting held on 26 February 2025

##### Town Bus Operating Arrangements and Route

The town clerk said the minibus had arrived the previous day and would now be 'wrapped' using the same branding as the new welcome signs and the Visit Lyme Regis website. The service would be called Lyme Link. He said officers were getting DBS checks in place for the volunteer drivers and insurance had been arranged at a competitive price. There were issues with parking the minibus outside the Harbour Store but there were alternative options. Although there was an option for wheelchair access, this would not be offered initially as it would take out three seats, but this could be reviewed. He said it was on target to launch the service on 7 May 2025.

The town clerk said an enquiry had been made about whether dogs would be allowed on the bus, which he understood was a sensitive issue. The sense from the drivers was they would rather dogs were not allowed. He said he would email members to gauge opinion before a decision was made.

### **Chalet Site at Monmouth Beach**

The town clerk said the council's solicitors had been instructed to serve notice to quit.

#### **24/92/TMH Update Report**

### **Cemetery Lodge**

The town clerk said final completion was expected on 11 April 2025 and members were welcome to see the building any time after that. He said a photo shoot would be arranged to officially open the building.

#### **24/93/TMH Town Management and Highways Committee – Objectives**

Members noted the report.

*Cllr G. Stammers arrived at the meeting at 7.09pm.*

#### **24/94/TMH Town Management and Highways Committee – Objectives**

Members noted the report.

#### **24/95/TMH Seasonal Evening Seafront Attendant**

Members agreed this role was important, especially after photographs were published on social media of rubbish on the seafront after a busy weekend.

The town clerk said funding for this post had not been included in the 2025-26 budget, but he suggested it was included in the salaries' budget in future.

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr P. May, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to approve the recruitment of one temporary part-time seasonal evening seafront attendant and overtime payments to existing employees to provide evening cover from 24 May to 7 September 2025 at an unbudgeted cost of £8,831.21.

It was noted recruitment would need to start before the Full Council meeting on 14 May 2025 in order to get someone in post by 24 May 2025 but interviews would not be held until at least 15 May 2025 so the recruitment process could be halted if the Full Council did not approve the recommendation.

#### **24/96/TMH Broad Street Bin Store**

Members agreed the storage of waste and the proliferation of bins was a major problem in the town, which was likely to get worse with the introduction of new commercial recycling regulations.

The town clerk said seven large bins could fit in the council's bin store on the seafront but officers had discussed converting one of the stores at the Marine Parade Shelters into a store for the council's own waste, to make room for others in the existing bin store. He said officers had also discussed creating wooden bin chambers to fit the 1,100 litre bins in, which would look better aesthetically. He added that when he next met with the Dorset Council (DC) ward member, he would ask if DC would consider some joint funding for this.

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr S. Larcombe, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to approve entering into an agreement with Dorset Council to take on the management of the Broad Street bin store for commercial waste storage.

**24/97/TMH      Extension of The Lyme Regis Anti-Social Behaviour Related Public Space Protection Order 2022**

Members discussed the issue of enforcement of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) and how this would be dealt with if there was an incident at the weekend or there were no town council enforcement officers on duty.

The town clerk said enforcement officers could be asked to intervene and were usually on duty at weekends.

As members had no comments to make about the extension of the PSPO, it was noted the council would not need to send a formal response to DC.

**24/98/TMH      Suggestion for Revised Traffic Arrangements in Lyme Regis**

The town clerk said DC would not pursue any traffic proposals unless it came with support from the town council. If DC did pursue it, it would carry out a public consultation. He suggested if this council did want to support the suggestion, it should consult with the business association first.

Members had some concerns about the proposals as it would involve diverting traffic down residential roads, it would force residents to have to take longer journeys to get around town, and could encourage speeding as there would be no oncoming traffic.

Members felt any proposals should not be considered piecemeal but should be considered alongside other schemes, such as the proposed 20mph speed limit and DC's proposed improvements to Broad Street and Cobb Square.

Members agreed this suggestion should be left on the table until more was known about the other traffic initiatives and they could potentially be considered as a whole.

**24/99/TMH      Consultation on the Future of Street Lighting**

Cllrs M. Ellis and S. Cockerell agreed to help formulate the council's response to the consultation.

Proposed by Cllr G. Stammers and seconded by Cllr S. Larcombe, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to delegate the detailed response to Dorset Council's consultation on the future of street lighting to the town clerk in consultation with Cllrs M. Ellis and S. Cockerell.

## **24/100/TMH Dorset Council Seafront Waste Collection 2025**

A member asked if a request could be made to DC to put a litter bin further along the Cobb beyond the aquarium as there wasn't one there.

The acting operations manager said although DC's summer waste collection shift finished at 7pm, in reality the last collection in Lyme Regis would be at 5.30pm because the crew had to get back to Bridport to drop off the waste. However, it was noted the evening seafront attendant would help to alleviate the build-up of waste after this time.

## **24/101/TMH Complaints, Incidents and Compliments**

A member asked if the complaint about the Marine Theatre had been responded to, to clarify the council's position.

The town clerk said an acknowledgement had been sent but officers could respond in more detail on the council's behalf.

*The meeting closed at 7.43pm.*