

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

The Mayor
Cllr Martin Crane OBE
28 Cottrell Close
Hungerford
Berkshire
RG17 0HF
Tel: 01488 684804
martincrane41@sky.com



The Town Clerk
Mrs Claire Barnes
The Library
Church Street
Hungerford
Berkshire RG17 0JG
Tel: 01488 686195
townclerk@hungerford-tc.gov.uk
www.hungerford-tc.gov.uk

MINUTES of the **Highways and Transport Committee** held on Monday 23rd May 2016 at 8.00pm in the Corn Exchange complex, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Brookman, Crane, Chicken, Simpson, Colloff, Hudson, Wilson and Knight
Also present: John Willmott (member of the public)

- 1. Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Whiting, Rod Desmeules (invited member of the public)
- 2. Election of the Chair of the Committee.** Cllr Brookman was proposed as the Chair of the committee by Cllr Chicken and seconded by Cllr Knight. All in agreement.
- 3. Election of the deputy Chair of the Committee.** Cllr Hudson was proposed as the deputy chair of the committee by Cllr Knight and seconded by Cllr Brookman. All in agreement.
- 4. Declarations of interest.** None
- 5. Minutes of meeting held on 25th April 2016.** Cllr Crane proposed minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Brookman, three abstentions, and rest in favour.
- 6. Actions from previous meeting.**

CCTV update – This up and running the HTC office. Police have been in to review footage following an incident. They commented on the quality of the recordings.

Pigeon faeces in the High Street – Cllr Brookman had contacted Network rail but yet to receive a response. Letter had been sent to Quinton's, but no response received. **Action: to carry forward to next meeting.**

Salt bin in Church Lane – Office investigated ice warning signs which could be placed at the end of the foot bridge. The sign was thought to be large and unsightly and permission would have to be sought from WBC. Discussion about how image into the town was important and trying to reduce the number of signs. A smaller sized sign was discussed and alternative signs. **Action: DC to investigate other types of signage.**
- 7. Condition of Hungerford Station** – (John Willmott (JW) contributed to this and reference was made to the email received by Rod Desmeules). JW explained his background and was offering his professional skills to aid HTC to improving the railway station. A series of photographs were present to the committee showing the immediate and surround area and structural components of the platform. A number of items were highlighted including: miss use of the salt bin, poor decorative order, planters not maintained, rubbish behind railings. JW asked for clarification about who (Network Rail, GWR, HTC, WBC, private owners) was responsible for what. JW offered to prepare a professional report to send onto involved parties. Cllr Hudson thought this would be very helpful, suggesting that the report could be

divided into areas of responsibility e. platform/railway/car park/pathways leading to and from town. Cllr Brookman confirmed that money was available from GWR to improve the station with a contribution from WBC and HTC. The idea of a volunteer stationmaster was discussed who would act to welcome people to Hungerford. JW thought it was important to determine what we would want the station to provide. A number of items were discussed including installation of hanging baskets, setting up a friends of Hungerford Railway group.

Action: Office to provide a list of contacts from Network rail and GWR to Cllr Brookman.

Action: JW to produce a summary of the current situation.

Action: RB to arrange a meeting before the next H&T meeting with Network rail and GWR representatives at Hungerford Train Station.

Action: Miss use of salt bin. DC to check if the salt bin is the property of HTC and Cllr Brookman will follow up on the salt.

- 8. Ice warning sign on the footbridge** – a different type of sign was discussed, which required a post fitting. It was felt that a different fitting would be better. Cllr Hudson asked to clarify if HTC should be responsible for this as the footbridge was the property of WBC and would require their approval. (Background to agenda item was discussed).
Action: Cllr Brookman to write to WBC determine if they should be responsible for providing a sign on the bridge.
It was queried if a ROSPA report had been prepared.
- 9. Dog Fouling** – A complaint has been received from a member of the public about the amount of dog excrement between Church lane, High Street and Croft area. The previous meeting decided on three additional bins have asked to be placed at the end of Church Lane before the Croft, along the tow path of the canal (depends if it is easily collected.) and on the corner of South View Road and Hungerford Primary School.
Action updates: DC had details from Canal and river Trust on dog faeces. A reply from WBC queried why more doggy bins were needed and if the current locations were appropriate. However, information was provided on price.
Action: DC to contact the Canal and River Trust.
Action: item to be placed on the agenda for next meeting.
Out-standing action: Once agreed and finalised a copy of the dog bins will be placed at local vets to inform people of the bins. **Action:** Signage to be placed at School to show the fine for dog fouling is £50 which can rise to £1000 and imprisonment.
- 10. Parade by 6 (Close Support) Battalion Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers** – It was confirmed that General Sir Michael Jackson, with the council being represented by Cllr Bumbieris and the Town Clerk, Claire Barnes. It is a REME organised event and they intend to bring vehicles to show people.
- 11. Traffic issues at Eddington** – Cllr Crane and Brookman walked the route and met with a member of the public. Cllr Crane has met with Adrian Scrope (Estate manager). The bollards are due to be removed and replaced with posts and chains. The units on the estate are light industrial units. Commercial lorries visiting New Hayward Farm come via M4, and are signed to take the route by the Tally Ho, but often drivers use their Satnavs and follow a different route. Member of the public has been informed of the changes, but a request for a weight restriction was made. Cllr Hudson suggested that a request was made to WBC for a traffic survey to be carried out to quantify the problem.
Action: Cllr Brookman to request a traffic survey to quantify the extent of the problem.
- 12. Hungerford footway lighting** - There are 105 street lights in Hungerford and these assets are not inspected and can deteriorate. The columns are the responsibility of HTC and which includes safety and maintenance.

Action: Cllr Brookman to contact WBC
Action: put on agenda for next meeting

13. **Vehicle activated Signs in Hungerford Newtown** - these will be replaced and purchase orders are in place. The new signs are to be more efficient than the older ones. It is hoped that they are installed by the end of August.
14. **Update on zebra crossing facility in Bridge Street.** The HTC office was informed that there is a provisional start date of 31st May to start work. Some remedial work is required and it is intended that WBC will work with BT Openreach to remove an existing telegraph pole.
15. **Footway works** – John O’Gaunt School – Work will start in the summer holiday to create a new footpath at the bottom of the cutting. The work will involve a number of people and require traffic lights.
16. **Bus in Hungerford** –An altered timetable has been published for the H1 bus. Discussion was held about the poor link with the train timetable.
Action: Cllr Brookman to follow up H1 timing with GWR.
The changes in the bus timetable which link Hungerford to Newbury was discussed as the bus pass is valid from 9:30, but the bus leaves Hungerford at 9:10 and runs every 2 hours.
Action: Information to be requested from WBC about the rules for bus passes, and if it is possible to make an exception for this rural route.
Action: Item to be placed on the agenda at the next meeting

Cllr Crane raised about the money to Chain to cover costs, under social care. No response has been received from District Cllrs.

17. **Other issues to go on the agenda for the next meeting-**
School transport for 16-18 year olds: As the sixth form college has been shut at JOG, parents have to pay for transport into Newbury to continue their education, which is £610 a year.

Meeting closed at 9:15 pm.