

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the **Highways and Transport Committee** held on Monday 25th February 2019 at 7pm in The Library Building, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs, Hudson, Chicken, Downe, Cusack, Knight and Gaines

Also, Cllr Hawkins, John Willmott (Smarten Up Hungerford – SUH) and Newbury News.

- 1. Apologies noted** – Cllrs Brookman and Simpson
- 2. Declarations of interest** – None
- 3. Minutes of meeting held on 28th January 2019** - Cllr Downe proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Knight, 1 abstention, rest in favour.
Action: Add to next H&T agenda to propose financial support for Smarten Up Hungerford.
-update on HTC annual litter pick – This will be postponed until the Autumn.
-update on green cabinet under railway bridge – Office is trying to establish ownership possibly NR.
-update on pavement and pedestrian safety in the Croft area – the report from last meeting was noted and an email will be sent to WBC.
-update on ownership of CCTV camera poles – HTC currently lease 4 poles from WBC. It was decided not to pursue removal of any of the redundant poles as we may wish to reuse them in the future, and they are expensive to replace. We could consider painting them.
-update on ownership of railings used to display banners – Charnham Park own the railings there. HTC are trying to register the land where the Bridge St War Memorial railings are situated.
-clarification of location of speed signs to be cleaned – **Action:** Office to ask WBC to clean the speed signs along A338/ A4 and Hungerford signs.
- 4. Consider any future projects for 2020/21 in line with HTC Action Plan** – **Action:** Clerk to update Action Plan and to add ‘pigeons.’ **Action:** Cllrs to forward any suggestions for future projects to the Clerk and Action Plan will be added to the next H&T agenda.
- 5. Salt Bins – Consider purchase of new bin in Church Lane** – **Refer to report attached** – Where to place another salt bin in the Croft was discussed. Various other suggestions for new locations were put forward which included: - The Cuttings, Crown Mews, and the path to the Primary School. It was noted the salt bin at the station is a bit broken and although a new bin has been placed at Moore’s Place the old one is yet to be removed. **Action:** Cllr Knight will review the new suggested locations and condition of the bins and report to next H&T.
Obtaining a grit dispenser was suggested. **Action:** Office to investigate displaying some public guidance on the bins about spreading the grit.
- 6. Christmas Tree Lights in ground trees – Consider quote to remove lights** – A member of public has taken down the lights from the pollarded trees. **Action:** Cllr Chicken to obtain a quote to remove the other lights. **Action:** Cllr Chicken to obtain a quote to replace the connectors with waterproof ones.

7. **Parking in Atherton Crescent – situation due for review after 3 months (discussed in Sept 2018) –** Inconsiderate parking is still happening, and the dropped kerb is being blocked. **Action:** Office to ask WBC to put up some posts to stop parking on the grass and look at extending grasscrete to provide some more parking spaces.
8. **Street Lighting – Update on annual inspection – Action:** Refer to report issued by WBC. Is HTC required to pay for any replacement parts?
9. **Smarten up Hungerford – Latest progress report from John Willmott – Action:** Clerk and JW (& Cllr Hawkins) to meet with Windowflowers about Hungerford's annual display. Tiered flower troughs have been decided against as expensive and cause problems with sight lines. Instead flowers on the canal bridge are being considered. Permission will be needed from WBC for installation. John Willmott (SUH) will attend the Town Meeting where he will have a stand with Chamber of Commerce. SUH has purchased pickers and jackets for litter picking and is having monthly litter picks. **Action:** JW to advise the date of the next litter pick. A welcome to Hungerford banner is going up on the Co-op roundabout and it is hoped this will be replaced by a sign in the future.
10. **Railway Station update**
 - **Car park extension** – A meeting with GWR and NR has taken place. 2 areas are being considered. Cllr Chicken is speaking with NR/GWR further to understand their needs as wagons are parked in one area and the maintenance manager has an interest in the use of the other site.
 - **Adoption of Hungerford Station** - Membership of ACORP is in place. Cllr Chicken is looking at obtaining grants from ACORP to move a fence and get electric and water supplies for the café van. The new noticeboard is missing a lock which Cllr Chicken is looking to fix.
 - **Improvements including extended shelter** – The shelter extension is to go up in March.
11. **Review of LEP meeting** – There is the option to work with WBC and to request them to design and submit an LEP bid. It is thought Hungerford has high enough passenger numbers to warrant funding for a station building/lift etc. WBC has a member sitting on the LEP panel. A LEP consultation is taking place soon and businesses affected by better transport links should be encouraged to respond. LEP funds 2 or 3 capital projects in 7 years. LEP receives 100% of business rates this year and 75% next year as part of a pilot scheme. Have we thought about future increased parking demand? Cllr Hudson thinks we need about 90 spaces. The WBC car park is not full as it is more expensive. It was suggested car parking costs should be increased to encourage greener transport.
12. **Fouling of pavements in Hungerford**
 - **Dog fouling and update on bins** – JW advised Canal & River Trust are putting in an extra dog bin along the canal.
 - **Pigeons – identifying a way forward – Action:** Clerk to obtain update from N Topliss and invite her to the next committee meeting.
13. **Town Meeting – discussion on H&T Committee's contribution** – The committee will have a table manned by Cllrs Hudson and Chicken. There will be information displayed about the railway station, Xmas lights and bus shelter.

Meeting closed 8.29pm

Hungerford Town Council

Public Report

Report to:

H&T committee meeting 25th February 2019

Agenda Item No 5:

Consider purchase of new grit bin in Church Lane

Background

Following the recent heavy snowfall at the beginning of February, comments were received regarding the dangerous condition of Church Lane which had not been treated. This lane is well used by pedestrians walking from the High Street to the Croft.

One member of the public emailed:

Please could i ask in future that when it snows you could grit Church Lane please. Lots of people use this lane and it is like an ice rink as it doesn't get any sun. It is so dangerous.

The nearest grit bin is located just outside the Surgery in the Croft, but this is used for the roads around the surgery and does not have sufficient salt to use for Church Lane as well.

It has also been suggested that the purchase of a small snow clearer combined with salt spreader machine could be considered which would be useful in future snowy conditions. However, this would be costly and raises the issues of where to store the machine and who would use it in snowy conditions.

Options

- 1) Purchase a new grit bin (prices below) and decide where to site the bin in the Croft (we would need to contact WBC for permission – Church Lane is listed on the WBC map as a WBC public right of way).
- 2) Purchase a snow clearer/salt spreader machine at a potential cost of around £2k
Smaller hand operated salt spreader devices range from £110-£900
If councillors want to consider this option, the office will obtain quotes if more details are provided of the equipment required
- 3) Do nothing and continue with current arrangements

Financial and Legal implications

Cost of a new grit bin:

100L/3.5 cubic foot £64.83 + VAT

170L/6 cubic foot £70.83 + VAT

200L/7 cubic foot £74.99 + VAT

Recommendation(s)

The best option, based on the above information

Signed: Sarah Hennessey 25/02/2019