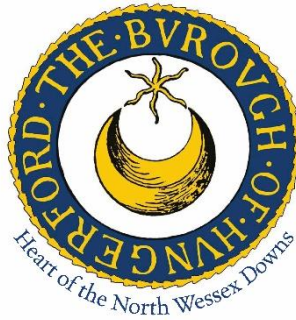


HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the **Highways and Transport Committee** held on Tuesday 25th June 2018 at 7pm in The Library Building, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Brookman, Chicken, and Downe.

Also, present John Garvey (Press) and two member of the public including the owner of Carpuccino (Rebecca Sheinman)

1. **Apologies noted** – Cllrs Cusack, Knight, Hudson Whiting & Finlay.
2. **Declarations of interest** – Cllr Chicken’s wife works for GWR.
3. **Minutes of meeting held on 29th May 2018 and update on actions not covered in the agenda**
Cllr Brookman proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Chicken, all in favour.

Letter to Network Rail re tree cutting: A letter was sent to Network rail on 1st June and a response was received on 5th June. The reply confirmed that the work was required due to safety issues on the track caused by the overhanging trees.

- **Letters to staff:** Letters have been sent to staff about how to report accidents and key security.

Action: Office to draft a letter to named volunteer – out-standing.

4. **Hungerford Station**

- **Up-date on passenger shelter extension, with proposal to approve allocation of funds from ear- marked reserves for railway improvements (£1000) and general maintenance equipment (£350) to complete the funding of the project.** Cllr Brookman updated the committee on the upgrade to the shelter on the up-line side of the station. It is intended to maximise space, by making it fatter and longer. *Cllr Brookman proposed that the extra money to allow completion of project came from ear- marked reserves for railway improvements (£1000) and general maintenance equipment (£350). This was seconded by Cllr Downe, with all in favour.*
- **Action:** Office to forward to the F&GP and inform the RFO.
- **Up-date on Adopt a Station.** Cllr Chicken attended a meeting in Swindon with John Willmott and Tony Drewer-Trump (who have formed the Hungerford Town improvement team) allowing them to meet others who had adopted their local stations. This was used as a learning exercise. The group spoke to people who had adopted the station at Yatton in North Somerset, who have created a community business with a café and toilets. Grants were available from GWR to help.
- Update on meetings with GWR and NR on 16 May (*Cllrs Cusack & Chicken*) and 16 June (*Cllr Chicken*) – no update provided.

- **Station Road Car Park.** Cllr Brookman has spoken to a contact that may be willing to help look at options for car parking in Hungerford. There is an area of triangular land which could be used to create a 2-storey car park. Some discussion was held on the Oakes Brothers planning application, as a site visit has taken place. Cllr Chicken expressed concern over the loss of this parking area, and asked if the new car park could be built first and then the flats. Some discussion followed, with other areas considered. Cllr Brookman suggested that consent from WBC should be sought a feasibility study should be carried out and set a budget.
- **Update on proposals for the station area adjacent to the up-line platform.** Cllr Chicken presented his proposal for the station. On the up-line, adjacent to the level crossing, there is an area of grass and a hut which is classed as “track-side”. This is maintained by Network Rail. If funds could be found the fence could be moved to allow this space to be used, with the possibility of a more permanent base for Carpuccino and toilets. The area behind is used to store trucks and power supply area. It is hoped that this could be moved freeing up the area and it could be used as parking for disabled, taxi drop off and coach point. A member of the public informed the committee that during the power cut last week the generator kicked in to operate the level crossing, but people from Network rail had to come and switch it off when the power was restored. The generator produced lots of fumes and noise.

The amount of traffic using the Station Road was discussed as delivery lorries going to Saxon Industries were driving up through Tesco and crossing the train track, reversing into the car park and then driving down to the buildings. A number of near misses have been observed and the noise level was commented on. It was asked by Rod Desmeules if consideration had been given to have a private exit for the flats further along Park Street. However, this is not part of the current planning application for the site.

The owner of Carpuccino asked if Hungerford was supporting her, as a person from GWR had spoken to her and thought she was happy with the idea. However, she did not want to take on a coffee shop, and expressed concern that such a shop would affect her business. Cllr Brookman responded that HTC cannot object to businesses because of competition. The owner of Carpuccino said that she would be interested in helping to fund a coffee kiosk.

Member of the public left at 7.50 pm.

5. **Deliveries to One-Stop Shop Fairview Road** – discussion on issues reported to the Office. Photographs had been received of the Tesco lorry delivering to the One-stop shop at Fairview road. One photo had been received by the Chair of children crossing the road just behind the lorry. The previous owners of the One-Stop had carried out a delivery risk assessment and no lorries greater than 30 foot were allowed to deliver and there were no deliveries during school arrivals/departures. Cllr Brookman has written to Tesco and he is waiting to hear from them. The clerk is writing to the head of the primary school and JOG to raise awareness of the situation.

Councillors discussed how the situation could be resolved e.g. speed humps, chicanes a one-way system, reducing cars in the area. Cllr Downe suggested that it about co-operation between the supplier and the store.

6. **Update on improvements at Canal Footbridge and feed-back from public has been requested.** New grips have been trailed on the canal footbridge and we were waiting for feed-back. Message was received from WBC that as no issues were raised that they will continue to install the new grip on the foot bridge.

7. **Issues associated with lorry parking along Charnham Park following complaint from resident in Kennet Way.** The resident had sent in an email following the 4 am start-up of lorry engines which generated noise and fumes. Some suspicious plastic bags had been observed in the hedges. The speed that cars travel down the road was also raised.

Cllr Brookman had replied by email. HTC had requested a speed check last September and speeds were monitored in Charnham Park for 6 days. It was recorded that in the 40 mph zone, 80% of the cars were travelling at 38 mph; hence the request to change the speed in the area to 30 mph was withdrawn. It was felt that the parking along the road acted as a traffic calming measure. The availability of toilets was discussed and Cllr Brookman stated that there are two garages nearby with toilets. The area had been observed on two separate occasions and only one lorry was observed on each occasion to be parked up.

8. **Pigeons control**

- Feed-back on meeting Network Rail- this meeting was cancelled and another meeting is being set up for early July
- Update from Office following liaison with Canal and River Trust on signage at the canal – information has been received from Canal and River Trust and they are working on how best to progress this matter.

9. **Buses**

- Update on purchase of new bus shelter - proposal to approve allocation of funds from contingency budget (£2078) to match fund the project (*Cllr Brookman*).
Cllr Brookman proposed that £2078 from the contingency budget was used to match fund the new bus shelter. This was seconded by Cllr Chicken and all in favour.
Action: Office to forward to the F&GP and inform the RFO.

10. **CCTV Update**

- **Repairs to be carried out in June** – Two camera have failed, but are under warranty (parts only) and the labour to carry out the repairs is £1600. It was thought that the panning of the cameras creates more wear and tear. Discussions have taken place with the Town Clerk about having fixed positions. Company turned up and asked for the keys for the poles. The deputy clerk and Cllr Brookman did not know of their location.

Action: Office to determine who has these keys.

- **Clerk to seek funding for additional camera in August** – ongoing.

11. **Consideration of devolution of services to HTC (expression of interest from councillors).**

The Clerk had contacted WBC to ask if HTC could take on the grass cutting. WBC were happy for this but would not pay costs towards the task. Councillors discussed this, and it was suggested that we allow WBC to carry on providing the cutting, and HTC do additional cuts. Alternatively we could use contractors or our own sit on mower. The hours required and the locations need to be considered.

12. **Discussion on the recent RTAs in Hungerford** – A recent RTA has brought this item to the agenda. Consideration of traffic calming measures were discussed. The frequency of RTAs was discussed and Cllr Brookman thought in the last 4 years there had been three RTAs. The A338 through the High Street has many challenges with parked traffic, road works, sharp bends, hump back bridge, zebra crossing, mini roundabouts and the Grade 2 listed telephone kiosk. The idea of a pelican crossing outside the post office had been suggested by a committee member by email and this was thought to be an option worth exploring.

13. Christmas Light Funding Initiative (*Cllr Finlay*) – not discussed.

Meeting closed at 8.35 pm.