

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the **Highways and Transport Committee** meeting held on Monday 23rd November 2020 at 7.00pm, remotely.

Present: Cllrs Chicken, Knight (joined at 7.20pm), Simpson, Downe, Fyfe, Alford, Hudson and Shatford
In attendance: Claire Barnes (Town Clerk), Admin Assistant, District Cllrs, Claire Rowles and James Cole.

The committee was advised the meeting was being recorded.

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Cllr Knight will be late
- 2. Declarations of interest** – Cllr Hudson item 4 (Sanham Green)
- 3. Agreement of minutes of meeting held on 28th September 2020** – *Cllr Chicken proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Cllr Hudson, all in favour.*
- 4. Update on actions from previous meetings not on the agenda** – Cllr Hudson has spoken to a member of the public about the speeding through Sanham Green and this will be reviewed after the traffic lights have been removed from near the Salisbury Road site. We can request WBC fit a traffic speed counter to the road. Cllr Chicken has spoken to Town & Manor about fitting a SID on the Common. SIDS are not available for hire until the new year. DC Cole advised, residents of Lower Denford have been complaining about the speed limit for some time. At a meeting of the Speed Limit Review Panel in Oct 2019 an argument was put forward by HTC and District Cllrs for a 30mph limit over the Common. This was met with support to go to the next step. **ACTION:** Obtain update on progress towards a 30mph speed limit which includes Denford up to the cattle grid. (*see link since sourced of outcome of WBC Jan 2020 meeting*) [Report Format for Select Committee Meetings \(westberks.gov.uk\)](https://www.westberks.gov.uk)
- 5. Smarten Up Hungerford** – A representative wasn't present but has advised there is nothing to report.
- 6. Update on station improvements – Painting of the bridge** - Cllr Chicken advised HTC are members of ACORP and there is a grant available for £1,000 which could help towards the project. There is a meeting tomorrow at 10am between West Berks Council and Network Rail which he and Cllr Downe will attend. CCIF grants were applied for last April through GWR but funding became unavailable due to Covid. There was uncertainty whether this resource would be available in future. **ACTION:** Cllr Simpson will forward the email correspondence to the Clerk.
- 7. Atherton Crescent – Parking improvements** – Cllr Chicken shared a map to suggest some new locations for parking spaces. The committee did not wish to pursue this suggestion. It was felt there was not a need at present. Any future plans should take the form of a strategy considering the whole Hungerford area and all possible locations.
- 8. Installation of recycle bins – Requested further information from District Cllrs** (*see report attached including updated info*). It was questioned if market research is required to see if public are supportive. It was also thought HTC should lead by example. **ACTION:** DC Rowles to check if WBC would empty bins from all locations around Hungerford not just the high street. *Cllr Knight proposed purchasing 5 bins*

for the high street with the intention of expanding the scheme if successful, seconded by Cllr Downe, all in favour. **ACTION:** Clerk to order.

9. Safety

- **CCTV quotation for Triangle Field** – Cllr Fyfe requested a quote for 8 cameras. The quote received was £8844 (for 9 cameras). This is for a 16-channel survey housed in the Rugby Club. Further discussion on this was deferred.
- **Footpath improvements to Froxfield along A4** – Cllr Fyfe advised the state of the footpath to Froxfield is very bad. The path from Hungerford to Newbury whilst wider is also overgrown. The footpaths to the east of Newbury are in good order. It was suggested all the footpaths from and around Hungerford should be looked at. The Mayor advised when she and Cllr Knight met with Paul Ansty (WBC) about their Leisure Strategy, this was discussed. The paths along the A4 could become a cycle/pedestrian route with a white line drawn down the middle. It was mentioned that the wildflower verges are encroaching onto the footpath and contain Ragwort. **ACTION:** DC Rowles will report this concern to WBC. Another option put forward was to use part of the A4 to create a new cycle lane as the road is wide enough. This has been done from Newbury to Thatcham. Canal footpaths need improving too and could provide the footway, with the A4 just having a cycle route. **ACTION:** Cllrs Hudson and Fyfe will draft a proposal to go to WBC.
- **Request for support from Canal & River Trust (refer to email)** – CRT are requesting cyclists ‘stay kind and slow down’ along the canal tow paths. They are promoting this campaign through posters and social media and are looking for support.

Update on list of signs/hedgerow improvements – The Clerk read out an email from DC Benneyworth (not present) on the progress WBC have made. The cutting back of remaining vegetation enclosing /obstructing the traffic signs highlighted in the report will be completed in the next 10 to 12 days.

The replacement of the Chevron sign on the Eddington Hill near the junction with Denford Lane is done also they have removed the Ease your Speed sign on North Standen Road.

The warning signs in the verge in Inkpen Road past the Cattle Gate at the split in the road where the post was leaning is repaired.

- **Update on resurfacing of Tesco car park** – Cllr Simpson advised Tesco head office has been contacted and are awaiting a date to be set for the work.

10. Christmas plans

- **Update from the Working Party** - see report attached.
- **Update on Switch on video** – Cllr Simpson and the Clerk have been working on this with the producers and it will go live on 29th Nov.

- 11. **Pigeon working party update** – see report attached. Cllr Downe advised he and DC Cole are meeting with Environmental Health on Wednesday. It was suggested someone should attend when Network Rail install the spikes under the bridge to ensure double rows of spikes are put in place.

- 12. **Active Travel Funding available** – see report attached on cycle racks – Cllr Chicken advised the cycle racks/boxes can be rented out on a monthly basis for £20 to a member of the public and after 3 years the racks become the property of the station but continue to be managed by the rental company. GWR would not allow cycle racks/boxes on the platforms due to health and safety. These should go in the car park. **ACTION:** After discussion, *Cllr Hudson proposed investigating delivery of a cycle shelter (like the Canterbury design) to go in the Library car park next to the disabled space, and to use Active Travel Funding, (subject to permission from West Berks Council), seconded by Cllr Simpson, all in favour.*

- 13. **Review of committee Action & Strategy Plan and budget setting for financial year 2021-22** – Deferred to budget meeting on Thursday. The Mayor requested everyone looks at these in advance in preparation for the meeting.

- 14. **Speeding – SID not available until the new year** – SID use on Common deferred until January
- **20 mph speeding restriction – WBC monitoring.** Not discussed.
The new roundabout by the Salisbury road housing site has caused a few complaints. The design is intended to slow cars down but access to it has been criticised as too sharp. Speed is an issue approaching

the roundabout as there is not enough warning to slow down. This will be discussed at a WBC meeting on 9th Dec to which HTC are invited.

15. COVID19

- **Member's Covid19 Bid** – await update on funding from District Cllrs – DC Rowles advised apart from the spray and thermometer, the bid has been approved and we can purchase all bar these two items.
ACTION: WBC are checking the spray product and will advise. **ACTION:** Office to order screens and gel dispensers.
- **Any H&S issues of concern / impact on traders?** – DC Cole advised the Station Road footpath is in hand delayed due to a telegraph pole needing to be moved. Reference Chilton Way, there is scope for new signage and designs are being drawn up.

Meeting closed 8.49pm

HT201123recyclingbins

Hungerford Town Council

Public Report to: H&T 23rd Nov 2020

Agenda Item No 8: Installation of recycle bins in Hungerford

Background WBC offered to pay for the emptying of recycle bins if HTC agree to purchase them

Objective Reduce the amount of rubbish going to landfill

Reference to Action Plan (Our Action Plan needs more specific reference to environmental issues – only mentioned generally under NDP)

From our Strategy - To support the Town becoming a leading example of Environmental good practice.

Options (including quotations) - Are we interested in proceeding with this project?

West Berks Council have advised the following: (and see photo at end of [report](#))

Materials to be collected - Plastic bottles and metal drinks cans. These are the items most likely to be consumed 'on the go'. Other options are not so viable due to market value. Glass is also heavy and noisy and paper easily soiled.

Cost - Current delivery lead time is around 14 days and the cost will be c. £3,818 (with a 12% discount applied) for 10 bins. (HTC would be responsible for capital cost). This quote is provided by Veolia. HTC could source their own provider.

Description of bin - 110 litre capacity supplied in Black with metal liner, keyless opening, Lime Green banding and apertures, Plastic Bottles and Cans DEFRA legends and A5 vinyl body graphics. No fixings. The bins are moveable so can be re-sited but don't blow over. They are robust and Newbury TC haven't experienced any vandalism problems so far.

Emptying - West Berkshire Council can arrange for Veolia to empty the bins once a week at their own cost, if Hungerford pay for bins and retain responsibility for their repair and replacement e.g. if they are vandalised.

Location – WBC would offer to attend a site visit to identify best locations considering footfall and proximity to shops/food outlets.

Promotion – HTC would do own promotion via social media & press release. WBC happy to support. Newbury are the only other town which WBC has worked with so far on this type of project.

Recycling - Are they recycled properly? The contents of the bins are sent to Padworth to be sorted. Kofi at WBC advised they are very unlikely to be rejected for recycling but if there is significant contamination then they would be. It has not been feasible during Covid to analyse the contents of Newbury's bins.

Available budget (£s) including cost centre - Contingency? Require a maintenance budget also.

Health & Safety and Legal implications Our liability to insure and maintain

Consultation:

Newbury TC have installed them in City Rec. They advised to check where rubbish goes when it is emptied as there have been some issues.

WBC advised, 'we are reasonably happy with the Newbury pilot in terms of it raising public awareness around the environment and reminding residents that they can support more recycling. The absolute volumes of recyclable material being captured are of course very small compared with household collections and the HWRCs. Covid has further interfered with any opportunity to run an experiment – i.e. to see if we can drive recycling further through bins plus publicity etc

Other information Risk of misuse of bins and rubbish not being recycled.

Recommendation(s) The best option, based on the above information

Signed: Town Clerk 19/11/2020 (updated 23rd Nov 2020)



H&T 201123

Agenda Item 10: Christmas Plans

UPDATE FROM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS WORKING PARTY

As at Friday, 20th November, Shield report that they are ahead of schedule and expect to be finished by Wednesday, 25th November. All trees have been installed. Outstanding jobs include:

- Lighting at the Bridge Street War Memorial. New lights will be installed to replace that which was on trees that have been removed.
- Installing RCD units (which have been ordered) on the new lamp posts recently installed by WBC. There remain 3 new columns to which WBC have yet to fit sockets. It is expected that this work will be done on Monday, 23rd November and parking restriction notices have been put in place to facilitate this.
- Fixing spare branches to the tree outside the Town Hall to fill any obvious gaps left when the dead branches are removed.
- Shaun Fraher to meet with Stuart March to do some filming for the switch on video.

Shaun has updated our spreadsheet and also produced a digital version of the colour-coded street diagram.

Sarah Chatters
20th November 2020

PIGEON WORKING PARTY UPDATE FOR H&T COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2020

The Hungerford Bookshop and Eliane’s have implemented pigeon control measures on their buildings.

Letters were sent to the owners of the Royal Mail sorting office building, the Nationwide and the Coop (regarding the Queen Anne building at 15 High Street). Since receiving the letters, the Royal Mail and the Nationwide have implemented pigeon control measures on their buildings.

Regarding the Queen Anne building, contact has been made with a property management company who have been instructed by the Coop to inspect the building with a view to installing pigeon control measures.

Another building with a noticeable pigeon problem is Swift Dry Cleaners – work is ongoing to try and track down the owner / landlord to discuss the problem.

Following a site meeting with Network Rail, they have agreed to spike the bridge – hopefully by the end of the year.

A member of the PPP (Public Protection Partnership) is due to visit the town week beginning 23rd Nov to talk to the owner of 5 High Street about removing the dead pigeon and the obstructions on the building.

Deputy Town Clerk

November 2020

Cycle Storage



CANTERBURY CYCLE SHELTER



Autopa Canterbury Shelter
Price £1,254 including delivery

Autopa cycle locker (photo above right)

Galvanised and coated with lock, and wheel groove, and delivery £1,910
Dimensions 1900mm long x 780mm wide x 1300 high

Bikeaway

Lockers are installed free of charge, at railway stations.

No rent is paid for the first three years and after that an agreed percentage of the profit is paid as a rental, and the locker is then owned by the station owners.

For security, Bikeaway sends the locker key to the cycle owners address by post, and they also keep a record of the users workplace. This method minimises the risk of illegal items and explosives being put into the lockers.

For the user

The lockers can be rented for £20 per month, and the management is handled by Bikeaway.

I have spoken to Kevin King, Station Manager at GWR, and he has made some internal enquiries on policy. From this, he has discovered that GWR have an agreement with the DFT that no lockers will be permitted on to station platforms due to concerns about Health and Safety. He has promised to question that, and I am still awaiting the result.

The system has, however been approved by Network Rail. This system has proved very popular in Ireland, and the railway company there has recently committed to a second order of 154 lockers.

