



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Caroline Parker
Vice Chairman: Cllr Paul Lawrence
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE HELD AT 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2013 AT LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs Caroline Parker (Chairman), Margaret Cotgrove, Geoff Crawford, Donald Fraser, Jerry Holden, Paul Lawrence

In Attendance: Paul Beckerson (Town Clerk), Susan Marx (Clerk)

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

23. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman received numerous enquiries from the public. The street lights in Western Road currently have black posts/black lanterns. However, those most recently installed have white lanterns. Paul Godward, Street Lighting Engineer for Southend-on-Sea Borough Council advised it was only a temporary measure. Wiring issues were discovered with the black lamps which have been returned to the manufacturer. As soon as replacements are received they will be exchanged.

Concerns were raised on the gritting of pavements along Belton Way leading down to Leigh Station which becomes treacherous due to icy weather. Peter Dolphin, Senior Environmental Care Officer at Southend Council advised of limited resources to deal with winter weather and their Winter Service Plan sets out those locations they treat. The footway at Belton Way is not listed for treatment except when there is prolonged or severe weather when quad bike gritters are used. The plan is reviewed annually and reports checked of specific problems. However, Peter Dolphin will check this area on frosty and snowy days to come to see if priorities need revision.

24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr John Wren

The Committee sent good wishes to Cllr Wren for a speedy recovery and for good health in the New Year.

25. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None

26. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 16TH OCTOBER 2013

The minutes of 16th October 2013 were agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

27. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. Enhancement of corner at Eastwood Road / London Road junction – Update

Ian Brown, Parks Management Officer for Southend-on-Sea Borough Council will investigate the recent installation of several metal bollards in this area. With respect to the Committee's request for planters, Southend Borough Council have opposed it and suggested a 'mini pocket meadow' is created by sowing wild flower seeds, good for invertebrates. Ian Brown advised a knee high rail would need to be erected to prevent children running across the meadow. A meeting is to be convened in the New Year between Ian Brown and Cllr Caroline Parker to discuss the project further.

b. Report up-date on 'Welcome to Leigh Sign' A127

Peter Geraghty, Head of Planning & Transport at Southend-on-Sea Borough Council sent a letter to Cllr Caroline Parker to explain the Council is mindful of the Department for Transport's traffic signs policy review, ongoing since 2008, and consequently advises local authorities 'to significantly reduce the amount of non-essential highways signage in order to minimize impacts on the townscape'. As the proposed signage would not perform an essential function it is unlikely to be approved as a road sign, and if approved would make it more difficult for the Council to resist further non-essential signage at the entrances to other parts of the borough.

Cllr Parker is currently in discussion with Peter Geraghty to discuss the matter further.

Cllr Paul Lawrence raised an issue with the current 'Welcome to Leigh' signage on the A13 which has the residue remaining from two stickers. It was **RESOLVED** to clean the sign with solvent.

c. Bollards – Order for work has been placed with SBC.

On the 6th December 2013 an email was submitted to Cheryl Hindle, Team Leader, Parking, Traffic Management and Road Safety Team to proceed with the painting of bollards at the following locations: Broadway, Broadway West, Glendale Gardens and Elm Road.

An up-date on the work's progress will be provided in the New Year.

28. RECONSIDERATION OF TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS BUDGET 2014/15 referred back from F&GPC (Appendix 1)

The 'Phone Box' in Old Leigh is currently being funded by John Cross. Therefore, future funding may not be required if this is to continue.

29. BUDGET REPORT 2013/14 – Report 2298/TH – 10th December 2013 – (Appendix 2)

Cllr Jerry Holden proposed unspent funds should be committed as an underspend for 2013/2104. The Committee **RESOLVED** £1,000 should be allocated from Bus Shelter Cleaning/Maintenance and £2,000 from Highways Infrastructure.

It was **RESOLVED** to combine the 'Bollards' and 'Highways Infrastructure' budgets for 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 to accomplish the re-painting of all necessary bollards in the town.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.