

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON FRIDAY 2 JULY 2021 AT 9.30AM

PRESENT: Councillor Carl Powling (Chairman)
Councillor John Akker
Councillor Julie Baker
Councillor Dave Bragg

IN ATTENDANCE: Vanessa Allen (Town Clerk)

21/015 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jenkins and Wargent, Danielle Northcott (Office Manager NEPP) and Trevor Degville (Parking Technical Manager, NEPP). No vote was taken.

21/016 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

21/017 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2 MARCH 2021, AND MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2021 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Proposed: Councillor Bragg, Seconded: Councillor Baker. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Councillor Akker raised a couple of matters arising from the minutes.

An update on item 21/006, additional junction protection lines were requested. The process will take time to process. This has been affected by the fact that the NEPP portfolio holder lost their seat at the election.

21/010. Strood railing repairs - there has not been any progress to date. Portfolio holder has changed since the election and has not yet been announced.

21/011. Car park capacity - working group still to meet and discuss.

21/018 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT FROM NEPP

Reports were shared. No comments.

21/019 TO RECEIVE LATEST MAPS FROM NEPP

Seven maps were shown to those attending.

The Victoria Esplanade maps show three disabled and three loading bays, with a limited waiting area outside Orchid Field Court.

St Peters Well maps detailed three loading bays with seasonal no waiting lines at the Church end of Coast Road.

Coast Road maps detail five loading bays and a disabled parking bay. Landside there are sections that have been redesignated seasonal no waiting areas and yellow lines, with the seaside section from the public toilets to the Dabchicks now no waiting 8am to 6pm.

Yorick Road/High Street. Red lines to the junction to just past the bank.

The maps will be circulated to Councillors for viewing and comment.

21/020 TO DISCUSS VICTORIA ESPLANADE AND WILLOUGHBY CAR PARK OPENING HOURS

The Victoria Esplanade car park should be open 8am to 8pm, but currently there is no-one to open and lock the gates. There have not been any issues since CCTV was fitted. Councillor Powling thanked Martin Dean for opening and locking the car parks for many years.

There have been issues at Willoughby car park and this is being locked by the neighbouring residents. Colchester Borough Council have a quotation of £9,000 per annum to open and lock the Victoria Esplanade and Willoughby car parks. An overnight rate from 6pm to be considered. Options for CCTV on Willoughby car park and utilise footage in a similar way to Strood Cam.

21/021 TO AGREE THE WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE AND TO FIX A DATE FOR AN INFORMAL CONSULTATION INVOLVING THE COUNCIL AND A LIMITED NUMBER OF CONCERNED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, IN RESPECT OF HOW BEST TO MANAGE THE PARKING ISSUES AND RESTRICTIONS ON WEST MERSEA. THIS TO BE AHEAD OF A FORMAL CONSULTATION PERIOD ON THE SUBJECT OF MAKING THE TEMPORARY RED LINES PERMANENT

Councillor Akker raised some points;

Red Lines were put in but the Council did not consider them. Councillor Powling responded that the full Council were updated and aware of the Red Lines trial as the item has been on the Transport Committee trackers since 2017. NEPP offered a solution to parking issues. Councillor Bragg confirmed that the red lines were never put to a vote.

Councillor Akker stated that it was not the Council requesting the lines but a request by Councillor Powling. Councillor Powling responded stating that the Transport Committee asked NEPP for solutions to parking issues.

Councillor Akker would like his concerns to be noted.

It was confirmed that the temporary order became operational on 28 September 2020 and can remain for 18 months, where, after consultation the order may become permanent.

After discussion it was suggested that the aim of the Parking Working Group is to find ideas and solutions for parking issues on West Mersea involving as many residents as possible and reporting back to the Transport Committee. The date for the Working Group meeting will be set after relaxation of Covid rules on 19 July due to restriction on numbers and the cost of hiring a hall.

21/022 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON DEVOLUTION WORKS

Three footpaths have been cut; Mill Road to Windsor Road, Firs Chase to The Lane (footpath 10) and Seaview Avenue to Fairhaven Avenue (footpath 31).

Essex County Council are cutting Seaview Avenue to Cross Lane (footpath 24) next week. Once Essex County Council have completed works, any remaining footpaths can be cut using the Devolution Grant. At the end of the Grant period quotations to be sought for Devolution works for 2022/2023 Grant.

21/023 TO REVIEW THE TASK TRACKER

This item was deferred.

21/024 MATTERS TO BE RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Working Group to feedback on car park signage re capacity.

To consider overnight charges for Victoria Esplanade and Seaview car parking, longer opening hours.

To consider CCTV Willoughby car park.

Update on Strood railings.

Parking Working Group Terms of Reference.

21/025 TO AGREE DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting to be held in September, date to be confirmed.

21/026 CHAIRPERSON TO MOVE THAT THE PRESS AND PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED DURING THE TRANSACTION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE GROUNDS THAT PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BECAUSE OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

21/027 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE QUOTES FOR A REPLACEMENT GATE AT WILLOUGHBY CAR PARK

Councillor Bragg proposed accepting Pittock Engineering quotation to supply and fit a new galvanised gate and three posts at Willoughby car park £892.

Proposed: Councillor Bragg, Seconded: Councillor Baker. ALL IN FAVOUR.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.55am.

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