



Ottery St Mary Town Council

Minutes of the **ORDINARY MEETING OF OTTERY ST MARY TOWN COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY, 6TH JULY 2020** at **7.05pm**. The meeting was conducted virtually in accordance with Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020

Regeneration Committee considerations and agreement on how to move forward and progress

20/07/24

TO RECONSIDER THOSE MATTERS RELATING TO TRAVEL AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TOWN (WHICH WERE CONSIDERED AND RESOLUTIONS MADE AT THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF 15TH JUNE UNDER ITEM 7 (TO CONSIDER THE DCC SHARED FOOTPATHS SCHEME AND MAKE DECISIONS ACCORDINGLY) AND WHICH WERE OUTSIDE THE REMIT OF THE AGENDA HEADING) AND TO MAKE DECISIONS ACCORDINGLY

Cllr Copus advised that the Council's request for a last bus from Honiton Station to Ottery, wasn't being acted upon and he expressed his disappointment. He understood that Coronavirus issues were taking priority. He advised that he would write to Otter Valley Hash House Harriers and the Pedal Bashers Group about the proposed Shared Footpath Scheme asking for their suggestions

It was RESOLVED to approve the following matters:-

TO CONSIDER THE DCC SHARED FOOTPATHS SCHEME AND TO MAKE DECISIONS ACCORDINGLY

- a. that the Council should concentrate on doing things that could be actioned quickly.

In addition the provisions of the NHP should be taken into account – Chapter 4 Page 20 provides *'Connections between the settlements of the Neighbourhood Plan Area and beyond will be enhanced with an improved network of off-road footpaths and cycle ways, including the establishment of a Cycle Route from Feniton to Sidmouth, promoting active lifestyles and the health and wellbeing of the population.'*

- b. **Suspending the parking spaces down Mill Street to create a wider shared footpath and cycle lane.**

That a full consultation would need to be carried out with business owners and residents to progress this

It was agreed this needs consultation

- c. **Narrowing the main Town Square by widening pathways which could be created using planters to create a physical barrier but one that is also enhancing the look.**

To make this an urgent issue to be addressed by the Regeneration Cttee and that a budget of £500 be made available for consultants to be instructed in the first instance to consider outline plans and provide a professional opinion; to be reviewed as necessary and that it was in line with the NHP provisions –Para 9(14) P70 and Chapter 4 Objective 16 which provided the following:-

Mayor's Initials.....

Interventions suggested to enhance the town centre include, in concept:

1. Rebalancing the hierarchy to give greater prioritisation to pedestrians and reducing the dominance of cars.
2. Carving out more public spaces within the town centre for sitting, chatting, watching the world go by.

Enhance Ottery St Mary Town Centre to achieve public realm and accessibility improvements that will help to make the town centre a safer and more inviting space and strengthen the long term vitality of the town.

After discussion, the Committee agreed that this needs to be progressed and Cllr Clare Wright would set up an informal meeting with the Committee members and Highways Officers at DCC for their input and guidance on this.

- d. A shared pathway/cycle route out of Ottery towards Otter Nurseries / Joshua`s**
To try and move this forward and re-engage with the land owners

It was agreed that Cllrs Copus, Grainger and Giles would further investigate this with a view to the Project Manager formalising plans and gaining funding on how it will be delivered

- e. Discuss with local landowners opportunity to develop footpaths into cyclepaths**

That Cllrs Grainger, Copus and Giles would identify areas of land suitable for this purpose and then the CEO would contact the landowners for their thoughts.

As per d above

- f. Encouragement of active commuting from OSM and surrounding villages to local employment areas (Honiton, Sidmouth, Exeter, Exmouth and the railway stations at Whimple and Feniton). Identification of non-arterial lanes/roads between these places - conversion of these to SHARED USE ROUTE with obvious entrance, extensive board and painted signage, painted dashed cycle lanes, chicanes, speed limit to 20 etc etc. This is a bigger project and would need EDDC's involvement, but maybe it is possible to do an 'interim' solution as per DCC's Exeter plan. Identifying the best quietish routes between Ottery and other centres and then making them quieter - Possible temporary chicanes to act as traffic calming?**

To liaise with EDDC about this matter

As it was felt this needs to be fully synergised with national Government Policy demonstrating solving a lot of different areas, a sub-committee would be set up to look into this, working in conjunction with the proposed Project Manager, Regeneration Committee and other various local organisations

- g. Extension of this to create network of loops around OSM of various lengths for family leisure cycling/running/walking**

As per f above

As per f above

Mayor's Initials.....

- h. Improvement of the cycle route along Harpford railway line section - the start and end of this route are in VERY poor condition - to encourage safe cycling to the Bowd.**

As per f above

As per f above

- i. Speed limit of 20mph throughout OSM up to and including Otter Nurseries. Restriction to 30 or 40 mph on lanes to all outlying villages not involved in shared route usage (20mph).**

That the Council seek a 20mph zone in the area (boundaries to be approved) subject in the first instance, to consultants being instructed for a professional opinion as per Town Square. The matter would need to come under the Regeneration Cttee to be actioned asap

As per c above

- j. Imagine traffic priority changing in town centre to increase driver attention and reduce bottle necks and jams, for example no right turn from Broad Street into Gold Street Or the installation of a mini roundabout in the same location**

This would also need to come under the remit of consultants as per Town Square. That a letter be sent to EDDC's Streetscene advising that the Council was involved in enhancing the Conservation Area (which is specified in EDDC's Local Plan and which was also in conjunction with improving pedestrian safety) and to request that EDDC come up with an improved waste collection system for the residents of Batts Lane

As per c above

- k. Create a temporary shared space for pedestrians/cyclists from junction of Butts Road to Gosford Lane junction to provide a safer route for people to move to and from the retail outlets located on Gosford Lane**

This would need to be considered

As per f above

- l. Create additional space for pedestrians to accommodate social distancing at key "pinch" points of footfall as well as providing some support by providing outdoor space for local hospitality businesses. Potential areas:**

- i. Main square**
- ii. Between the vehicle entrance / exit of Sainsbury's to Prospect Place.**
- iii. Mill Street from main square to the cut through towards Sainsbury's**
- iv. Section of Batts Lane - from Yonder St to junction with Brook Street**
- v. Section of Gold Street - near to Silver Otter**

These would need to be considered further

It was agreed that this imperative point had moved on due to timing but could return so will be dealt with accordingly if the need arises

- m. To encourage children and carers to walk or cycle and help with social distancing for the primary school - look at options to prohibit parking around the school and surrounding roads by creating safe walking cycling routes.**

That the Council should investigate an eco transport scheme and Cllrs Stewart and the Deputy Mayor would be happy to take this on and to work with the Regeneration and Climate Action Cttes, plus investigate funding options. Cllr Giles would investigate the Cycling Proficiency Scheme

Mayor's Initials.....

It was agreed to look at the bigger picture on this and how everything interacts together which would be progressed by the sub-committee and Cllr Stewart agreed to progress with looking into funding to purchase electric buses and making electric charge points available in Land of Canaan car park. He would report back to the Regeneration Committee on this.

Dave Moss`s E-mail

The CEO read out the contents of Dave Moss`s e-mail with regard to the 2018 report, `Traffic, Parking and Related Issues` which he and others had prepared previously.. The Report contained recommendations which had been approved by the Council last year. Mr Moss in his e-mail explained that the Report had involved a large amount of work which should not be disregarded and expressed a wish that these recommendations should be considered alongside the recent recommendations made by the Regeneration Ctte. It was agreed that a Regeneration Ctte Meeting be arranged and the authors of the Report be invited to attend to discuss the Report and their ideas, which could then be brought back to the Full Council.

This was discussed in Confidential session – see Minutes 190820