

MINUTES of the meeting of the **GENERAL PURPOSES & HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** held in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Royston at 7.35 p.m. on Monday, 5 July 2010.

PRESENT: Councillor Davidson (Deputy Chairman in the Chair).
Councillors Burt, Freeman, Hulström, Inwood, Mayne, Palmer & Phillips.
Town Clerk, Committee Administrator
County & District Councillors Hill & Hunter, Town Councillor Davison & R. Smith,
2 Members of the public

The Chairman announced that the Presentation from Hertfordshire Police re Community Speed Watch would not take place at this meeting and had been postponed until the meeting in August, and therefore Item 7 on the agenda would not be discussed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman then invited Mr. Derek Emblem to speak to the meeting. He said that he had three items:

- (i) He asked that the Town Council support his request to the District Council that the roads be cleared of weeds, especially on the A10.
- (ii) He asked that there be speed indicators manned by volunteers on the roads in Royston to help reduce the speed of traffic as it had been proved in other districts that it slows down traffic. No vehicle registration number is recorded. The machines can be hired.
- (iii) Vehicles over 7½ tons were continuing to use Newmarket Road and signs were ineffective.

Mr. Terry Hutt then spoke to the meeting in respect of the No.17 Bus as people were still having difficulties in getting into the town centre. He had asked Morrisons to support the use of a bus but it was not in their remit. He then handed over a petition.

Mr. Emblem and Mr. Hutt were thanked for their attendance and assured that the Committee would take into account their comments. They then left the meeting.

65/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Harrison.

66/11 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None

67/11 MINUTES:

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held Monday, 14 June 2010 (minutes 34/11 to 40/11) be approved as a correct record.

68/11 REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES:

The Committee received the notes of the Royston in Bloom Working Party meetings held on:-

- 13th April 2010
- 11th May 2010
- 15th June 2010

69/11 ROYSTON YOUTH COUNCIL:

Councillor Davidson updated the meeting on this item and said that 4 schools had shown interest in being involved in the Youth Council. The Youth Council is being reshaped. Councillor Inwood said that the Buntingford Youth Council would be interested to meet with Royston to talk about Youth Council and how theirs work.

70/11 ROYSTON YOUTH NETWORK:

The Chairman reported that this year's Summer Programme had now been published, the Town Mayor would be visiting some of the events. Councillor Phillips said she would be available to help.

Councillor Inwood commented on the fact that the swimming at the Leisure Centre was not free as in Cambridgeshire.

71/11 HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY:

Members had received correspondence about Neighbourhood Policing Priorities – Involving Councillors, and it was noted that the Police wanted to get more people involved. Two Councillors' are already involved in the Neighbourhood Policing meetings and it was agreed to wait for further details.

72/11 NHDC CONSULTATIONS ON THE STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY, SEX ESTABLISHMENT POLICY AND STREET TRADING, STREET COLLECTIONS AND HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTIONS POLICIES:

The Chairman took these three Agenda items under one heading and following some discussion it was agreed that these policies be noted, and members were happy with them as they are. If any Councillor had any comments he should referred them to the Town Clerk before the 30 August 2010. Councillor Burt said that in the Licensing Policy, Section 17 was about temporary event notices for one off events; the 10 day notice rule was often missed by people and was being looked into. Oliver Heald MP had agreed to speak to the appropriate person.

73/11 ADOPTED ROADS:

The Town Clerk reported correspondence received from Oliver Heald MP in respect of Road Adoption in Hertfordshire and show a document (Hansard of a Debate) that Oliver Heald MP had forwarded to her with a section discussed by Minister's on adopted roads in Hertfordshire. It states that Ministers are interested in the problems and they are to have meetings with the County Council. The County Council have said they will be revisiting the issues on adopted roads at a future date.

74/11 NEWMARKET ROAD:

Councillor Harrison had reported that he had contacted the District Council in respect of the heavy vehicles using the Newmarket Road. The problem was worsening and heavy vehicles were using this road at night and were quite noisy. He requested extra signs were put up and the signs there should be kept clear from vegetation.

Councillor Hill spoke to the meeting and reported that this matter had been before the Area Committee and the JMP Highways Committee. As speed and weight limit issues are

enforcement issue this has been referred to the police who are actioning it. Highways were looking for a solution for the road noise issues; unfortunately vegetation is an ongoing problem at this time of year and procedures are in place to keep it cut back. It is thought that Sat Nav's could be sending vehicles along Newmarket Road and this would be looked into.

75/11 GARDEN WALK:

The Chairman read a letter from Cllr Harrison in respect of the problem at Garden Walk since the "No Right Turn" has been implemented and suggested that another sign be put up to stop drivers who are still turning right.

The Chairman asked District Councillor Hill about this matter and she replied that this matter had been discussed at a District Council committee meeting but it had been noted that road layout could not be repositioned as it would cause Lorries using the road to mount onto the pavement; another warning sign has been ordered to be installed.

District Councillor Hunter said that the new system worked well at busy times but it was at less busy times that people had been seen to make a right turn into Melbourn Road.

76/11 OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS:

Councillor Phillips circulated a report on a recent Sport Royston meeting and on the various events that had taken place. Holiday programmes would be held in Royston and brochures have been distributed to all school children.

Councillor Davidson reported on the Royston Volunteer Centre and said that many volunteers had applied to help during the Olympic Games in 2012, many of these would get rejected and referred back to volunteer in their home town. There will be benefits to be gained for the Royston area if events were put on in connection to the Olympic Games and she asked if the Council would like to have a presentation about this and about the volunteering centre in Royston. She suggested that the May Fayre, Royston in Bloom and Arts Festival events could be themed to the Olympics instead of putting on extra events.

It was agreed to ask Denise Graham to come and make a presentation to the council.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.