

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL**TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Transport & Highways Committee held in the Council House, 44 Old Street, Clevedon on Wednesday, 19 September 2007 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillor G Watkins (Committee Chairman) IN THE CHAIR
Cllrs C Arnold, R Garner, D Hendra, D Jones, J Middleton, G Morris, S Vyce.

7.30pm **INFORMAL BUSINESS**

1. NAILSEA & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT Mr V Rawlings, Management Ctte Chairman and Ms Lesley Timmins, General Manager, were in attendance to discuss the financial support currently being received from Clevedon Town Council. NDCT had been assisted in recent years with grants from the lottery and rural bus challenge this funding has come to an end. Other sources of income are from passenger fares (increased in July 07) and local authority support. (NSC fund some staffing costs and Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead Town Councils contribute annually towards revenue costs). For the last 2 years NDCT has made up the shortfall by drawing on reserves set aside for replacement vehicles. Two people on the Management Ctte were investigating possible grant applications although most grants fund growth rather than revenue costs.

NDCT now has 8 vehicles. 115 individual Clevedon passengers are registered to use their service and a number of community groups whose members live in Clevedon, plus residents in several Clevedon nursing homes. Four shopping services are provided for Clevedon each week, regular Dial A Ride services and trips and outings throughout the year are well supported by Clevedon residents. 23% of the total users are Clevedon residents. The Management Ctte will submit an application to the next Committee meeting for a grant of £12,000. The grant for the current financial year was £7,200. All local Councils in the North of North Somerset are being approached for additional contributions. Possible contract work had not being forthcoming, although the legal requirements necessary for this work were now in place.

2. PROPOSAL FOR TRAFFIC CALMING - FOSSEWAY TH/07/56 Mr F Cox, NSC New Works Manager, had been invited to discuss the estimated costs he had provided for this project. Since the last meeting Mr R Mann, Highways Engineer had met with Committee representatives to commence drafting proposals. Mr Cox had spoken with the NSC Executive Member for Highways who confirmed officer time should be charged to the Town Council, same as for NSC's own projects, the percentage of the cost is dependent on the design element. He had arranged for the work to be carried out 'in house' by NSC agency staff rather than outside consultants and this saving would be passed onto the Town Council. He had also spoken with Mr Mann about the design (road narrowing either side of the road and larger road narrowing closer to the school). Estimated cost £30,000; although it may depend on drainage and other services in the area affecting the works.

There would however be no legal costs or notice/advert as there are no vertical speed cushions etc included in the design. A safety audit would be necessary and the actual costs of this would be charged. Design costs would be charged to the Town Council for work to date, even if the scheme did not progress. Mr Cox advised the Town Council would also be expected to carry out detailed consultations with the nearby residents prior to the start of the scheme.

Members asked why NSC were not progressing the scheme as they were responsible for highways. Mr Cox pointed out NSC could only progress schemes which were high priority, ie a concentration of casualties, and this scheme would not fit this criteria. Under the Local Government Act local councils were able to fund traffic calming schemes in their areas. He indicated NSC's budget for safety schemes is approximately £300,000pa and school travel plans £80,000pa. Mr Cox was advised £15,000 had been earmarked for this scheme. A request had been made to the NSC Planning Officer dealing with the application to develop Crabtree Farm, adjacent to the School, for possible Section 106 funding towards these highway improvements. It was noted the application had been refused the previous week, however the applicant is likely to resubmit plans. There was a general discussion about the number of Highways Engineers employed by NSC – there were four unfilled vacancies.

3. STRODE RD/OLD CHURCH RD JUNCTION Mr Cox emphasised this scheme had never been included in any programme of works. It had been part of the Old Church Rd/Elton Rd scheme which had been dropped by the Town Council. He felt the work to improve the sight line is unlikely to attract Local Transport Plan funding unless there has been a concentration of casualties. Members reported a serious accident at this junction within the last few weeks.

4. OLD ST Work to commence on doming the mini roundabout at the Highdale Ave/Old St junction in October. No funding available to progress traffic calming (raising pedestrian crossing at the Health Centre and Hospital).

5. NORTHERN/CENTRAL/SOUTHERN WAY Mr Cox reported guidance from Government which stated the actual speed of traffic using a road should determine the speed limit. Although factors like housing fronting onto the road and casualty records would be taken into account. Also speed limits should be self enforcing and not rely on speed cameras. Vehicle activated speed signs were being used sparingly at speed related accident sites. NSC is currently reviewing their policy in line with national guidance. There is an initiative to use mobile units for a couple of weeks, at sights highlighted by Local Action Team speed watch teams. The Clevedon distributor road will be considered when the new policy is in place.

8.30pm **FORMAL BUSINESS**

TH/07/67 MINUTES of the Transport & Highways Committee meeting on 18 July 2007 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

TH/07/68 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Cllr Hendra declared a personal interest in Nailsea & District Com Transport – uses their service.

Min No.		Action
PART 2 items - ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE UNDER DELEGATED POWERS		
TH/07/69	<p><u>PROPOSAL FOR TRAFFIC CALMING - FOSSE WAY</u> TH/07/56 see informal business above</p> <p>RESOLVED: 1. To ask NSC to continue with the design of the scheme. 2. Follow up other possible sources of funding; St John's School from the Diocese and Section 106 funding unspent for Yeo Ward ie Tesco.</p> <p>Consider allocating additional funds for this proposal in the 2008/09 Committee Budget</p>	Office; 1 & 2 Next agenda
TH/07/70	<p><u>NORTHERN & SOUTHERN WAY TRAFFIC CALMING</u> TH/07/59 see informal business above</p> <p>RESOLVED: Await the new NSC policy for vehicle activated speed signs.</p>	
TH/07/71	<p><u>STRODE RD JUNCTION WITH OLD CHURCH RD</u> TH/07/65 see informal business above</p> <p>Members considered this to be a dangerous junction with very poor visibility.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To seek other funding, ie section 106 associated with development at 2 Strode Rd as this development would have an effect in this vicinity; increased traffic, parking</p>	Office to action
TH/07/72	<p><u>'LIVING STREETS'</u> Cllr Hendra advised on joining the charity 'Living Streets' which looks at radical ways to use public space. The organisation provides regular publications at no charge.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To support 'Living Streets' and obtain the regular newsletters.</p>	Office to action
TH/07/73	<p><u>STATION RD/QUEENS SQUARE DELIVERIES</u> TH/07/64.1</p> <p>The request for a one way system had been deferred from the last meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Not to change the current access arrangements.</p>	
TH/07/74	<p><u>DROPPED KERBS – CLEVEDON</u></p> <p>NSC has some funding for tactile dropped kerbs in Clevedon in the vicinity of major destinations. Areas being considered; Old St where the school crossing person stands, Old Church Rd upgrade area around Queens Rd and Lower Queens Rd; Southern Way in the vicinity of the Mary Elton School and Sports Centre and also review Hill Rd area.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To support the sites suggested above.</p> <p>Noted: Victoria Rd, Albert Rd dropped kerb only on one side and Hallam Road no dropped kerbs.</p>	Office to advise
TH/07/75 75.1	<p><u>NAILSEA & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT</u></p> <p>FUNDING - Members generally felt this was a good service especially for wheel chair users, but the cost to the Town Council per ride for Clevedon users would be £2. Members questioned whether NSC Social Services should be agents for this service.</p> <p>RESOLVED: 1. Ask NDCT to provide figures on the need for this service, on the increase fares if there is space for expansion, also how many of the 8 vehicles are used daily. 2. To ascertain the views of Nailsea and Portishead Town Councils.</p>	74.1 Office to action
75.2	<p>TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON NDCT MANAGEMENT CTTE next meeting 12 Sept 07</p>	74.2 no one able to attend
TH/07/76 76.1 76.2 76.3	<p><u>BUS SHELTER & TOWN SIGNS</u></p> <p>MONTHLY REPORTS - July & August Broken panels - previous Contractor repaired, cost £300.</p> <p>NEW CONTRACT - started 1 Sept 07, he advised bus shelters handed over in reasonable repair.</p> <p>NEW REPLACEMENT BUS SHELTERS Orders placed to be erected in October 2007.</p>	Noted
TH/07/77	<p><u>LOCAL BUS SERVICE REVIEW IN NORTH SOMERSET</u> contracts due to expire March 2008.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To support all the Clevedon bus services outlined in the review.</p>	Office to action
TH/07/78	<p><u>BUS SERVICE X25</u> After discussions with young people in their area, Portishead & North Weston Town Council had written to NSC asking for an evening extension to this service to allow young people to get to and from The Mall / Cribbs Causeway for employment and social activities.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To write to NSC supporting Portishead and North Weston Town Council's proposal as this would also benefit young people in Clevedon.</p>	Office to action
TH/07/79	<p><u>CLEVEDON CONSERVATION AREAS - YELLOW LINES</u> TH/07/51 NSC Highways Officer had confirmed yellow line policy is; (1) New surfacing all lines replaced with standard 50mm lines. (2) Re-lining over old lines will match like with like. (3) No difference in Conservation Areas any more.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To ask NSC for the reason for the decision not to use pale narrow yellow lines in the Conservation Areas and whether this applies to the whole of the country.</p>	Office to action
TH/07/88	<p><u>NOTICE OF ROAD CLOSURES PARK RD, CASTLE RD & HOLLY LANE</u> for resurfacing.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To remind NSC of the current works to Clevedon School, access via Holly Lane.</p>	Office to action
<p>APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD</p> <p>The meeting finished at 9.35pm</p>		
<p>CHAIRMAN:</p> <p>DATE</p>		