

Minutes of the Special Highway Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 29th January 2014 @ 09.00am in No. 3, Main Street.

Present:	Hon. Cyril George	-	Chairman
	Hon. Wilson Duncan	-	Deputy Chairman
	Hon. Gavin Ellick	-	Member
	Hon. Mrs Christine Scipio- O'Dean	-	Member
	Inspector Jonathon Thomas	-	Police Directorate
	Mr Dave Malpas	-	Roads Manager
Invited:	Mr Derek Henry	-	Deputy Director, ENRD
	Miss Janet Lawrence	-	Airport Director – Item 9.1
	Miss Claire Harris	-	Deputy Airport Director Item 9.1
	Mr Deon de Jager	-	Island Director, Basil Read Item 9.1
	Mr Miles Leask	-	Acting Head of PMU – Item 9.1
	Mr Nicky Lawrence	-	Secretary

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

Open Agenda.

9.1 Public Meeting at Harford Community Centre.

The Chairman outlined the purpose of the Public Meeting at Harford Community Centre on 22 January 2014 which was to hear the views of the residents on the proposed road works from Hutt's Gate to Longwood Gate. Approximately 65-70 representatives from the Longwood Community and Businesses attended the meeting. Because this is the only route in/out of Longwood the road cannot be closed 24/7, therefore other options must be considered.

Ideally the Roads Manager would like a 4 hour road closure with a short opening period to allow traffic to be escorted through the road works, repeating the process throughout the work day.

The meeting was split into nine groups to discuss the following questions:-

1. What are the 3 biggest impacts to the Community?
2. The roads section really needs blocks of 4 hours of full closure to work within:
 - What times during the week are best to allow this?
 - Are there any times during the week when more than 4 hours could be provided?
 - Are there any periods when the road simply **HAS** to open? (e.g. 8-9am to get to work)
3. How would you feel about Traffic Lights or Delays at other times?
4. Are there any other ideas for anything we can do to reduce the impact?

Members of the public offered the following suggestions:

1. Use the Willow Bank Road, however this is only a track and will need an expensive upgrade to be made useable.
2. Ask Basil Read to grade the Willow Bank Road and make it useable.
3. Leave the road as it is and wait until the Haul Road is completed and use that.

The Chairman said the reason for inviting representatives from the Access Office, Basil Read and the Project Management Unit was to have their views on using the Haul Road or the Willow Bank Road.

It was asked how urgent the work was, and the RM stated that some work needed to be done before the Haul Road opened.

BR were asked if they had the capacity to upgrade the Willow Bank Road and they indicated that resources were available and would not have a significant impact on the work of BR.

Chairman thanked BR for attending and for their valuable input. He said Committee will now look at options and discuss the way forward.

A member suggested not to delay the works and go ahead with the closure to carry out necessary repair works such as patching.

The option of inviting BR to undertake the upgrade of the Willow Bank Road was also discussed.

RM was tasked with providing a costing for the WB Road and Chairman to approach Financial Secretary to seek funding.

A member suggested having an informal meeting on 03 February prior to the next Public Meeting on the 05 February, 2014.

Action: Chairman

9.2 Parking in Castle Gardens.

Further to the subject of Parking in Castle Gardens a member presented to Committee a paper referring to the Road Traffic Ordinance concerning the erection of signage of the appropriate size, speed limits and making public aware of penalties for non-compliance. The location of No Parking signs had been approved by the Heritage Society. Residents will be allowed parking for one vehicle only. Inspector of Police will consult with the Director for final approval for the positioning of the No Parking and Disabled Parking signs and report to Committee. It was also proposed to erect No Loitering signs.

RM was reminded about marking of the Parks near Harbour View.

Action: Roads Manager

9.3 Matters arising.

Barrier at Terrace.

Chairman enquired about the barrier that had been placed at the East End of the Terrace and was informed that it had been removed to allow workmen to carry out underpinning works to the Castle Tower. A member asked that the temporary barrier be replaced whilst these works are undertaken.

Action: Head of P&DC.

9.4 Any other business.

Update on Bonus for Roads Workers.

The Roads Manager informed Committee that approval has been given for a bonus to be paid to the eligible workmen and paperwork is being prepared in readiness for payment in the following week.

Action: Roads Manager.

Queen's Baton

Inspector of Police requested a 30–45 minute closure of Ladder Hill Road during the time the Baton will be relayed up Jacob's Ladder and back to Jamestown via Ladder Hill Road.

He also asked if the damaged wall at the top of the road could be repaired before this event. Roads Manager to liaise with SHNT to coordinate the works and update Committee at the informal meeting on Monday.

Action: Roads Manager

Tourism Management Plan.

Inspector of Police asked what was needed to implement the plan and was told there was an issue with car parks at the sea front and the Customs and Tourism Managers would be invited to a future meeting to discuss the matter.

Action: Secretary

Visit of MV Saga Pearl II.

The Tourist Office had requested that car parks be reserved near the Honeymoon Chair, adjacent to the seafront railings, adjacent to St James' Church and in front of the Canister to erect stalls during the arrival of the Cruise Ship. However, due to the RMS St Helena being in port at the same time parks adjacent to the railings were not reserved.

Action: Roads Manager

Update of Road Closure – Hutt's Gate to Gordon's Post.

Roads Manager informed Committee who was permitted to use the road under certain circumstances. Also the issue of communication between road gangs will be addressed.

Action: Roads Manager

Bus Shelters.

A member again expressed his concern for the need for bus shelters in Half Tree Hollow and Ladder Hill. He was advised to contact Head of Governor's Office concerning the issue as Shelters had been provided from the Governor's special funds.

Action: Member

Roads Manager.

Roads Manager informed Committee that he had tendered his resignation and would depart St Helena at the end of February. Members expressed their regret and wished him well.

9.5 Next Highway Authority Meeting scheduled for **Monday 17th February 2014 at 10.00am in No. 3, Main Street.**

Confirmed..........

Date.....*14/4/14*.....