

MINUTES OF the 11th MEETING OF THE HIGHWAY AUTHORITY HELD ON Monday 14th APRIL, 2014 at 09.00hrs in the COUNCIL CHAMBER.

Present:	Hon Wilson Duncan	-	Chairman
	Hon Gavin Ellick	-	Deputy Chairman
	Hon Cyril George	-	Member
	Hon Mrs Christine Scipio-O'Dean	-	Member
	Inspector Jonathon Thomas	-	Police Directorate
	Constable Brianna Yon	-	Police Directorate
	Mr Trevor Graham	-	Director, ENRD
	Mr Derek Henry	-	Deputy Director, ENRD
Invited:	Dr Corinda Essex	-	Elected Member

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

11.1 Confirmation of minutes.

The minutes of meetings held on 20th January, 29 January and 17th February, 2014 were confirmed.

11.2 Matters arising.

Excavation at Longwood.

A member asked for an update on the works near Longwood Gate and was told that work is ongoing although behind target. This work is being carried out on a contract basis for a set fee and therefore there are no financial implications. The Deputy Director will check on the status of the works.

Action: Deputy Director

Parking in Main Street.

It was suggested that the parking in main street issue be followed up with the National Trust and Heritage Society at an ENRC Meeting. A member gave the view that no further action about parking in Jamestown should take place without consultation with all stakeholders and suggested having a special meeting to discuss this.

Action: Chairman

Community Roads.

The Director told members that it was decided at ENRC that he would be taking forward a proposal for the evaluation of all Community roads. Applications for funding would go to an 'open call' and would go through an evaluation process before any selection is made.

Castle Gardens.

The residents of Castle Gardens were informed by letter that the Highways Authority had agreed to designate Castle Gardens a 'No Parking' and 'No Loitering' area. Residents are allowed car parking for one vehicle only near their homes. The appropriate signage will be erected soon. Further publicity will be given via the media by the Inspector of Police and members of the Highway Authority.

Action: Inspector/Members

Safety Rails at Two Gun Saddle.

The rails have not been installed yet and the Deputy Director undertook to look into the matter.

Action: Deputy Director

Pay and Display.

A member stated that the matter had been raised in informal LegCo and there was need for further publicity. Chairman said he would follow up.

Action: Chairman

Road Safety.

The Inspector of Police agreed to check on statistics relating to road traffic accidents and report back to the Highway Authority. A member expressed her views on road safety and the need for safety rails in danger hotspots around the island.

Action: Inspector Thomas

Two hour parking.

A member stated she has evidence that the system is not working and was informed by the Inspector of Police that there were legislative issues that need to be addressed. The Director said this is a Strategic Development issue and he could take it to the Senior Management Team meeting and discuss it there. He also suggested if the parks were policed on an ad hoc basis and bring the offenders to account there may be some improvement.

Action: Inspector Thomas

Speed limit at Silver Hill Shop.

The Chairman asked for this matter to be deferred until the next Highways Authority meeting.

Action: Chairman

Cruise ship visits.

It was reported that the two way Tour Bus system worked very well.

Blackfield Road.

This matter is being addressed.

Solar Street Lights.

This was discussed at ENRC meeting.

Car Parking and paving of Footpaths in Main Street.

A member stated that this matter was discussed at an Elected Members meeting. The Director informed members that the Main Street enhancement project will commence at the beginning of May in line with the original plan. Pavements will be replaced and bollards erected, and some cobbling work carried out adjacent to buildings. Members were assured there will be no disruption to the St Helena Day celebrations.

Barrier at Seafront.

A member expressed concern that these barriers need to have reflective markings when the wharf is open and only one barrier in position. There is a risk of vehicles crashing into the barrier. Chairman to follow up.

Action: Chairman

Hutt's Gate to Longwood Gate Road.

A member asked if there was any publicity about the closure of the Longwood Road for repairs. The Deputy Director replied that there will be an article in the paper this week and radio announcements this week and next. The works are due to commence on the 28th April with following work pattern.

09.00 -09.30 - Convoy working 09.30 – 12.00noon – closed
12.00noon – 13.00pm Convoy working 13.00 – 15.00pm closed.
15.00pm onwards – Open.

These times were agreed and drawn up by the Roads Manager after Public Meetings with residents in January and February 2014.

The road will be open on Wednesdays to allow residents to attend clinic. Access will be allowed for Emergency vehicles. Negotiations are ongoing for the collection of refuse.

Action: Deputy Director

Road Safety.

This will be an Agenda item for May's meeting.

Resurfacing of Mule Yard.

The Deputy Director said this matter had been discussed with the Roads Section and the Properties Division but it could not be determined who has responsibility for this work. He told members that discussions are taking place internally to look at ways forward to address these sort of problems.

Members expressed concerns about the safety of the public during the forthcoming St Helena Day celebrations when the Mule Yard is the main venue.

The Director said this is a complex issue and another of the 'grey areas' the Directorate needs to address across the island. The Chairman said he cannot emphasise enough the importance of the Mule Yard.

Painting of the Tomb Road Wall.

The Deputy Director offered further information about the painting of this wall. After discussions with the Roads Section, painting the wall was not considered value for money in relation to cost, time and aesthetic benefits and the wall should be left unpainted. The Chairman felt the wall is alright as it is. The Director stated that this is an operational issue and the wall would need continued maintenance if it were to be painted. It was concluded that the wall remain unpainted.

11.3 Erection of mirror at Gordon's Post.

A member of the public had purchased a roadside mirror and was seeking permission through his Councillors from the Highways Authority to erect this mirror near his home at Gordon's Post. Permission was granted subject to liaison with the Police and Roads Section.

Action: Deputy Director

11.4 Request for Speed Limit between St John's Church and New Bridge Pond.

A member of the public expressed concern about the speed vehicles travel on this section of road and recommended that the Highway Authority impose a speed limit of 10 miles per hour. Members felt they needed to check on a document presented to ExCo regarding an island wide review of speed limits and the matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Highway Authority.

Action: Chairman

11.5 Two hour parking outside Thorpe's Grocery shop and Tinkers.

A request from Thorpe's to reinstate the two hour parking signs outside of their Grocery Shop and Tinkers was agreed by the Highway Authority. This will be followed up by the Roads Section as soon as possible.

Action: Deputy Director.

11.6 Traffic calming between Tinkers and Thorpe's Grocery Shop.

This matter will be incorporated in the plans for the future enhancement of Jamestown. Another concern was the unloading of goods on the Bridge during work hours and busy days. It was suggested that unloading could be done using temporary parks demarcated by traffic cones or alternatively the work could be done off peak periods. Inspector offered to speak to Thorpe's regarding this issue.

Action: Inspector Thomas.

11.7 Wharf Site Visit follow up.

The Financial Secretary (FS) had asked the Highway Authority to review a document regarding Wharf Parking and sought approval for the 'No Parking' zone highlighted therein. The document had been shared with the Deputy of the Fisherman's Association who supported the proposal.

Members also supported the proposal but had concerns about parking for other Wharf users. The Deputy Director was asked to request the FS to carry out wider consultation with all stakeholders and revert to the Authority, before a decision can be made.

Action: Deputy Director.

11.8 Loading access into Greenlands.

A member of the public raised concern about a specific aspect of Solomon's plans for Greenlands, namely the unloading of stock. He stated it was not suitable to place a large lorry at either the front or back door of the building as this would cause congestion to other road users.

The view of the Authority was that as there has been no formal application from Solomon & Company Plc regarding loading access to Greenlands no action can be taken at this time. The Chairman will respond to the concerned member of public.

Action: Chairman

11. 9 Disabled parking Policy.

The Draft Policy was reviewed by members and the following amendment was made to item 11. *If on island for more than 2 months you must apply for a local permit.*

The Chairman will contact the Disabled Persons Aids Society regarding this matter.

Action: Chairman

11. 10 Temporary placement of barrier across the front of the Malabar.

Solomon & Company Plc is intending to carry out extensive works to the Malabar and in the interest of public safety and maintain unobstructed access to the work area a request was made for the temporary placement of a barrier across the front of the building for a period of approximately six months.

It was suggested that a site visit should take place with the Inspector of Police who will position physical barriers so that members can visualise how much space these barriers will take up.

Action: Chairman

11. 11 Application for permission to place Take-Away Food Booth near HTH Clinic.

An application for permission to place a takeaway food booth at Half Tree Clinic was received from Mr & Mrs Bill Scanes. Members felt that a site visit with a member of the Environmental Health Section would be appropriate.

A member suggested a site visit for Julie Fowler at Ladder Hill at the same time.

Action: Chairman

11. 12 Road signage in Alarm Forest Area.

A member asked that appropriate signage such as 'Slow – Children Crossing' be placed in the Alarm Forest area near the Crèche. Residents are extremely concerned about the reckless driving in this area. Checks will also be made by Inspector Thomas to establish if the appropriate signage is placed near all Crèches' and Schools. Members gave their approval for the correct signage to be erected in all areas.

Action: Deputy Director/ Inspector Thomas

11. 13 Request for assistance from residents of Longwood Hangings.

The Chairman said he received a letter from residents of Longwood Hangings for assistance with their road.

This is an ENRC issue and will be considered as part of the District and Community work scheme.

Action: Chairman

11. 14 Community road at Trapp Cott.

An email was received from Councillor Thomas on behalf of residents of Trapp Cott.

This is an ENRC issue and will be considered as part of the District and Community work scheme.

Action: Chairman

11. 15 Cross cutting issues.

There were no cross cutting issues.

11. 16 Any other urgent business.

A request for permission to access the Main Road from the bottom part of his property was received from Mr George Stevens of Silver Oak. Inspector of Police said he had visited the area and he supported the application. However, members were unfamiliar with the area and suggested that they make a site visit.

Action: Chairman

Application from New Horizons.

A request was received from New Horizons to restrict vehicular traffic to the Wharf from 8 – 10pm on St Helena Day 2014 as well as reservation of car parks on the Wharf for erection of Stalls, novelty sports and parking of Floats.

Permission was granted.

Action: Secretary

Damage to Public roads.

Inspector informed members that he is pursuing the matter of tracked vehicles damaging public roads. He intends to have vehicles examined to see if they are in compliance of the law and if not he intends to take prosecution procedures.

A member said that the rules should be enforced and the public educated on the right procedures for operating these vehicles. The Chairman said that more publicity should be made by way of the newspapers and radio.

Action: Inspector Thomas

Cole's Building.

Inspector Thomas informed members that the area had been monitored and the situation has improved due to increased Police presence. It was agreed that double yellow lines would be painted across the entrance to protect the access the building.

Action: Deputy Director

Accident Statistics.

A member asked for an update and the Inspector said he will pursue the matter with the Statistics Office and try and provide figures for the last three years.

Action: Inspector Thomas

Road works schedule.

The Deputy Director updated members on the current roads work programme around the island. Road maintenance is disrupted by reactive work caused mostly by bad weather, however work is ongoing in various areas.

One Member asked to see information on how the budget for roads was being spent. Members were informed that this will be shown on the quarterly budget updates provided to the ENR Committee..

Double Yellow Lines near Thorpe's Timber Store.

Inspector Thomas to check if lines have been painted.

Action: Inspector Thomas

11. 17

Confirmation of date for next meeting - 12th May, 2014.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.15hrs.

Confirmed.....



Date.....

01 May 2014