Minutes of the 24th Meeting of the Highways Authority held in the Council Chamber on Thursday, 16th April 2015 @ 09.00am.

Present: Hon. Wilson Duncan - Chairman

Hon. Gavin Ellick - Deputy Chairman

Hon. Cyril George - Member Hon. Dr. Corinda Essex - Member Hon. Mrs Christine Scipio-O'Dean - Member

Mr Trevor Graham - Director, ENRD Mr Ben Hathway - Roads Manager

Inspector Jonathon Thomas - Police Representative

Mr Nicky Lawrence - Secretary

Invited: Constable Jonathon Clark - Police Representative

Apologies: Mr Derek Henry - Deputy Director – Overseas

There was a member of the Media present at the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and opened the meeting.

Open Agenda.

24.1 Matters arising from minutes of 19th March, 2015.

Speed limit for New Bridge Road.

The Roads Manager informed members that road markers are in place and the Chairman stated that a letter had been sent to Mr George informing him of the recommendations of the Highway Authority in consultation with the Police.

Permission of Highways for Road Closures or events.

The Inspector of Police informed members that the Roads Manager had been provided with a list of regular events that occur each year. This will enable him, in liaison with the Police, to prepare for any road closure or diversion that may be required. The Chairman asked that the Roads Manager inform him when he has requests for road closures.

A member expressed concern about a recent long term road closure where works had commenced and are now stopped with the road still being closed and causing inconvenience to residents of the area. It was explained that the contractor had requested the closure for a fixed period. The work stoppage was due to the required materials not being received on time. Therefore, the road cannot be opened at this time due to the excavations which cannot be filled until arrival of materials. The Roads Manager suggested that permissions for road closures should be for a defined period and a fee charged if the closure continues beyond this period.

Questions were raised about St James' Church with a Scaffold being in place and car parks cordoned off with no works ongoing at this time. The Inspector of Police told members that the cordoning off the car parks had been authorised by the Civil Engineer in the interest of Health and Safety. The Contractor will be approached for an update of the works at St James' due to concerns from the general public.

Action: Secretary

24.2 Double Yellow Lines at rear of Canister.

A member of Legislative Council had criticised the decision to paint Double Yellow Lines at the car park behind the Canister and asked that 'Highways consider their decision and have broken yellow lines'. A member asked who had given permission for this and was told that the original request was for DYL's to be painted behind the Disabled Park behind the Canister. This was in response to a complaint from a user of this Park that it was not possible to access the park due to it being blocked off by another vehicle.

A member asked that broken yellow lines in front of Greenland's be made into double yellow lines to prevent parking in this area. The Inspector of Police said that all motorists should have a 'common sense' approach to parking arrangements in Jamestown which would improve matters for others.

Questions were raised about parking and other traffic related issues throughout Jamestown. The Roads Manager said he is looking at all areas of Jamestown and making the necessary improvements where possible under the guidance of the Highway Authority.

A member suggested that the DYL's behind the Canister remain for a trial period of three months with the Roads Manager reviewing after this period.

Police representatives raised concerns about buses parking on the Grand Parade when they should be parking on the seafront and also asked if Barracks Square could be made a residents parking area only. This is to reduce the volume of vehicles parking in the area and allowing residents to move their vehicles of the street. The Chairman reminded members that the issue of parking in Jamestown will be discussed in the ENRC Meeting.

Members were informed that two members of Legislative Council are taking the lead on parking issues in Jamestown and they would be the appropriate people for the Police and the Highway Authority to discuss these issues with.

24.3 Any other urgent business.

There was nothing to discuss under any other urgent business.

Date for next meeting is set for 27th May 2015. This is due to the regular scheduled date for meeting falling on 21st May (St. Helena Day).

The Chairman informed members that he will be off island from the 11th May until the 25th June 2015. During this time meetings will be chaired by the Deputy Chairman, Mr Gavin Ellick.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 09.35am.

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