

EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the **TOWN PLAN COMMITTEE** held at 6.30pm on **MONDAY 20 JUNE 2016** at Evesham Town Hall, Market Place, Evesham

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr M S Goodge
Vice-Chairman Cllr C D Homer

Councillors: Cllr Booth,
Cllr F Kaler (Town Mayor), Cllr Mrs J E Sandalls,
Cllr C Tether

Non councillor committee members:
Mrs S Earley

Officers: Mrs C Chambers (Finance Officer)

Also present were Cllrs Mrs S Amor, M D Elliman, Mrs L Jakeman, Mrs J Johnson, J H Smith OBE, Mr D Trigger and Mrs J Hughes representing Alzheimer's UK and Mrs C Charlton WCC Health Coordinator

Councillor Goodge sat at Chair

1. Election of Chairman

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor M S Goodge be elected Committee Chairman for the municipal year. There being no further nominations, it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor M S Goodge be committee Chairman.

Councillor Goodge Took the Chair

2. Election of Vice-Chairman

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr C D Homer be elected committee Vice-Chairman for the municipal year. There being no further nominations, it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr C D Homer be committee Vice-Chairman.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr R S W Jones (Deputy Mayor), Mr G O'Donnell and Mr R Walker

4. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest (if any)

Cllrs F Kaler and M S Goodge declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute 6 as they were on the Evesham Dementia Committee.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting held 25 April 2016 including questions as to the progress of any items

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a copy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2016, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be adopted as a true and accurate record.

6. Making Evesham a Dementia Friendly Town

Mrs Jo Hughes the Side By Side Engagement & Involvement Office of the Alzheimer's Society addressed the Committee with a power point presentation. Mrs Hughes explained that Wychavon had a proportionately high number of people who had been diagnosed with dementia and Alzheimer's UK were undertaking projects in the district to help people with the disease.

She explained how this initiative to involved all the community and could help people with dementia live a full and rewarding life. It involved businesses, shops, local authorities, anybody who was interested, taking basic steps to ensure people with dementia were treated with the respect they deserved. This included training people to identify the signs of a person with dementia so they could deal with and help them accordingly should they wish. This in turn would encourage those with dementia to feel confident going out in the community, go shopping, join groups and not to be so isolated.

Following questions from Members it was **RESOLVED** to recommend that Evesham Town Council supports the initiative to make Evesham a Dementia Friendly Town.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Hughes for her presentation.

7. Financial Report

A financial report detailing expenditure by the committee in the current financial year was circulated and **NOTED**.

8. Project Working Group Reports

Transport group

Councillor Mr C Tether updated members on the progress of the Transport Group; the written report is attached at appendix A.

In response to a question about linking up bus service timetable with train service timetables, it was stated that this would be impossible as there so many different services.

NOTED

Anti Litter Group

Members considered the report compiled by G O'Donnell. The report is attached at appendix B.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend that the Council approve the expenditure of £200 from the Town Plan budget for the Anti Litter Schools Poster Competition.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council that it changes its policy on the purchase of litter and dog bins. Currently, the Town Council does not consider requests for litter or dog bins.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend that members are asked to submit where they believe additional litter bins should be placed.

9. Signage Presentation

Mr S Riley gave a comprehensive presentation of the findings of the signage review group. Copies of the slides were attached to the agenda.

The main item for consideration was the proposed Welcome to Evesham signage. Members of the working group had considered at length different signs to welcome people to Evesham and had recommended that they be replaced with picture signs. They asked the committee to consider the following:

- Should the existing welcome to Evesham signs be replaced picture signs
- If yes, should one picture or a selection of pictures be used
- Which 7 pictures should be used.

There was debate about the images and what information should be portrayed; however, the Chairman stated that this proposal was the result of significant work and consultation done over many months by the Signage Working Group.

It was agreed to refer the picture options to the Town Council so all members could be involved. It was therefore **RESOLVED** to place this item on the forthcoming Council agenda.

10. Matters of urgency for information only

There were no matters raised under this item.

NOTED

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

COUNCILLOR M S GOODGE
CHAIRMAN

Evesham Town Plan – Report of Transport Group, June 2016

This group is using the Priority Action areas set out in the Town Plan document

Priority Action	Progress
Consider changes to the layout of on-street parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County Council has now confirmed that changes to the angled parking spaces can be made without a change to the traffic order. The County Council appear to follow advice from the Department for Transport which appears not to be followed by other Councils, or none that can be found locally. • The County Council has not yet responded on the request to consider changing the duration of some High Street parking.
Commission an independent traffic study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worcestershire County Council has commenced collection of survey data. A Public Meeting has been arranged for June 28th promoted by the Vale of Evesham Civic Society where ideas for traffic systems in Evesham will be put forward which, we hope, will be subsequently tested by the Traffic Study. Worcestershire County Council will not be attending the meeting but will provide a short update note on where they are in relation to developing the model. • The County Council is planning to refresh our Local Transport Plan and will be consulting with the public in October. They will be keen to seek views from all key stakeholders and hopefully the Town Plan will want to feed into this process.
Develop an integrated transport hub with integrated ticketing arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We understand that a ticket machine is to be installed at Evesham railway station in the late Autumn of 2016. • GWR are moving towards a ticket system where tickets can be purchased on line and printed out at home. • A 'New Homes Bonus' application for a bus shelter in the High Street outside Evesham Station has been lodged with the
Establish a bus users group	<p>Public meeting held on 15/3/2016 at which it was agreed to go ahead and form a group. A further meeting was held with the Older People's Forum so that those unable to make the meeting could be involved. The Pershore Public Transport Group has subsequently agreed with proposal to merge with Evesham.</p>
Timetable information to be more accessible to passengers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An investigation carried out by Cllr Tether which showed that over half of Evesham's bus stops had no timetable information available and a quarter had only partial information. The results of the investigation were sent to the County Council. Bus Stop timetable boards are a County Council responsibility and

	<p>although officers have said that they intend to improve matters in Evesham soon, despite requests, nothing has yet been received in writing on what is to be done.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GWR has agreed to provide Railway Timetable posters in Town Centre locations – probably at Bus Station bus shelters if agreed by County Council.
Cycle Parking	The current cycle lockers at Evesham Station are to be replaced by six ‘Sheffield’ type hoops under a shelter.
Consultation on bus service changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of the group have met with representatives of First Bus services. Further changes are planned and a Bus Users Group would serve as a useful organisation to discuss responses to forthcoming changes and put forward ideas. • The group has now become aware of the recent changes to Stagecoach services with the replacement of the 28 & 28a by the 18 and X18. Once again, residents of Evesham were mostly unaware of the changes before they were implemented. • The group welcomes the move by the County Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board to carry out an investigation into the provision of bus services to report in November. The group intends to contribute to this investigation.

Cllr Colin Tether 10 June 2016

ANTI LITTER WORKING GROUP - PROGRESS REPORT (Priority TP Action : *Town Centre Appearance*)

- 1. Community Litter Picks** : ‘Conservative Future’ undertook a litter pick at three locations in Evesham, and Evesham is joining in with the “Great Litter Pick” to mark the queen’s birthday. This will involve 100 school children. This is being planned in partnership with Wychavon and High School.
- 2.** A request for the Town Council to purchase equipment was agreed, and the Clerk now holds all the requisite equipment for a multi-person litter pick. This should facilitate small local picks without having to seek equipment from Wychavon. A public call for volunteers ,with a view to forming a small “rapid response group” that can react to reports of serious littering or grot spots, has had a poor response.....with very little response from members. The group will continue to look for opportunities to recruit volunteers Campaign leaflets have been delivered with the Wychavon magazine. We still have leaflets available, and are considering how best to reach the public again. (Perhaps a stall on the market)
- 3. Business pledges** : We have signed up 97% of shops and businesses to pledge that they will keep their shop fronts free of litter. Certificates have been issued together with window stickers to all except Bridge St. Certificates for retailers in Bridge St are being printed, and will be distributed shortly.
- 4. Councillor engagement**. A letter to all councillors was sent, asking them to report areas in their ward that consistently suffer from littering, and where there may be a need for litter bins. Councillors were also asked to organise at least on community litter pick, and help with other initiatives. Response to date has been poor.
- 5. Schools poster competition**: A poster competition has been run for schools to submit anti-litter poster designs that can be used for Evesham. We have had over 80 entries from five schools, and a judging panel has decided on winners and runners up. Prizes, donated by Tesco and McDonalds, will be awarded for the winners in three age categories, and it is hoped that the winning posters can be reproduced and used for anti-litter promotion.

It is proposed that a small donation be made to the winning schools. The winning entries have come from two schools, therefore I would request that up to £200 be made available for that purpose.....with a view to donating £100 per school. If we are to print some of these wonderful posters for display in our campaign, further funding will be required.

- 6. Litter bin survey**: Wychavon are to undertake a litter bin survey, which, along with information from councillors, will help identify where there is a need for bins. Already, in walking the town and talking to retailers and public during the business pledge campaign, two bins have been relocated in Port St, and several others have been replaced. McDonalds have agreed to sponsor a bin in the Davies Rd area. It is hoped that the Town Council will fall in line with other Town & Parish Councils, and agree to purchase litter & dog bins where a need has been demonstrated.

As Wychavon’ s new contract for emptying bins is currently being drawn up, for commencement in 2017, it is vital that decisions on the number and locations of additional bins are made soon, in order that those additions can be incorporated into Wychavon’ s contract.

- 7. General promotion/publicity**: This is an important aspect of raising awareness and changing behaviour. We are adopting a gradual approach to this, with the business pledges and litter picks getting publicity, and soon the presentation of school poster prizes. The big challenge is to tackle the residential areas, and to do that we will need local champions as well as member support.

- 8. Community Warden input:** Wychavon's Community Wardens are empowered to give on the spot fines, as well as take prosecution action against identified fly tippers. We are liaising closely with Wychavon on these issues.
- 9. Public Realm:** Work is being undertaken under the auspices of the Tourism working group, which addresses much of the public realm concerns. This includes street furniture and name signs.
- 10. Evesham Railway Station:** Following concerns raised at the group meetings about the general appearance and littering issues around the railway station, members of the group met with the Station Manager, and toured the grounds. There is much potential to make this area an attractive welcome for passengers, both visitors and locals. A number of potential improvements were identified, which will require volunteer effort in partnership with Network Rail.

The Station Manager has undertaken to apply for some Network Rail Community funding, and it is hoped to set up a "Friends of Evesham" group (title under discussion !) to co-ordinate effort and attract volunteers.

Gerry O'Donnell
June 2016