

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Highways and Infrastructure Committee

**Monday, 23rd February 2009 at 7.00 p.m.
in the Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Kendal**

PRESENT Councillors R. Boden (Chairman), J Bateson, P. Bramham, T. Clare, and M. Simpson.

APOLOGIES Councillors K. Bracey and M. Radice.

OFFICERS Liz Richardson (Town Clerk), Margaret Graham (Committee Clerk).

580/08/09 MINUTES OF 10TH NOVEMBER 2008

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28 July 2008 be approved as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

581/08/09 Kendal Riverside Leisure Route (Minute 348/08/09)

Councillor Clare reported that he had raised this issue with Nick Raymond of Cumbria County Council at a recent meeting of the Local Area Committee. Nick Raymond was supposed to submit a planning application to SLDC. In respect of the link to Gooseholme, the Canal Cycleway should have started being resurfaced (today).

582/08/09 Memorial Seat for the late Councillor Wilson (Minute 359/08/09)

It was suggested that the memorial seat might be situated at the bus station, as was an alternative of siting it outside the Westmorland Shopping Centre (now the main bus stop). The exact location needed to be agreed. The question of a permanent memorial to the late Councillor Charles Batteson was also raised.

583/08/09 Highway Stewards System / Parish Paths Initiative (Minute 350/08/09)

Following on from Nick Raymond's report to Council on 5th January 2009, it was suggested that he should be asked for a report of the work that had been done in Kendal, and that a copy of the request letter should be sent to Councillor Geoff Cook (as Chairman of the Local Area Committee).

584/08/09 Street Furniture (Minute 354/08/09)

It was reported that, at a recent presentation to Management Committee by the Kendal Futures Board, it had been suggested that Street Furniture was an area where the Town Council might wish to become proactive.

585/08/09 Lighting on MUGA Pitches (Minute 357/08/09)

It was noted that planning applications had been submitted for lighting on Multi-Use Games Pitches at Hallgarth and Sandylands.

586/08/09 BUS SEATS AND BUS SHELTERS

The Chairman reminded the Committee that the provision of bus shelters and seats is one of the Town Council's direct powers, if need (and priorities) can be identified – possibly through a user survey/resident consultation. There was also the issue of a standard design for shelters and seats, and the level of costs involved. Different styles and prices could be ascertained from manufacturers' catalogues.

Several sites for bus shelters and/or seats were discussed, and comments made on particular sites by Ward Members, including:

Whinfell Drive, Sandylands	Ward Member says this stop is well used by elderly residents. (Existing bus shelter is on wrong side of road since the bus route was changed)
Blackhall Road (South Bound)	The Town Clerk reported that the existing shelters were expensive; matching them would be outside the Town Council's budget
Westmorland Shopping Centre	Already has shelter/seats in proximity. Not a priority
Castle Green Close/Road	Well used by elderly residents
Grassed area opposite Kirkbie Kendal School	Potential for vandalism, youths gathering – not a "priority site"
Entrance to Oxenholme Railway Station	Seek support from Network Rail/Virgin?
Lingmoor Rise, Heron Hill (Shelter)	Ward Member concerned re vandalism. Check if there is a seat there already
Opposite Community Centre, Hallgarth and Request stop at bottom of Garth Brow, Hallgarth	Ward Member says both are well used by elderly passengers
Westmorland General Hospital (Shelter)	Mainly used by people coming from/returning to Barrow bus route & Kirkby Lonsdale. Query re benefit to Kendal residents.
Asda/Burton Road	There is already a seat here
Morrisons, Queen Katherine Ave	Minimal protection from the elements exists

It was accepted that, at some locations, there might be the potential for vandalism and that seats/shelters might become a focal point for youths gathering. It would depend whether the need for facilities at a particular site outweighed the potential for damage etc, and it was suggested that the Police might be consulted on any proposed sites. Councillor Veevers felt that the Town Council should not be deterred from providing facilities because of potential vandalism – a problem which could be addressed if it arose.

Members discussed the possibility of obtaining grant funding (up to £3,000) from Cumbria County Council towards the cost of purchase and installation of bus shelters - with the Town Council picking up the maintenance and insurance costs. However, as this was part of the Local Transport Plan, why did the County not meet running/maintenance costs? Councillor Simpson suggested that shelters could be provided on a “we (Town Council) buy, you (Cumbria County Council) maintain” basis, as he felt that ongoing maintenance could be a problem.

It was pointed out that public transport services in the town are poor. Currently, town bus services end at around 6.00 p.m., and there is no Sunday service. Councillor Clare cautioned that continuing bus services in the town could not be guaranteed. He suggested that Cumbria County Council might be invited to put up a total package, and that the provision of bus shelters/seats should be left in abeyance until the situation was clearer. He felt there was potential to support the Kendal Futures Board with a contribution towards provision, and that KFB could be asked to indicate style/location and provide a priority list.

It was felt that, should the Town Council decide to initiate a programme of provision, this should be based initially on priority areas where bus stops were heavily used by elderly residents, e.g. Sandylands, Castle Green Close/Road, Hallgarth Community Centre and Garth Brow, and Lingmoor Rise.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk write to Cumbria County Council seeking clarification on the issues raised.

587/08/09 SPEED ADVISORY SIGNS

It was felt that advice should be sought from the Police (Sergeant Bill Nolan) on a suitable design for the sign, and identifying hot spots. The Town Clerk reported that Cumbria County Council permission was needed to fix the sign to lampposts. She had written to Cumbria County Council but no response had been received. It was suggested that she write to Councillor Geoff Cook as Chairman of the Local Area Committee to progress this.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be requested to contact the Chairman of the Local Area Committee about permission to fix the sign to lampposts.

MATTERS TO CONSIDER**588/08/09 Maude Street Junction**

Councillor John Veevers suggested that traffic use, taking account of the medical centre and new hotel traffic, should be re-modelled on the basis of a mini roundabout as a solution to existing and future problems.

Councillor Beavan reminded Members that, should New Road close to free parking in the future, Marks & Spencer would become a major car parking area.

RESOLVED that the Chairman be requested to write to Cumbria County Council to ascertain their views and intentions on the future traffic management of this area.

590/08/09 Appleby Road/Shap Road Junction

It was felt that the congestion at this junction would be helped if the pedestrian crossing on Longpool was more sensitive to traffic needs.

591/08/09 K Village Development – Riverside Footpath

John Veevers said he had visited the site and could not believe the volume of water on the footpath. A more permanent, practical solution to the problem was needed. He was concerned about the quality of water going into the river, and suggested that the Environment Agency should be approached.

Members were concerned that the footpath should be reinstated as a dedicated public footpath.

The question was also asked if it was part of the development agreement to put in lights at the junction of Parkside Road and Lound Road.

RESOLVED that the Chairman be asked to write to Mrs Mandy Dixon at K Village, South Lakeland District Council and the Environment Agency on these issues.

592/08/09 Beezon Road (between Wildman Street and Sandes Avenue)

Councillor Veevers pointed out that obstruction was being caused to traffic because of unloading for the development site at Beezon Road. Councillor Clare suggested that Nick Raymond be advised of the impact on traffic at that end of the town, and also asked about a "Yellow Box" at the junction of Sandes Avenue and Blackhall Road.

RESOLVED that the Chairman be asked to contact Nick Raymond about the traffic problems at these locations.

WARD ISSUES**593/08/09 Scroggs Woods (Minute 355/08/09)**

Councillor Clare said that he would mention the issue of the turning circle to Tony Naylor at SLDC

594A/08/09 Castle Pass Underpass (Minute 356/08/09)

This issue was still with Nick Pearson, SLDC.

594B/08/09 Oxenholme Footpath

Councillor Clare reported that he written to BTVC about the work on the footpath. He had not yet received a reply and would chase it up.

595/08/09 Coach Parking, Burton Road

It was reported that complaints had been received that buses parked on the Staintons Garage site at Burton Road were obstructing traffic visibility. The implication was that buses were parked in such a way as to prevent cars getting on to the Post Office site. This was affecting Rinkfield traffic. It was decided to ask Staintons if they could help with the problem by installing movable bollards; and also if they intended to have some provision (e.g. bus shelter/seat) at the Leisure Centre for pick-up of passengers.

RESOLVED that the Chairman be asked to write to Staintons.

596/08/09 OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor John Bateson reported on the Community Rail Partnership.

Improvements had taken place / were underway at Kendal Railway Station including new seats, signage and footpath surfacing. Fencing was still to be done.

The car parking at Oxenholme Railway Station south end was in progress. This might be problematic for seating because of the access to the car park. Virgin were not prepared to do anything about the waiting room on the Windermere side.

Councillor Clare asked if Rail Line Users were aware of the car park charging policy, and asked Councillor Bateson to raise this.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

597/08/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be asked to confirm the date for the next meeting, in three months time.

The meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Minute	Subject	Information / Resolution / Recommendation	
586	Bus Seats and Bus Shelters	Res	Town Clerk to write to Cumbria County Council seeking clarification on issues raised.
587	Speed Advisory Signs	Res	Town Clerk to contact Chairman of Local Area Committee about permission to fix the sign to lampposts
588	Maude Street Junction	Res	Chairman to write to Cumbria County Council to ascertain views and intentions on future traffic management
591	K Village Riverside Footpath	Res	Chairman to write to Mrs Mandy Dixon at K Village, South Lakeland District Council and Environment Agency
592	Beezon Road	Res	Chairman to contact Nick Raymond about traffic problems between Wildman Street and Sandes Avenue
593	Scroggs Wood	Info	Councillor Clare to mention issue of turning circle to Tony Naylor, SLDC
594C	Oxenholme Footpath	Info	Councillor Clare to chase up response from BTVC
595	Coach Parking, Burton Road	Res	Chairman to write to Staintons
597	Date of next meeting	Info	Town Clerk to confirm date