

## SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Industry Commerce Transportation and Tourism Committee held at the Guildhall on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 7:00pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors D Yates (Chairman), R Bickford, A Killeya, M Killeya, C Oakes, P Clements

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr W Cotton (Chamber of Commerce)  
Mr P Dickerson (Chamber of Commerce)  
Mrs D Ashton (Temporary Town Clerk)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor B Reid, R Austin, J Ellison, D Holley

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#### **38/10/11      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Bickford, A Killeya and M Killeya declared a personal and prejudicial interest in items relating to rail services as they are members of SRUG.

Councillors Bickford and Yates declared a personal interest in any items relating to the Community Interest Company as they are members.

#### **39/10/11      BUSES**

- (a) (i) A reply has now been received from First Devon and Cornwall setting out a pricing for 33/33A bus service with regard to extending the current daily timetable and providing a Saturday service.

It also explained that the cost to the company associated with providing these additions to the current service would be high as an extra vehicle and staff would need to be sourced.

- (ii) With regard to the Saltash Dayrider ticket, First Devon and Cornwall have discussed the possibility but feel they have a suitable arrangement for passengers with their standard single and return fare and that a Saltash Day Rider ticket would need to be priced higher than a standard return as a result of the multi journey options.

Members felt that there is a need for this type of ticket for the many types of potential user e.g. students as consequence of its proximity to Plymouth.

Members **NOTED** the reply. Cllr D Yates agreed to contact First Devon and Cornwall to further discuss the Day Rider ticket but felt that the extension of the 33/33A service was not financially viable.

- (b) Following the bus stop move on St Stephens Road, Cllr M Killeya spoke to the resident that had complained. The resident had been notified as part of the full public consultation and did accept the valid reasons behind the bus stop move.

- (c) With regard to the bus bays project in Fore Street, a response from Cornwall Council is still being awaited.

Cllr Yates updated members on the 26 and 43A Plymouth City Bus services. His first impressions were that the 43A was a good replacement service. He felt that this wasn't a sudden change and probably well thought out.

Cllr Oakes suggested that the new service may help to reduce congestion in Fore Street.

Members felt full comparison of the 26 and 43A services should be done including members looking to see how it affected their respective wards.

Cllr Yates said he would be happy to contact Plymouth City Bus and arrange for them to come and speak to the committee.

Cllr Bickford spoke of the 'PlusBus' scheme that was a multi-operator scheme that allowed for unlimited bus travel for a small extra charge on top a paid train fare. He was trying to add Saltash to the 'PlusBus' zone – again due to Plymouth being so close to town.

**40/10/11**      **INDUSTRIAL ESTATES**

- (a) Quotations for a new sign for Avery Way are still being awaited.
- (b) Cllr Yates brought the matter of the road works near Lidl to the attention of the committee. The reasons for the works are still unknown and members agreed that clarification should be sought from Cornwall Council.

**41/10/11**      **SHOPS IN FORE STREET**

Cllr Yates updated members that several local community groups may be interested in taking over shop windows if more became available. This is part of a project to maintain the vibrancy and vitality of the town despite the sad loss of several businesses from the main shopping area during the poor recent economic climate.

Members spoke of the former British Gas showroom and that it needs tidying up before it is suitable for any future display use and that volunteers are required. Members agreed to set a time of 12pm for this after the next 'Meet the People' on Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

Members felt that there should be a balance between ensuring the town looks buoyant and vibrant, and making sure the town is a place for new business to set-up. Members agreed that the current project went towards doing both these.

Members discussed that display cannot be of a commercial nature as they would then be subject to business rates and other commercial payments and processes.

Members also spoke of other community groups that had approached them directly and felt that there needs to be a formal process to assess the requests for shop window access.

Members suggested setting up a working party to address the need for a formal application process and how the Town Council would approach trying to fill empty shop windows. It was **AGREED** that the Mayor, Chair of ICTT, Cllr Bickford and the Clerk should have the delegated power to make a collective on this on behalf of Council.

42/10/11

### **TOURISM**

- (a) The caretakers were due to meet with Cosgrove Construction to investigate the best way of removing the broken finger signs from the posts. Members asked if the Clerk would check if the meeting had taken place and set-up a meeting before the next ICTT Committee meeting if necessary.
- (b) Cllr Bickford updated members that he had successfully placed information on a car park board with pins and will do the same for the rest of the car park boards.

Cllr Yates recently updated members on an e-mail from Cornwall Council (CC) regarding a policy from the CC Parking Policy Panel that all charged car parks are to have information boards resigned with CC livery and all other signage to be removed.

Cllr Holley updated members further on that he had spoken to various individuals at CC and had explained to them that the Town Council had undergone a long consultation with the local authority at the time and had obtained permission to do this. A CC officer is now to investigate why CC have issued this e-mail to the Town Council now.

Members **NOTED** the e-mail from CC and agreed that Cllr Holley should liaise and update Cllr Yates and the Town Clerk on this matter.

Cllr Holley also updated members on a CC Parking Policy Panel he attended recently in his capacity as a CC Cllr as he is trying to get Torpoint/Saltash categorised in new way due to the effect that Plymouth, as a city, has on these two nearby towns.

- (c) Members were updated that blue tack appears to be successful for keeping information in place in the Town Council's notice boards.

Members agreed that the subject of the notice boards is for the Civic Amenities Committee to consider (their general improvement, how notices are posted, policy on commercial and non-commercial notices etc). Members asked if the caretakers could indicate which notice boards require more urgent attention than others for the Civic Amenities Committee.

- (d) Cllr Yates updated members on a letter received from Tamar Cruising who are in the process of reviewing their operation on the River Tamar and would like to seek the Town Council's views on the matter. Members **NOTED** the letter and asked the Clerk to convey to Tamar Cruising that the Town Council would welcome their interest and a service operating from Saltash that offers a greater range of destinations.
- (e) With regard to holding a similar event in Saltash to the Looe 'Festival by the Sea', Cllr Yates felt that it was not suited here as Saltash does not have the formal fishing industry or heritage that Looe has.
- (f) Cllr Yates updated members on a recently received e-mail that indicated that Visit Cornwall is undergoing a review of its Tourism Services and may look to reduce funding of Tourist Information Centres (TICs). Members **NOTED** the e-mail and Cllr Hooper advised members that she is due to attend a meeting where a representative of Visit Cornwall will be present and may be able to seek further information.

Members discussed the fact that the concentration of TICs were located at the end of the Cornish Peninsula and that perhaps there should be a more even spread including having a TIC in this area. Members made the point that Saltash is a Tourist Information Point and would welcome any funding that would support a Saltash TIC.

- (g) Cllr Yates updated members that an invitation had been received to attend a conference entitled 'A Historic Core Zone – the solution to traffic management in a Historic Town?' Unfortunately, the information had been received after the event. Members **NOTED** the information with Cllr Yates offering to investigate further to see if any useful information could be obtained.
- (h) Cllr Yates updated members on an e-mail received from an individual in Canada who had requested a guide for his visit to Saltash to film and take photographs of the town. It is unknown whether the purpose of the visit is purely as a tourist or for a commercial project. Members **NOTED** the e-mail and agreed to ask a member of the community who may be able to assist with this.

Members also spoke of the information packs that are given to estate agents to give to those new in the area. New packs have been made up and just need to check that local estate agents have enough and that they are being distributed. Members agreed that Cllr Reid may be best placed to do this. Members asked if the Clerk could check to see if the office had a list of contacts.

With regard to the 'Making Saltash Greener' event, members were updated that there was ongoing liaison with local business so that as many as possible took part in the late closing time (7pm) which will help business take advantage of the increased footfall in town due to this event – 27 retailers have now signed up.

43/10/11

**FEEDBACK FROM HERITAGE MEETING**

Cllr Hooper is involved with this along with a number of other Cllrs and representatives of community organisations. An issue of concern is a shortage of storage space.

Members suggested that perhaps an empty shop may be an interim solution. The search for more space will be taken forward by a working group under Cllr Hooper.

44/10/11

**FOOTBRIDGE CONSULTATION**

Cllr Clements updated members on the consultation that found overwhelming support for the footbridge proposal. However, an e-mail from Enterprise Mouchel, the managing contractor for the Highways Agency of the trunks roads in Devon and Cornwall west of Exeter, informed that current Government spending restrictions means that funding is unlikely to be forthcoming in the near future. Members **NOTED** this e-mail.

Cllr Holley suggested that the Town Council should make contact the local MP with regard to this. Members agreed that Cllr Yates should undertake this.

Cllr Holley also informed members of a further complication to this. Negotiations between the Highways agency and Cornwall Council are taking place for Cornwall Council to take over responsibility of trunks roads if they can receive funding to do this.

45/10/11

**REMOVAL OF LITTER BIN IN FORE STREET**

The damaged bin was removed some time ago and a new one has been in place for over two weeks now.

46/10/11

**FLY POSTING**

A reply from Cornwall Council indicates that if fly-posters are on Town Council property etc that the Town Council are responsible for, they are happy for the Town Council to take action to remove it. They are also happy for a Town Council member or employee to remove fly-posters on Cornwall Council property if it is seen within the Saltash locality. Cornwall Council advises to not remove fly-posters if they are private property. They also advise to leave if the posters look official – they advise to contact them first.

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair of ICTT, be delegated to ask the caretakers to remove posters that do not have permission. Cllrs can inform or offer to take down signage if they happen to be near it.

47/10/11

**DAMAGE TO MILESTONE**

Cllr Clements updated members on an e-mail received from Enterprise Mouchel regarding the Milestone. The damaged stone has been taken in to their safe care for repair. They have agreed with Cornwall Council that to avoid future damage, it shall then be replaced in a location 5m from its original spot. Members **NOTED** this e-mail.

**48/10/11**      **SALTASH STATION & RAIL SERVICES**

Cllr Bickford updated members that he should receive quotes shortly. He will distribute them to members.

Cllr Bickford updated members on the information points on platforms. He also informed members that there is a meeting in Paddington with Western Services with regard to trying to obtain a wider service in the winter.

It was at this point that members **RESOLVED** that the press/public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 as having regard to the confidential nature of the business relating the former station which was to be discussed under this agenda item.

Cllr A Killeya briefed of a communication that he had received from Mr Speed and the subsequent reply he had sent to him.

With regard to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, it was **RESOLVED** that the public and press be re-admitted to the meeting.

**49/10/11**      **PETROL PRICES IN SALTASH**

Cllr Bickford reported that Cllr Ellison is still awaiting a reply.

**50/10/11**      **TAMAR TAG**

Members were updated on a letter received recently from the Saltash and Torpoint Joint Ferry Committee with regard to the facilities for Tamar Tag users. A temporary office had been set-up earlier in the year to deal with the increase of applications and clear the backlog. The public waiting time for tags is now down to a week. Members **NOTED** this letter.

Cllrs Austin and Holley are still trying to encourage extending the office opening hours as the application/renewal process still requires users to visit the office in person. There is a public demand also to renew by phone and by post. Tamar Tags in their letter do state that a large number of applications are received via the post. There is no online application process as yet but forms may be downloaded from their website and posted.

**51/10/11**      **CORNWALL COUNCILLORS' COMMUNITY GRANT**

Cllr Yates asked members for any suggestions.

**52/10/11**      **PARKING**

- (a) There have been no significant issues in Fore Street with regard to the correct re-painting of yellow lines.

Members discussed whether double yellow lines near post office should be renewed. The expired lines have meant cars parking in that area which

has led to delivery lorries finding elsewhere to unload which has caused a degree of congestion. Cornwall Council has agreed to enforce areas that the Town Council requests. Cllr Yates said that Cornwall Council had experienced difficulties in the recruitment of more Civil Enforcement Officers.

- (b) Cllr Holley informed members that negotiations between the Highways agency and Cornwall Council are taking place for Cornwall Council to take over responsibility of trunks roads if they can receive funding to do this.

Cllr Holley also presented information on the income received through Saltash's car parks as he is trying to obtain a special grouping for Saltash due to its proximity to a large city.

- (c) Cllr Yates updated members on a letter from Cornwall Council about the trailer parking near Ashtorre:

There is no further action they can take to alter the current temporary signage to something more permanent and there is no legal order that can give "preference" to any type of vehicle here as there is with other trailer parking. With the current economic climate, it is also unlikely there will be any funds other than for routine signage maintenance.

Cllr Yates informed members that Cornwall Council is happy to provide quotes to the Town Council if we wish to obtain and fund a more permanent advisory sign and that as the current signage is not enforceable, it has now been removed.

Members **NOTED** this letter and felt that that if any advisory signage wasn't going to be enforceable then it wasn't worth paying for new permanent signage. Members asked if the Clerk could clarify whether Cornwall Council would enforce restrictions if appropriately worded signage was erected.

Members felt that the inappropriate parking in the trailer parking end of Jubilee End that has 12hr signage was being dealt with well though Cornwall Council is not enforcing any parking restrictions associated with the floating pontoon.

**53/10/11**      **BRUNEL PUB**

As no firm information is forthcoming on this matter, members agreed that this should not be an agenda item until such time as further information is received.

**54/10/11**      **PRESS RELEASES**

Members agreed that as Chair of ICTT, Cllr Yates should undertake a press release with regard to:

- The Derriford Bus Service. Saltash Town Council worked hard with the community and were successful.
- Footbridge update.

**55/10/11**      **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at 7pm.

Rising at 9.08pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_  
5<sup>th</sup> August 2010