

FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Faringdon Area Traffic Advisory Committee held on Friday, 24 June 2016 at 9.30 am in the Old Town Hall, Market Place, Faringdon

PRESENT: C/Cllr Judith Heathcoat, Chairman
C/Cllr Yvonne Constance
D/Cllr Roger Cox
T/Cllr David Barron
David Williams, Magistrate
Chris Hulme, Thames Valley Police
Laura Hutchins Payne, OCC
Environment & Economy, Vale
Area Steward

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 member of public
Hilary Sherman, Deputy Town Clerk

	ACTIONS
<p>1. Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from T/Cllr Andrew Marsden and Andy Hayter, Faringdon Chamber of Commerce.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the Last Meeting: 4 March 2016 The Minutes were AGREED and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising (<i>following approval of the Minutes, the Chairman moved this agenda item regarding Matters Arising forward on the agenda so that it could be discussed at this stage of the meeting.</i>)</p> <p>It was NOTED that Laura would report later in this meeting on the actions that had been delegated to her at the previous meeting.</p> <p><i>Parking in the Market Place:</i> Chris Hulme reported that he had spoken to the Acting Inspector, Ryan James, concerning this matter for the Neighbourhood Team and had been advised they would do what they could but in terms of the neighbourhood priorities, parking was low down on the list.</p>	

<p><i>Parking in Canada Lane near school:</i> It was NOTED there was still an issue with parking, particularly at school opening and closing times and that an occasional police presence would help to alleviate this problem.</p> <p>The Chairman wished to emphasize that even occasional visits by a PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) to both the above areas would help to address problems.</p> <p><i>Min 5, Utilities:</i> It was NOTED that utilities are responsible for damage due to work being carried out by them but that it was sometimes difficult to progress bonds and on some occasions involved court proceedings.</p>	
<p><i>Verges:</i> Oxfordshire County Council has statutory responsibility for keeping sightlines clear on road verges. C/Cllr Judith Heathcoat reported that this work is currently being carried out. Junction splays are the most important from a safety point of view but it was also important that pavements are kept clear of overgrown grass/vegetation so that people are able to walk along them safely.</p>	
<p>4. Declarations of Interest There were none.</p>	
<p>5. Election of Chairman C/Cllr Judith Heathcoat was proposed by the Mayor of Faringdon, T/Cllr Mike Wise, seconded by David Williams, Magistrate. There being no other nominations, C/Cllr Judith Heathcoat was elected Chairman.</p>	
<p>6. Election of Deputy Chairman D/Cllr Roger Cox was proposed by D/Cllr Robert Sharp, seconded by C/Cllr Yvonne Constance. There being no other nominations, D/Cllr Roger Cox was elected Deputy Chairman.</p>	
<p>7. Public Speaking Time Gene Webb, a local resident, tabled a question, as follows:</p> <p><i>On-Street Parking, Faringdon:</i> <i>The Faringdon Parking Study commissioned by VWHDC in 2015 reviewed all the Faringdon Traffic Orders and inspected the lines and signs. It reports that in a number of streets, lines and markings needed to be refreshed and signage added for them to be enforceable. Streets included are Marlborough Street, Market Square, Southampton Street, Park Road, Pulling Close, Cornmarket. Please let me know which organisation</i></p>	

<p><i>has the statutory responsibility for on-going review and maintenance of TROs. Please arrange for the relevant council to carry out the work that is needed to re-establish TROs to an enforceable state.</i></p> <p>The Chairman advised that she and Laura Hutchins Payne would look into the matter. Once relevant information had been obtained she would write to Gene Webb with a copy to all members of the committee.</p>	<p>JH/LH</p>
<p>8. County Council Highways Officer's Report</p> <p><i>Min 5(b, Coxwell Road, Pinch Point outside Coxwell Gardens:</i> Laura had advised that although the road did narrow at this point, it was not significant enough to merit a sign. Signs would not normally be needed if the narrowing did not result in the loss of a lane. D/Cllr Cox reported that there are school lights opposite the entrance into Coxwell Gardens which are not in operation. If these were operational, people might be encouraged to slow down. Laura would look into this.</p> <p><i>Min 5(c), Section 154:</i> Laura had provided details of Section 154 which refers to landowners being required to remove or reduce vegetation which overhangs or is a danger to the public highway;</p> <p><i>School Flashing Amber Lights near Faringdon Community College:</i> Laura advised that Oxfordshire County Council did have funds/responsibility for such lights but the contract OCC had with SSEC had terminated at the end of March so this work would be more difficult to undertake until a replacement contractor had been found. If the college funded this, and OCC Traffic approved the use and location, then Street Lighting would normally get involved in arranging. However, if the College or Town Council felt that such lights were required and if either body was able to fund the maintenance, installation of the lights could be progressed. Hilary to raise matter with Town Council;</p> <p><i>Town Council website:</i> Hilary reported that a new section on highways information had been included on the Town Council's website. It was agreed that the quarterly newsletter produced by Laura would be publicised on the website as this would meet the needs of FAQs;</p> <p>Laura tabled the latest highway maintenance newsletter (May, June, July 2016) which outlined details of the following:</p>	<p>LH</p> <p>HS</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass Cutting in Oxfordshire • Traffic Calming • Resilient Community Fund • Out of Hours and Incident Response • Highway Works as of 8 June 2016 <p><i>Oxfordshire Together:</i> C/Cllr Yvonne Constance wished the minutes to record her views that this project had been a failure and had been badly administered, particularly in her division. She stated that the message to parish councils encouraging them to pay for services in their parish had not been successful. It was NOTED however that due to the timings, parish councils had not been able to include these costs when setting precepts for the current financial year.</p> <p>Laura advised that due to staff changes, she was now the contact for any queries relating to Oxfordshire Together.</p> <p>David Williams queried whether there had been any change in the pattern of involvement or any variation in the quality of the work and asked for any feedback.</p> <p><i>A420/A417 Stanford Road Roundabout:</i> The Chairman raised her concern with Laura regarding the bad visibility on this roundabout due to the long grass which needed cutting urgently. Laura agreed to investigate.</p>	<p>LH</p> <p>LH</p>
<p>9. District Traffic Matters D/Cllr reported that he had met with the Town Team yesterday to look at ways of attracting people into the town.</p>	
<p>10. Any Other Business T/Cllr Barron stated that there was an illegal sign at the entrance to the town. Laura advised that he should report this on Fixmystreet at www.fixmystreet.com/reports/Oxfordshire asking that the sign be removed.</p> <p>C/Cllr Constance queried whose responsibility it was to remove vehicles that have been involved in a crash. Chris Hulme stated that the police would in the first instance call Highways to clear away the debris from the road and normally District Council would remove other rubbish.</p>	<p>DB</p>

11. Proposed Future Meeting Dates

The following meeting dates were AGREED:

Friday, 16 September 2016 at 0930 hrs

Friday, 16 December 2016 at 0930 hrs

Friday, 23 June 2017 at 0930 hrs (AGM)

DRAFT