Minutes of a Meeting of the Traffic Working Group

held electronically using the Zoom software

on Tuesday, 17th November, 2020 at 6:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor T. J. Davies)

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Miss K. F. Gray)

Councillors: A. E. Byrne R. D. Gray

County Councillor Mrs V. M. Stoddart (Hubberston Ward)

Ms C. Williams, Traffic and Road Safety Officer, Pembrokeshire County Council

Mr. A. Winstone, Hubberston resident

Mrs M. L. Galliford, Town Clerk / Financial Officer

Ms F. K. Galliford, Town Council Secretary

283. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P. Coe, W. D. Elliott BA QTS, E. R. Harries, Mrs Y. G. Southwell, and R. Williams.

284. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

285. TO DISCUSS SPEEDING ON THE DALE ROAD, HUBBERSTON:

The Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies, asked County Councillor Mrs V. M. Stoddart for her thoughts on the traffic situation on the Dale Road.

Councillor Mrs Stoddart said that, as everyone present was aware, there has been a long standing problem with excess speeding on the Dale Road. The concern has been exacerbated since the building of Persimmon Estate as families with children live on the estate and walk to school.

A particular problem seems to be people coming in from Herbrandston who are not obeying the speed limit. She read out data provided by the Speedwatch Group which stated the number of vehicles speeding on the Dale Road.

She referred to the vehicle activated sign in Neyland which had been purchased by Neyland Town Council.

A Member said that although he agreed there was a problem at the Dale Road, there were other areas in the vicinity that caused concern.

The Mayor stated that there were traffic problems throughout the town.

Ms Williams said that the Pembrokeshire County Council has in the past funded these signs but does not do it any longer. The Pembrokeshire County Council encourages local communities to raise funds and finance them themselves. There is a potential source of funding – The Community Works Fund. She said that a number of Community Councils have been successful at securing funding via this route eg Robeston Wathen, Bethesda, Gelli, and Marloes, some of which are purchasing speed awareness signs. In addition Burton Community Council will shortly be taking delivery of a solar powered unit.

Ms Williams said that the Police and Speed Watch Group have to be satisfied that there is evidence of excessive speeds in any area before any traffic measures are adopted.

Ms Williams said that signs are used to educate drivers – a powerful message with an image directed on a particular motorist.

She referred to two types of signs – one that displays the speed the vehicle is travelling and the other shows the speed limit (red is highlighted if the speed is exceeded).

The Mayor said that the first type of sign might be misused by motorists using it as a target to exceed the speed limit and Ms Williams agreed. The Mayor asked about solar powered units and Ms Williams replied that it would be more economical to purchase these as opposed to metered ones attached to a lamppost.

Mr. Winstone, a local resident, was asked for his opinion. He said that he did not think that signs would help but suggested speed bumps or a chicane.

Ms Williams said that she would explore the different traffic calming methods and would forward an email regarding Speed indicator signs to Members for their information.

The Mayor concluded the meeting by thanking everybody for attending. He said that traffic signs could be installed in other areas of the town where speeding was a concern.

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