Minutes of the Sustainable Travel Committee meeting held Via ZOOM on 11th February 2021 at 10am

DATE & TIME	11 th February 2021 at 10am
PLACE	Via Zoom
CHAIR	Cllr Bradbury
PRESENT	Cllrs Bradbury, Goldsmith, Jeans, Rowan-Robinson, Jordan,
	Also, SCC officer Peter Sparrow
	Also, Town Clerk, ESC Ward Cllr Beavan, PCSO, Trustee Windell (Common Trust)
	and 6 members of the public

Subject	Comments
Apologies for absence	Apologies from SCC WARD Cllr Ladd.
Declarations of Interest	 a) To receive any declarations of Personal Interest regarding the agenda. Nil b) To receive any declarations of Pecuniary Interest regarding the agenda. Nil c) To receive any request for dispensations regarding the agenda. Nil
Minutes of last meeting	To note the minutes of the previous meeting.
Public session	Comments from the public.
	A member of the public expressed concerns at the potential for charging for parking and the effect that this might have on holiday makers, residents and employees. A query was raised as to how the parking might be enforced.
	Cllr Bradbury advised that these are all considerations for the cttee and will form part of the thought process.
Electric charging	No update
<u>points</u>	Capital costs involved - Simon Tobin is also looking into the costs for the Millennium Trust car parking area.
Highways matters <u>-</u>	Update from SCC on. a) Holistic traffic review including 20 mph feasibility study throughout the parish – The Town Clerk advised members that Cllr Ladd had been provided with the costs of the review which would be circa £10k. SCC Cllr Ladd has offered to fund half of these costs from his budget and asked that STC cover the other half. Discussion regarding this – The PCSO advised that during his time in Southwold there was very little demand for any speeding enforcement action being required as most roads self-regulate due to the number of cars on them. The potential for exceeding 30mph is on wider roads such as Pier Ave and sometimes the High Street, and the PCSO asked whether this would be for all roads and be all year round. SCC officer advised that it would need to be all year to prevent confusion.

Query was raised as to whether the town would fit the criteria and what the benefit would be if there are few present issues. Query was raised as to whether it would be worth the money.

PCSO suggested that for the occasional issues Community Speed watch might be an option which would be cheaper and more immediate to provide

Cllr Rowan- Robinson advised that it is not possible to go over 20mph in most of the town apart from the areas mentioned above and sometimes Station Road and Mights Road

Members agreed that there would be no recommendation from the cttee to Full Council regarding this matter.

- a) Directional sign for front of town The installation is scheduled for April and SCC is hoping that this will be before Easter.
- b) Other directional signage to car parks Cllr Jeans advised that other directional signage is also required once the new one at front of town has been installed. Discussion as to who would have responsibility for this. SCC Peter Sparrow advised that if it is on Highway land then SCC would install but that ESC or STC might need to fund. Mr Sparrow offered to assist the Town Council in ascertaining responsibility to install and purchase.
- c) Request for double yellow lines the list was finalised as at end December 2020 for consultation.
- d) Electric Charging Points members asked Mr Sparrow if there was any further information regarding available funding no further information at present. ESC Ward Cllr Beavan advised that Reydon had applied for 2 units as part of the pilot but that these might now not be required and there might be a possibility for Southwold to have them. More information will be available next week.
- e) Slow Ways SCC Mr Sparrow to be sent details of this initiative
- f) Slow Road York Road this to be considered further

There being no further updates from SCC – Mr Sparrow left the meeting.

Parking

 Resident Parking Permit update – ESC Ward Cllr Beavan – advised that the main concern was for residents who live in town full time and how they might be helped by such a scheme. Mr Beavan will be meeting the ESC officer next week to discuss further.

Cllr Jeans advised that ESC is responsible for on street parking and that as far as she was aware the ESC scheme referred to all those who live on a street and is dependent on a majority of the street being in support of a scheme.

Members noted that the ESC parking portal directs residents to completing a questionnaire if they wish to ask for a scheme to be considered for their area.

Members were advised that in areas where there are double yellow lines preventing parking – houses might need to be part of a permit scheme.

ESC Ward Cllr Beavan advised members that Devon CC has a criteria for providing permits to full time residents but it would seem that this is not the policy at SCC/

ESC at present. It was felt that if holidays let were able to access permits this would not provide any improvement for residents to park.

Discussion as to the criteria for a full-time resident in Devon CC. Cllr Beavan advised that some areas determine this by stating that residency is determined as 4 days per week, or by being on the electoral role.

Discussion about who would have to agree to a scheme for it to be considered – Cllr Rowan-Robinson advised that in London this is usually a vote of those on the electoral role. This to be established for SCC/ESC areas.

Charging - STC car park area at Godyll Road. Cllr Jeans advised that as this is the
nearest car park to town it will offer short stay parking to enable people to access
the facilities within the town, and to support the business community. This is
supported by the business community as they need availability of parking for
customers throughout the year. This is particularly relevant for the businesses this
year as the majority have been closed for long periods due to the Covid
regulations.

Members were advised that in the 2018 survey – 68% of respondents also supported the idea of this being a short stay parking area.

Discussion about present users – it has been established that approx. 8 cars are parked in the car park by residents – sometimes $2^{nd}/3^{rd}$ cars of households. Some employees also park in the car park – although it was acknowledged that in the main holiday season the employees are displaced by holiday let users.

Discussion about the possibility of providing permits for the affected residents and employees and providing them a place to park. ESC offers discounts in their car parks if need to park all month/year - by way of season tickets. Some employers might feel able to assist the costs of such permits - and for some employees who are part time the ESC annual scheme may not be a cost saving.

Members of the public were advised that discussions have been taking place with landowners to see how they might help, and this includes the Millennium Foundation, Common Trust, and owners of the overflow at the Pier - all have been promising. Business plan for the parking will need to be completed.

Members were reminded that park and ride has been extensively researched but no operator had come forward to take this on.

The Town Clerk advised that she had been in touch with Padstow TC who also use RINGO and have the same parking issues that the Town Council has. Cllr Jordan advised that in Padstow holiday homes drop off luggage etc and then are directed to park elsewhere.

ESC Ward Cllr Beavan advised that Ringo is very good and advised that ESC permits are available and offer various solutions.

Cllr Rowan-Robinson advised that from the 2018 informal parking analysis, some 290 employees at that time parked within the town – of which approx. 104 parks

	on verges – and some 56 advised that at some stage they might park in Gardner Rd car park. It is evident that residents and employees could be accommodated in other car parks and parking areas. Cllr Jordan advised that some 20 employees seem to park in the car park area all year round, and then other users that park there are parking all day. Cllr Jordan confirmed that the car park needs to become available for short stays and to accommodate those who wish to come and shop in the town. Cllr Jeans suggested that the Town Council advise employees of the options which could accommodate their needs as part of the charging process. ESC is in charge of on street parking regulations and is actively looking into a Southwold scheme. Discussion re the verges along Gardner Road – and the potential for residents/ employees to be offered parking there. Discussion about parking on the car park overnight – cttee to consider possible options including longer stay parking between 6pm – 8am.
CCTV – PCSO	The PCSO advised members of the importance of the systems at the Harbour and Mights Bridge and how these might be extended to have an integrated system covering such areas as car parks, Market Place, High Street, Pier, prom etc. PCSO advised that this would make a very effective system. Other market towns locally have just installed such systems and Southwold should look to extend its cover – not only for anti-social behaviour reasons but also for such matters as protecting vulnerable adults.
	Discussion about the project - there were reservations about cover along the High Street where there are residential properties. Agreed that car parks ought to be included and that the need for camera in any area should be determined by intelligence and be crime detection driven.
	On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Jeans it was agreed to ask the PCSO to at this stage carry out 'light touch' research into what might be required and where - bearing in mind the comments above, and this not to detract from normal day to day work of the PCSO.
Other matters	East Street parking suspension – discussion as to whether this should be continued for Covid social distancing purposes. It is known that some businesses have received parking tickets for overstaying and the details of the suspension to be checked with ESC. Overall, in view of the volume of people expected in town during the summer, and the volume of queues expected at some of the businesses along this road, it was felt that the suspension should continue as part of the Covid temporary measures to improve safety along this stretch of road. Liaison with ESC required on this matter.
Next meeting date	Thursday 18 th March 2021 at 10am.