

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Cowes Town Council held in the Town Council Office, Northwood House, Cowes on Monday 19 February 2018 at 7pm.

Present: Councillor Fuller (Town Mayor) (Chairman)
Councillors Adams (7.10pm), J. Bartrum, R. Bartrum, Brown, Glendinning, Hammond, Jones, Oliver, Peacey-Wilcox, Taylor & Wardrop.

In attendance: Debbie Faulkner, Town Clerk; one member of the public.

7641 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

7642 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

7643 ST MARY'S JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Councillors discussed the proposed improvements to the St Mary's junction which include widening the Cowes to Newport approach road to the roundabout from two lanes to three lanes; remodelling Hunnyhill so that it approached the roundabout directly; re-routing Forest Road so that it enters the dual carriageway via a system of lights and approaches the roundabout on the newly created third lane of the Cowes to Newport approach road. The proposed works are scheduled to start in summer 2018. There is also a proposed shared footpath / cycle path which starts at Hunnyhill, crosses Forest Road and runs alongside the bus stop in Parkhurst Road. Traffic lights at the remodelled roundabout are an optional extra and may only be used at peak times. It was:

RESOLVED

That Cowes Town Council OBJECTS to the St Mary's junction improvement scheme and raises the following comments / questions to the consultation prior to the deadline of 21 February 2018:

- **Can the Isle of Wight Council explain the reasons for prioritising this scheme above others?**
- **There was a lack of pre design consultation with stakeholders.**
- **The scheme has been designed around motorists rather than pedestrians and cyclists (contrary to local and national policy).**
- **Before considering making the proposed junction improvements could temporary traffic lights be put in place at St Mary's roundabout to see if that improves the flow of traffic without the need for further improvements?**
- **How does this proposed scheme promote sustainable transport options?**
- **There doesn't seem to be any evidence provided that there is a problem at the roundabout other than peak morning, peak afternoon and drop off and pick up times of Hunnyhill Primary School children.**
- **The shared footpath and cycle path would be far better placed on the river side, running past the hospital entrance, along the slipway to B & Q and along the path beside the dual carriageway. Using Hunnyhill will cause problems for pedestrians, cyclists and householders due to cars emerging**

from properties into a shared footpath / cycle path. The gradient of Hunnyhill also needs to be taken into account for cyclists.

- The geometry of the link to Hunnyhill could increase speeds onto a residential road which could impact on College students using the area and put more pressure on Hunnyhill in general.
- Why is the carriageway being widened in preference of pedestrian footpaths? Wider lanes = faster traffic speeds.
- Will the pedestrian crossing at St Mary's Hospital be reconfigured and redesigned?
- Will the proposed traffic lights at the redesigned roundabout be operational at peak times only?
- The new Forest Road traffic lights will cause a back-up of traffic and prevent motorists from easily accessing the slip road to Cowes, will block the pedestrian crossing and will increase pollution in this area.
- Has a park and ride option been considered?

The proceedings terminated at 8.17pm.

CHAIRMAN