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**LEWES
TOWN
COUNCIL**

To: Cllrs Barker; Black; Borowski; Chartier; Dean; Li; Milner; Murray (S); O'Keeffe; Sinclair

A Meeting of the Working party formed to address traffic-related issues in Lewes will be held on **Friday 20th November 2009**, in the **Yarrow Room, Town Hall**, Lewes at **2:30pm** which you are requested to attend.

S Brigden, Town Clerk
12th November 2009

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

To receive apologies from members of the working-party who are unable to attend.

2. MEMBER'S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

To note declarations of any personal or prejudicial interests in matters on this agenda.

3. MINUTES

To agree minutes of the meeting held on 26th August 2009 (*attached*)

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

To receive any questions from members of the public.

5. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

To continue the work of previous meetings, in assessing practical issues involved to meet the aims of the working-party, and evaluating information gathered so far. In particular, discussion is proposed regarding Lewes Town Council representation/consultation in matters related to the parking regime. It is anticipated that ESCC's Lead Member for Transport & Environment, Cllr Matthew Lock, and the Director of Transport & Environment, Mr Rupert Clubb, will attend this meeting. It is also expected that a recommendation can be formulated regarding the previously-agreed expenditure to support ESCC's pedestrian crossing programme.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council and its Working Parties – questions may be heard at the start of each meeting with the Chairman's consent, and subject to time available. Correspondence or requests to address the meeting should, whenever possible, be notified to the Town Clerk at least 24 hours in advance.

PLEASE NOTE: As our meeting rooms are relatively small, we would appreciate advanced warning if you plan to attend in a group; perhaps with neighbours, or to bring a party of student observers. We may be able to arrange for the meeting to be held in an alternative room.

For further information about items on this agenda please contact the Town Clerk at the above address.

Distribution: Cllrs Barker; Black; Borowski; Chartier; Dean; Li; Milner; Murray (S); O'Keeffe; Sinclair
ESCC Cllr Matthew Lock, Mr Rupert Clubb ESCC Director of Transport & Environment

Copies for information:

All Councillors; Lewes Library; T/Hall Noticeboard; LTC website; Sx.Express; E.Argus; Sx.Police; N Baker MP; ESCC; LDC; Friends of Lewes

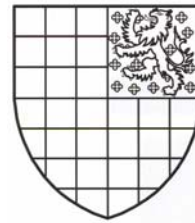
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**LEWES
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MINUTES

of the meeting of the **Working Party** formed to address traffic-related issues in Lewes held on **Wednesday 26th August 2009**, in the **Yarrow Room, Town Hall, Lewes** at **11:00am**.

PRESENT Cllrs L F Li; M Milner (*Chairman*); S Murray; J Sinclair;

Attending: S Brigden (Town Clerk)

TIWP2009/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Barker (working); Black (medical operation); Borowski (ill-health); Chartier (holiday); Dean (Mayoral engagement); and O'Keeffe (working).

TIWP2009/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were none

TIWP2009/03 ELECTION of CHAIRMAN Cllr Milner was confirmed as Chairman

TIWP2009/04 MINUTES The minutes of the meeting 29th April 2009 were signed as an accurate record.

TIWP2009/05 PUBLIC QUESTIONS There were none. (No press or public were present.)

TIWP2009/06 BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Following the work of previous meetings, key points discussed were:

- ⊕ *Lewes Controlled Parking Zone scheme* – The County Council's Lead Member for Transport, and the Director of Transport & Environment, had been invited to the meeting but were unable to attend. Cllr Lock was otherwise engaged, and Mr Clubb was on holiday. Members proposed that discussion on this subject be deferred to a meeting when these gentlemen could attend, and that they be asked to nominate dates when a meeting might be arranged at their convenience.
- ⊕ *Pedestrian crossings* – Further to earlier decisions, the sites at which the Council might fund pedestrian crossings were confirmed as: Mountfield Rd (ranked 20 in ESCC's 2008 prioritized list); and two sites in Church Lane, Malling (ranked 23 & 24). It was understood that Mountfield Road may be affected by other proposed traffic engineering works in the vicinity, and it was **agreed** that ESCC should be asked to clarify this situation before a final decision was reached. It was further **agreed** that Council should be asked to commit a similar amount in the 2010/11 budget for the installation at the next-highest ranked location.
- ⊕ *20mph limit* – These long-standing proposals were still in abeyance pending anticipated regulatory changes. ESCC's Lead Member for Transport & Environment had been scheduled to discuss implementation of a pilot scheme in central Lewes at a meeting of Lead Members during the Summer. This would now be considered towards the end of the year, due to the recent publication of a new National Road Safety Strategy, and the anticipated release, in the early Autumn, of an interim study by the Department for Transport of the recently-introduced scheme in Portsmouth.
- ⊕ *Parking enforcement in vicinity of Eastgate* – Members discussed various recent anecdotes regarding the enforcement of parking controls in the area of Eastgate. This was privately-owned land, and enforcement was perceived to be extremely aggressive; involving wheel-clamping and high release fees

(around £150). Cllr Milner explained that he had held discussions with representatives of the landowner (Cheval Properties) and gained some insight into their viewpoint. Whilst the contractors employed to monitor the site were considered “heavy-handed”, parking controls were acknowledged as necessary to address the landowner’s responsibilities to their legitimate tenants. Signage had recently been improved, although there remained a general perception that the area is part of the public road network, which could lead motorists to take risks in the hope that they will avoid penalty or, at worst, have recourse to a public authority complaints scheme. The charges levied for release of vehicles were understood to be competitive in the context of the commercial contract for such services, although there remained some disquiet at the perceived tactics of the enforcement teams. This was acknowledged to be a widespread problem, and adherence to the industry’s Code of Practice was understood to be voluntary. Cllr Milner had consulted with Norman Baker MP who was working in Parliament to have the legal framework reviewed.

TIWP2009/07

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It was agreed that Council should be asked to commit funds in the 2010/11 budget for the installation of at least one further pedestrian crossing at the next-highest ranked location.

The meeting closed at 11:40am

Signed:

Date: