

WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 31 October 2001 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Thomas (Chair); Councillors Aujla, Mrs Begg, Boad, Mrs Boad, Butler, Byrd, Caborn, Cleaver, Coker, Mrs Compton, Copping, Crowther, Darmody, Davis, Doody, Dove, Dray, Mrs Evans, Evans, Ms Flanagan, Gifford, Golby, Mrs Goode, Hammon, Harris, Holland, Kent, Kirton, Kohler, Mrs Leddy, MacKay, Mrs McFarland, Mrs Pavier, Roberts, Shilton, and Tamlin

411. **PRAYER**

A prayer was offered by the Chairman's Chaplain.

412. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cockburn, Mrs Edwards, Guest, Mrs Hodgetts, Short and Talbot.

413. **QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 7(2)**

(A) From Councillor B Kirton to the Leader of the Executive:-

“In view of the repeated failure of repairs to the following roads Landor, Moorhill, Rowley and Franklin, can the Leader of the Executive:-

- (1) Confirm that the new methods will ensure that the repairs will last longer than a few weeks?
- (2) How much has been spent on repairs to these four roads in the past five years?
- (3) Why was it necessary to employ a Consultant when the method now being used in Landor Road of core sampling is what I suggested at the outset?
- (4) Can you confirm a date when Whitnash residents can again see these concrete roads in a good state of repair?

Councillor I Dove, Leader of the Executive, replied:-

“(1) The carriageways in Landor, Moorhill, Rowley and Franklin Roads are of a jointed concrete slab construction overlain with a thin tarmac surfacing.

The maintenance of these concrete roads and others throughout the District is consisted largely of routine surface patching repairs and surface dressing (tar and chipping). This form of maintenance is a

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

widely used and economical method of maintaining and generally prolonging the life of the carriageway surface.

- (2) Deterioration of the surfacing occurs relatively rapidly over the joints between the concrete slabs due to seasonal thermal movement (expansion and contraction) resulting in the surface cracking and spalling. The rate of deterioration depends to a large extent on the type and volume of traffic using the road. Repairs are limited to localised patching.
- (3) The alternative and more effective treatment of badly deteriorated concrete carriageway surfaces is to replace/reseal the bituminous joint filler between the concrete slabs, apply a thin tarmac wearing course and saw cut the newly laid wearing course along the line of the underlying joint followed by the sealing of the resultant surface joint. The purpose of the formed surface joint is to induce and contain surface cracking along its alignment. This form of treatment is very costly (*) and requires regular maintenance of the saw cut joint to be effective. Funding has not been available for the general use of this technique.
- (4) Over the past five years the amounts shown below have been spent on carriageway patching and surface dressing in the roads in question.

Landor Road -	Patching repairs	£2,100
	- Surface dressing	£5,800
Moorhill Road	- Patching repairs	£ 850
Rowley Road -	Patching repairs	£ 950
Franklin Road	- Patching repairs	£3,400
	- Surface Dressing	£2,650
	TOTAL =	£15,750

(*It is estimated that the cost of treating all four roads in the manner described in Paragraph 3 above would be in the region of £170,000)

- (5) The majority of Landor Road was surface dressed in 1997 and the remaining part along with Franklin Road in 2000. Moorhill Road and Rowley Road were due to be surface dressed this year, however, following Councillor Kirton's concerns with the poor ride quality, noise and vibration caused by lorries travelling along parts of Landor Road (section between Ashford Road and Coppice Road) and the general condition of Moorhill and Rowley Roads, the pre-patching and surface dressing works were put on hold.

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

- (6) (6) As a result the County Council commissioned a specialist company to carry out a detailed site investigation and testing works to help identify the nature and extent of any underlying problems. Their initial tests which required the use of specialist equipment identified poor joint performance indicating significant differential movement and poor slab support. They have recommended that Moorhill and Rowley Roads are treated in the manner described in Paragraph 3.
- (7) In the case of Landor Road where differential slab movement and settlement is much more pronounced coring work is being planned to supplement the deflectometered joint condition results obtained by the specialist company. This will help to assess the structure of the carriageway and the strength of subgrade and help determine the most economically viable treatment for the section of Landor Road under investigation.
- (8) The joint repair and resurfacing works in Moorhill Road and Rowley Road will be carried out in March/April 2002 as part of the annual Carriageway Resurfacing Contract. It is hoped that the necessary works in Landor Road will also be carried out at this same time but this will be dependant on the necessary funding being available.

The larger part of Landor Road and Franklin Road is presently in a satisfactory condition and will continue to be monitored and assessed annually for future maintenance need.”

In a supplementary question, Councillor Kirton asked the Leader:-

“In view of the abortive attempts to repair the roads in this areas over a considerable number of years, can the Chair of the Executive give any assurance that the repairs this time will last longer than normally a fortnight that they have lasted in the past?”

In reply, Councillor Dove said:-

“To suggest otherwise would be damming us by faint praise I suspect, and I have no doubt that those officers who have particular concern in relation to these matters will ensure that that is the case.”

414. THE EXECUTIVE

It was moved by Councillor Dove, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the reports of the Executive meetings dated 17 September and 15 October 2001, be approved and adopted.

415. REGULATORY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Shilton, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Regulatory Committee dated 30 August 2001, be approved and adopted.

416. COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

It was moved by Councillor Doody, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the reports of the Community Scrutiny Committee dated 11 September and 9 October 2001, be approved and adopted.

417. ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Compton, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the reports of the Environment Scrutiny Committee dated 11 September and 9 October 2001, be approved and adopted.

418. RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Caborn, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the reports of the Resources Scrutiny Committee dated 11 September and 9 October 2001, be approved and adopted.

419. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Boad, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Standards Committee dated 20 September 2001, be approved and adopted.

420. MEMBERS/TRADE UNIONS JOINT CONSULTATION AND SAFETY PANEL

It was moved by Councillor Darmody, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Members/Trade Unions Joint Consultation and Safety Panel dated 24 September 2001, be approved and adopted.

421. REGULATORY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Shilton, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Regulatory Committee dated 24 September 2001, be approved and adopted.

422. PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Kirton, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the reports of the Planning Committee dated 29 August, 19 September and 10 October 2001, be approved and adopted subject to,

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

- (1) In minute 285 (Planning Brief for Bread and Meat Close) the Declaration of Interest shown for Councillor Butler be deleted: and
- (2) In relation to Planning Application W20011134 (in Appendix C) Councillor Mrs Compton be shown as having declared a non pecuniary, substantial interest and having left the room for the item.

423. NOTICES OF MOTION

(A) It was moved by Councillor R Copping, and duly seconded;

"Following the passing of the Human Rights Act, especially Article 10: 'Freedom of Expression', at many Planning Committees throughout the UK it has become increasingly the norm for applicants and opposition, as well as a Parish/Town Councillor to have the opportunity to make a short (e.g. three minute) speech at their Town Hall meeting, with the Chairman's previous permission.

Warwick District Council should consider adopting this system (as happens currently only at site visits), to increase local democracy and the right of our customers to have their say.

At present, site visits can be considered unfair in that some residents are denied the opportunity to speak at all, simply because their site's location is well known to Planning Councillors and therefore an official site visit is considered unnecessary. A further anomaly is that residents are currently not officially informed of forthcoming site visits and have to rely upon pro-active local District Councillors to alert them.

Hopefully, adoption of this new procedure will also help to halt and reverse current trends in voter apathy at local elections."

RESOLVED that the Motion stand referred to the Planning Committee.

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

424. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Council considered a report from Members and Customer Services regarding the arrangement for filling the vacancy in the membership of Committees arising from the resignation of Mr Bob Wooller from the Council.

RESOLVED that

- (1) if the By-Election be won by the Conservative candidate, the newly elected Councillor be appointed to membership of the Resources Scrutiny Committee;
- (2) in the event of another party winning the seat, the membership of committees be considered at the Council meeting on 2 January 2002; and
- (3) the name of the newly elected Councillor be added to the list of Councillors appointed to act as substitute members on the other committees of the Council.

425. COMMON SEAL

It was

RESOLVED that the Common Seal of Warwick District Council be affixed to such deeds and documents as may be required for implementing decisions of the Council arrived at this day.

(The meeting ended at 6.35pm)

CHAIRMAN