TOWN TEAM MEETING

17th April 2024 – The Ilfracombe Centre

Attendees:

- Neil Ingram (NI) – (Chair) ITC and OI Project Officer
- Rob Townsend – ITC Maintenance Officer
- Gavin Pennington-Ellis – ITC Facilities Manager
- Bert Gear – ITC Cllr
- Alex Bird – DCC
- June Williams – ITC & NDC Cllr
- George Coulter – ITC Cllr
- Suse Rolfe – NDC
- Georgina Carlo-Paat – Harbourmaster

1. Welcome from the Chair – Apologies from Malc Kirk (Ilfracombe Police), Terry Elliott (ITC Cllr), Mark Langworthy (IBTA), Steve Trebble (In Bloom), Naomi Laurenson (NDC), Laura Donovan (ITC)

2. Outstanding actions:

Domestic bins being left on pavements and highways outside of collection times remains a problem as they cause obstructions and attract fly tipping.

Chair requested that NDC Comms run messages on social media to remind households of the rules relating to the presenting of bins. Suse Rolfe will follow up on this.

Road markings remain unclear at the junior school (Give Way markings) and on the crossing outside the co-op. Alex Bird stated that the give way markings were on a road classed at Cat 7 which means that they are a very low safety priority (Cat 5 and above are priority highways). The Co-Op crossing is on a Cat

5 road (High St) but it has been assessed that there is not less than 80% of the marking missing so it is not yet scheduled in for any priority work.

Green waste disposal for ITC was discussed. Gavin PE has spoken to the team leader at Killacleave who has said that if he gets a letter/email of approval from NDC that works are being undertaken by ITC on their behalf that the ITC van would be able to use their facility without charges. The Chair has e-mail'd Paul Burton at NDC to see if this can happen.

Dog fouling – The current hot spots of Bicclescombe, Marlborough Road, Capstone, High St and Highfield Road are being covered whenever possible by Suse and her colleagues but with only 3 of them covering North Devon this is not as often as they would like. Educational social media posts will continue to be shared by NDC and ITC with additional posters being placed in these hot spots plus Suse will also drop off some additional signs for use by the ITC crews in their vans.

3. **Updates**

DCC Highways – Alex updated the team on forthcoming planned works on the High Street using a new material "elastomac" which had showed improved longevity after trials in Barnstaple.

4. **Annual Town Meeting Questions** The following questions were raised at the Annual Town Team meeting with part of the answer being that it would be raised at the next Town Team meeting to explore the possibility for future actions/solutions by the group members.

- Is there a possibility of the area around the harbour and sea front (The Quay) being limited to a 20mph speed limit? - **This has been raised with DCC.**
- What can be done about the derelict properties along Wilder Road? This was raised with NDC and aside from Section 215 orders being raised they can only get involved when there are safety issues/risk to the public and not simply aesthetics. **Encourage use of Ilfracombe Report It!** for individual instances.

- Major contributory factor of litter on streets is that recycling boxes have no lids. Discussion centred around that this had been trialled before with limited success. Reminder that Gull Guard bags are available. - **Passed to NDC for further comment.**
- Is there a possibility to having more "£80 fines for littering" signs outside local pubs? - **Passed to NDC to examine further.**
- Can I paint the bollard outside my shop? This was discussed with DCC and whilst it was highly unlikely that there would be any recourse for doing this, the same concerns as voiced by ITC were raised in relation to the H&S aspects of this. **This has been raised via Ilfracombe Report It! and a plan to address being discussed within ITC.**
- Too much long term scaffolding on the High Street -This was raised with DCC who explained that licenses were initially issued for 12 weeks with applications being made for extensions. **There was also discussion of an embargo period. The latter will be investigated with DCC**
- Road signs around in Ilfracombe are in a poor condition - Without knowing the specific signs in question there is little that can be done unless they are named and reported however **ITC will produce a list of the very worse signs in and around the town which will then be forwarded to DCC.**

5. The Chair reminded the team to continue to promote Ilfracombe Report It! which has now been made a permanent scheme run by Ilfracombe Town Council.

6. AOB

- Rob updated the group that Adrian and the team from NDC had been down and cleaned the Market Arches. He had also assisted by providing Chapter 8 support to the NDC team who were clearing roadside at the top of St James' Park
- The stocktake / relocation / revised distribution of Events 4 Ilfracombe equipment will be taken up out of meeting by Barbara Clark (E4E), Gavin & Neil (ITC) and Marc Newland (Coversure).

- Chair raised two issues for Suse to check out: First one was builders waste behind housing on Wilder Road / Church Road junction and subsequent fly tipping. And the other was on Wilder Road just the otherside of the bus stop outside of the bus stop where a missing gate to some property looked like a potential environmental issue due to waste. **Both are with Suse (NDC) who will investigate and report back.**
- June Williams raised the issue of the broken bollards on Hele Prom and the trip hazard they pose. The Chair has done some research into this and SWW have passed this onto the Project Manager who is leading on the replacement sewage tank works on the prom. Latest estimate for this is Sep 24 – May 25.
- Suse Rolfe mentioned that the PSPO which is now in force on Bicclescombe is proving unpopular with local residents who don't like being told to keep their dog(s) on a lead.
- George Coulter reminded (and invited!) everyone to The Big Lunch which will take place on Sunday 9th June and that a group of local artists have also been fixing paintings and art to the hoardings outside of the old Montebello Hotel site. In relation to the latter the Chair mentioned that the best people to speak to about this are the Fore St Association.

7. Date of next meeting: Weds 29th May 2024