

**STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET PARISH COUNCIL****HIGHWAYS**

MINUTES of a meeting of the HIGHWAYS SUB-COMMITTEE held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 19th July 2017 in the Council Offices, 72 Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex

**PRESENT** Cllr C Dean (Chairman), Cllrs M Jessup, F Richards, J Salmon, V Trundle and Mr R Woodcock.

**ATTENDING** Mrs Ruth Clifford - Clerk  
Mrs Emma Philbrick - Admin Assistant  
Cllr D Wallace-Jarvis

**140 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs M Caton, P Jones and G Sell

**141 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None

**142 MINUTES**

68 - 4th line should read "it" was agreed instead of "if"  
The minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2017 were approved

**143 MATTERS ARISING**

Not good news regarding the village sign. Email was sent to Mr Grundy and he replied that there were two choices. An upgraded sign or a like for like replacement. The email was sent to Mr Bradford at UDC, who advised he could not help. Essex Highways will not replace as it is not a safety matter. The Parish Council has made a request to the Highways Panel, but it is unlikely to be implemented until 2019-20. The Parish Clerk will check that the scheme is on the 2019-20 list and also obtain costs for the sign as a next step. It was also agreed that a copy of the email sent to Ian Grundy would be forwarded to Simon Walsh.

Mr Hughes has been alerted to the flooding on the roundabout at bottom of Chapel Hill but the safety audit has not yet been completed.

No reply has been received back yet from Cty Cllr Ray Gooding regarding Grove Hill / Lower Street / Chapel Hill review.

Cllr Dean advised she will be looking at the Mountfitchet Estate Verges next month.

**144 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Dean advised she had received a call from a resident in Bayford Way worried about parking. Cllr Dean visited area but not many cars there so is suggesting if residents can provide photos of the issue. The roads are narrow but yellow lines would detract from character of road. Cllr Richards advised that Tucker Close which is off Bayford Way is unsigned so if cars are being parked on the road then it makes finding Tucker Close very difficult. The Clerk is to look at getting a road sign for Tucker Close.

Ray Woodcock sent an email regarding signage around the village. The Clerk will check whether signs on private property are allowed provided they are not causing an obstruction and whether some signs may require advertising consent. UDC to be asked to have signs on Council owned land removed. An article will be put in the Link about this issue.

Closure of Bentfield Road by Affinity Water can start from 1st August and they have an 18 month window in which to complete the work. Residents have been given a schedule of

when work is due to take place in the road and a red card will be posted through their doors when the water is due to be turned off.

The Clerk reported that many years ago 2 new houses were built in Five Acres and the Council granted the owners the right to use the land owned by the Council as a driveway . One of the owners have asked if the Council would contribute towards the cost of maintaining the drive and provided copies of quotes he had received. The Clerk advised that the residents themselves paid for the drive to be changed from grass to solid materials and that a similar request was made by the residents in 1999 and the advice received from the Solicitor was that it was not the Council's responsibility to maintain and a contribution should not be made. The Sub-Committee agreed that the same applies again this time and the Clerk will write to the owner to advise this.

**145 UPDATE ON SECTION 106 PROJECTS - TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ALL PROJECTS**

Walson Way - Nothing yet

Jordan Close Footbridge - Nothing yet

Cambridge Road Crossing - Work scheduled to begin on Monday

Church Road Traffic Calming Measures - Some confusion as we requested these at the bottom of Church Road but reference has been made for measures at the top of Church Road. The Clerk has spoken to Annette and it has been confirmed that the measure are for the bottom of Church Road as requested.

Cambridge Road - No response received. Still awaiting an update on how much is left in the budget and the Clerk will chase this.

**146 LOWER STREET PEDESTRIAN CROSSING**

A revised design for the zebra crossing has been received and will go out for informal consultation. But as they are short-staffed this has not yet happened. A new member of staff is joining the team, and this will be her first priority. It was agreed that this was not good enough so an email would be sent to Mr Hughes, Cty Cllr Ray Gooding, Mr Grundy and the leader of the Council.

**147 MOUNTFITCHET ESTATE VERGES**

Cllr Dean will be looking at this next month.

**148 PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Cllr Trundle advised that the 7 & 7a bus had been secured but residents must keep using the service to ensure this is kept. At certain times of the day the bus is empty and it was considered to cut one of the routes during the day but wasn't viable to run like that as would then have a vehicle and driver sitting around for a couple of hours. A copy of the new timetable will be in The Link. Cllr Trundle advised that she had attended a meeting for the Uttlesford Community Travel and they are getting concerned as they have to charge fares where as DART, who Stansted are not a part of, will accept bus passes. Funding is being looked at with regards to this. Cllr Trundle will write a report on this matter.

**149 GROVE HILL WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS**

An email from a resident of Grove Hill has been received with concerns about lorries using the road. He had written to Highways and they advised that the weight restriction excludes construction lorries. He is hoping to set up a group to look at the issues and we are waiting to hear back when this is set up. Highways have advised that things are happening including looking at phasing traffic light measures as per request from Elsenham Parish Council.

**150 PARKING ON OLD BELL CLOSE**

An email had been received from a resident concerned with the parking on Old Bell Close and how close parking was to the junction. Cllr Dean visited the area and noticed that the yellow lines do not come far into the junction and was definitely not 15 mtrs as per the minimum legal requirement for parking near a junction. There is no reason why these should not be extended and was agreed that the Clerk would make a request for this to be done. It was also stated that the yellow lines in Spencer Close and Croasdaile Road had still not been extended even though these had already gone through consultation and been agreed. This is to be chased also.

Meeting closed at 7.50pm

DRAFT