

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET PARISH COUNCIL**HIGHWAYS**

MINUTES of a meeting of the HIGHWAYS SUB-COMMITTEE held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 25th October 2017 in the Council Offices, 72 Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex

PRESENT Cllr C Dean (Chairman), Cllrs M Caton, M Jessup, P Jones, G Sell and Mr R Woodcock

ATTENDING Mrs Ruth Clifford - Clerk
Mrs Emma Philbrick - Admin Assistant
Cllrs J Kavanagh, J O'Brien and D Wallace-Jarvis

248 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs F Richards, J Salmon and V Trundle

249 DELCARATIONS OF INTEREST None

250 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2017 were approved

251 MATTERS ARISING

Village Sign - Application has been submitted but still awaiting news

Lower Street Roundabout - Still awaiting safety audit

Bayford Way - No reports of any refuse lorries not being able to get into Bayford Way. Cllr Dean has spoken to Uttlesford and they have suggested that if any further signage is required, the whole of Foresthall Park would need to be looked at not just Bayford Way.

Tucker Close - The Clerk reported that this is an unadopted road so she has contacted Croudace and enquired as they would need to erect a road name.

Village Signage - Still to be completed but on the Local Highways Panel list.

Five Acres - The Clerk reported that Mr Morgan who lives in Five Acres is not happy with the response given regarding the Parish Council helping towards cost of the drive being resurfaced. She visited Mr Morgan along with Cllr O'Brien. Mr Morgan has so far maintained the drive without any contribution but would now prefer for the Parish Council to take responsibility for resurfacing. Failing that he would like to buy it from the Parish Council at a reasonable price. It was agreed that the Clerk would look into whether the land could be sold as it forms part of the Public Open Space. If this is possible then the Council would write to the other properties to consult with them before considering selling the land with their rights of access.

Lower Street Crossing - Has gone to consultation but nothing has happened so far – responsibility lies with Hiltons to provide this.

Grove Hill - Nothing further has been heard from the gentleman who was looking to set up a group with regards to arranging a meeting to discuss. Ruth advised that she had spoken to Cllr Ray Gooding regarding Grove Hill and our understanding that the weight restrictions did not apply to construction vehicles. He did not think this sounded correct and has asked if Cllr Dean could send him the information found regarding this so he could look into it further. Regarding the phasing of lights, there had been no progress on this as the man responsible of looking into this was on paternity leave.

Old Bell Close - The request for the extended waiting restrictions has been submitted.

Cambridge Road Crossing - This did not go ahead as scheduled due to various factors but confirmation has been received that this will go ahead in March 2018.

252 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Dean reported that there is a Highways Briefing on 3rd November. She had recently attended the same presentation and found parts very useful so if anyone would like to attend then it's being held in Great Dunmow.

Cllr Dean recently filled in a Highways survey. Very odd survey and did have to question it but has answered as best as she could.

A couple of Highway issues were discussed when the Police and Crime Commissioner attended the Full Council meeting on 20th September 2017. Speeding - Sending in statistics from the Speedwatch team has been the correct thing to do but need to keep hammering away and try to get the Police to come and show a presence along with the Speedwatch team like they do in Brentwood. It was suggested that the Speedwatch team need to prioritise where the speeding is most severe and where the public safety is at the greatest risk. A request along with the statistics should be sent and a request should be made for them to come and do an enforcement in this area. The second item noted from the visit of Roger Hirst was pavement parking. Evidence needs to be obtained and reported on the website. Pictures should be uploaded to support each case.

253 UPDATE ON SECTION 106 PROJECTS

Walson Way (Yellow Lines) - Clerk reported that she had received an email from Annette saying it was great news that the speed limit had been put into force in Forest Hall Road and also that the yellow lines in Walson Way had been completed. The Clerk visited Walson Way and no lines had been done so she emailed Annette and is now awaiting a response as Annette clearly has been advised this was done!

Jordon Close Footbridge - Due to be completed this financial year

Church Road additional Traffic Calming - Had received report from Highways that they had looked at all possibilities but nothing can be done due to factors including driveways, topography of area, hills, bends etc. Mr Woodcock stressed that the Church Road footpaths are narrow and at some point there will be a fatality. Cllr Jones referred to the plan to create a new footway inside the tree line on Gemmills land and wondered if this was necessary – sure if the existing pavement was improved and perhaps widened in places, this would be preferable. After brief discussion members agreed with this view and the Clerk was instructed to ask Essex Highways not to pursue this project. Instead, the Sub-Committee agreed that they will complete a detailed report as to how trees and bushes can be cleared to allow footpaths to be widened. This will then be sent to Annette Thornton with a formal request.

254 LOWER STREET PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AND ROUNDABOUT

No update on when the safety audit will be completed on the roundabout. Lower Street crossing is out for consultation.

255 MOUNTFITCHET ESTATE VERGES

Many years have been spent looking at the verges but have nothing on paper to present to anyone. Cllr Dean advised that she had taken another look at this. Apart from a few exceptions the junction verges are not too bad. She will be suggesting in a report that corner verges stay but ways to discourage parking on verge strips needs to be looked at. Most of them have no grass left and her suggestion is that they do away with these and maybe replace with Astroturf. Highways would need to complete the work and Rissa Long is aware

that we want something done about the these. A report will be sent to Highways to see if viable as they own the land but the District Council owns the estate so they may be persuaded to put money toward this. It's a possibility that funding from the S.106 is possible. There is still money there earmarked for Stoney Common although the County will not let it be used as they are a private road. There was talk that Stoney Common were setting up a residents association but nothing further has been heard regarding this. In the future there are other ways possible to get the work completed in Stoney Common without this money. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Annette to find out what Section 106 money is left once the money for all of the schemes we have requested has been allocated.

256 PUBLIC TRANSPORT

See attached appendix A sent in from Cllr Trundle

257 REVIEW OF GROVE HILL / LOWER STREET / CHAPEL HILL / CHURCH ROAD / CAMBRIDGE ROAD

Lower Street - Ray Gooding is going to advise who the correct officer in charge of this is so the Clerk can arrange a meeting. The Neighbourhood Development Plan team have flagged up issues relating to these roads, in particular Air Quality. The Chairman reported that UDC is reviewing locations for air monitoring equipment and suggested that proposals should be sent in to UDC as soon as possible. Cllr O'Brien and Mr Woodcock agreed to work on this and send the proposals to the Clerk.

258 CHURCH ROAD - PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND LARGE VEHICLES

An email received from Warren Vickers was read out at the meeting regarding a near miss he recently had and his concerns regarding safety. The Clerk reported that an email had been sent to the site manager at Elms Farm asking him to request that lorries going to and from the site keep their speed down and not block pavements if pulling up outside the site. SpeedWatch had noted that there is one aggregates company whose vehicles use Church Road on a regular basis and Emma has emailed them to find out why they come through the village.

259 UTTLESFORD LHP PROJECTS

The following requests have been submitted
30mph speed limit on Cambridge Road by the new Walpole Farm development and including High Lane.

Village Entry Name Sign – entering from the south

Cllr O'Brien's proposals for signs – hopefully now validated.

Meeting closed 8.05pm