

The MINUTES of a meeting of the HIGHWAYS SUB-COMMITTEE held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 7th March 2018 in the Council Offices, 72 Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex

**PRESENT** Cllr C Dean (Chairman), Cllrs J Hudson, M Jessup, P Jones, J O'Brien, F Richards, J Salmon, G Sell and V Trundle.

**ATTENDING** None

**439 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Caton, Ray Woodcock, Ruth Clifford - Clerk to the Council and Emma Philbrick - Admin Assistant.

**440 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None

**441 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2017 were approved

**442 MATTERS ARISING**

Old Bell Close extension of waiting restrictions. In November 2017 Cllr Dean wrote to the residents of Old Bell Close for responses, there were 16 replies. 14 were in favour, 1 against and 1 who was neither for or against. There were insufficient responses to proceed so in January 2018 Cllr Dean wrote again to the residents but only got 1 additional response.

Cllr Trundle asked about the resurfacing of Wetherfield and Cllr Jones confirmed that work had started on the kerbs and that the road should be resurfaced in due course. Cllr Richards then asked about Spencer Close and Cllr Dean said she would remind Highways that it was still outstanding.

Cllr Trundle asked about extending the double yellow lines on Croasdaile Road at the junction of the B1383 as this was making the turn into Croasdaile Road congested and dangerous at peak times. Cllr Jones said it would be very unlikely to be approved for this financial year but we could pursue it for the next financial year.

Cllr Trundle mentioned the kerbstone damage on the junction of Rainsford Road and Croasdaile Road. Cllr Dean said that it had been reported but she would do so again.

**443 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman reported that a house on Cambridge Road had put hardstanding outside their house and the means of access to this was to drive across the pedestrian crossing. This had been reported to UDC Enforcement, who said no breach of planning. Ray Gooding has been asked to enquire with Highways as a "members question" for action to be taken. Cllr O'Brien reported that number 28 also has hardstanding and drives along the pavement to access that.

**444 UPDATE ON SECTION 106 PROJECTS**

Jordon Close Footbridge - Work will be carried out in the 2018/19 financial year.

Walson Way - The waiting restrictions, despite previously being told they were approved, have been disallowed. We have been advised to make the request again to the North Essex Parking Partnership.

Traffic calming on Church Road - The additional requested buildout at the bottom of Church Road has been refused because the average speeds are not high enough in that location. There was a suggestion that the buildouts should be moved so that they are on alternate sides of the road and that the spacing should be looked at because they are too close together. Cllr Dean will request Highways look at this.

Church Road Footpath - Cllr dean wrote to Annette Thornton regarding the possibility of widening the existing footpath as opposed to the creation of a new path inside the hedge line. Annette said that a significant amount of money had already been spent on the feasibility studies of the new footpath. Cllr Dean said that the full cost of the project was approx. £100k which would exhaust the S106 money, and that £5,000 had been spent. With the cutting back of the hedge that has already been done and an ongoing maintenance program, Cllr Dean raised the question whether the money could be better spent.

Cllr Jones said that the recent piece in the Link had got some responses and that Church Road was of concern to people. The width of the footpath, especially with a buggy/pushchair, and how close wing mirrors from lorries came to pedestrians were mentioned. Cllr Jones suggested approaching the Gemmills to take the vegetation back further and get the county to resurface it afterwards. Cllr Jones estimated that 1/3 of the footpath is still obscured by vegetation. Cllrs Dean, Jones and O'Brien will walk the path and present their findings at the next Full Council for a decision.

Cllrs Jones, Sell and Salmon recommended that there should be double yellow lines from the junction of Woodfield Terrace to the Fire Station to improve traffic flows up Chapel Hill.

**445 LOWER STREET PEDESTRIAN CROSSING & ROUNDABOUT**

There have been 2 objections to the consultation for a pedestrian crossing on Lower Street but if the objections are for loss of parking then on safety grounds it should go ahead as planned. The roundabout is still causing safety concerns and Cllr O'Brien has done a study which he will circulate.

**446 MOUNTFITCHET ESTATE VERGES**

Rissa Long of Essex Highways expressed concerns that the creation of the parking verges may encourage yet more "fly-parking" in the area. We have been told to submit the request anyway but money is tight.

**447 PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Cllr Trundle and Joy Thomas are going to a meeting in Great Dunmow this week and will report back. Cllr Trundle has concerns that the meetings may stop due to lack of attendance.

**448 REVIEW OF GROVE HILL / LOWER STREET / CHAPEL HILL / CHURCH ROAD / CAMBRIDGE ROAD**

It was agreed that we would submit a request to the Highways Panel to review the weight restriction on Grove Hill and that it should apply in both directions. Providing that it did not confuse or complicate the issue it was suggested that a width restriction for Grove Hill should also be applied for.

Cllr Sell suggested that the number of cars parking on Grove Hill is now such that they almost reach the brow of the hill and it needs to be addressed. Double yellow lines may need to be introduced beyond the residents parking bays.

With regards to the other roads, Ray Gooding suggested that the person to get involved in this would be Shaun Perry. Cllr Dean is hoping to arrange a meeting with Shaun and any ideas for these roads should be communicated to the office. Double yellow lines on Chapel Hill beyond Woodfield Terrace would be explored.

**449 UTTLESFORD LHP PROJECTS**

Cllr O'Brien will be resubmitting his road sign documentation for clarity because some have been done.

**450 PARKING ON FORESTHALL PARK**

Shaw Close and Millar Close have been identified as problem locations by the bin lorry drivers. Cllr Dean is liaising with Cat Chapman of Uttlesford District Council to see what if anything can be done.

**451 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT TOP OF CHAPEL HILL**

The zig zag lines have been repainted. Ray Gooding had suggested that the shrouds are removed from the beacons to improve visibility but that there may be an issue with the residents of Spencer Close. It was suggested that the shrouds be removed as a trial and that we pursue the no waiting restrictions on the top of Chapel Hill to improve visibility and safety.

Having been proposed by Cllr Salmon, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED**

to apply for a proper traffic-light controlled crossing on Chapel Hill instead of the Zebra Crossing.

Meeting closed at 8.07pm

Minutes of the meeting were taken by Cllr Jessup