

ROTHERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Working for the Community
in Rotherfield, Town Row, Mark Cross, Eridge Green, Boarshead and surrounding areas

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS, LIGHTING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE HELD AT 19:30 ON TUESDAY 1ST JUNE 2010 IN ROTHERFIELD VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT Cllr R Harris (Chairman) Cllr J Padfield
Cllr Mrs P Halse-Adamson Cllr L Pike
Cllr. Miss N. Bolton Cllr N Wickenden
Cllr. D. Clark
Cllr. C. Clibbens

2 members of the public attended the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (LGA 1972 s 85).** Apologies tendered and accepted on behalf of Cllr. R Jaques, Cllr. Mrs. R. Williams and Cllr D. Harman.
2. **APPOINT CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE HIGHWAYS, LIGHTING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.**
It was AGREED that Cllr. Mrs. N. Bolton be accepted on to the Committee. Cllr. Harris has indicated that he wishes to stand down from the post of Chairman to this Committee. A vote of thanks was given in respect of his good work during his period in office. Cllr. Clibbens was proposed as Chairman and it was AGREED that he be appointed to the post, there were no other candidates. It was proposed and AGREED that Cllr. Harris be the Vice Chairman of the Committee, there were no other candidates.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
Cllr Harris declared a personal interest in respect of item 5a) on the Agenda as he is a resident of this area.
4. **RECEIVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9TH MARCH 2010 AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES.** It was AGREED that these minutes be adopted and the Chairman signed them, there were no matters arising.
5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**
 - a) **Receive information regarding consultation on installing “part night cells” to street lamps on Court Meadow estate and consider further action.**
Letters outlining proposals sent to the 83 addresses in Court Meadow and Close, 23 replies received representing 28% of households, 17 (74%) in favour, 5 (22%) against and one uncertain. Subsequent to these figures being compiled a further e-mail against the proposal has been received. The majority of the objections to the proposal cite a fear of increased crime on the estate resulting from the reduced lighting; Sgt. Etherington is arranging an analysis by time of last 12 months incidents in the Parish, information not yet to hand. ESCC provisionally estimate cost per light of £37 plus a possibility of a further £33 for a socket, site visit would be needed to provide an accurate quote; they have also suggested that Council may wish to consider replacing mercury type lanterns at the same time. A local resident was permitted to address the meeting and noted that he could only recall two burglaries since the estate was built and was in favour of the proposal.

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It was agreed that CLERK arrange for a detailed costing and also estimated savings for the work so that it may be considered at the next meeting. It was suggested the consideration be given to leaving the lamps at the junction with Mayfield Road and near the path to the surgery out of the arrangements.

b) Receive information from ESCC concerning outstanding Highways and Footpath issues in the Parish. Consider further action.

- Parking in the Square. – This has not appeared on the most recent list from Highways which summarises impending projects. Clerk has enquired of progress to ESCC but has not yet had a response.
- Warning lights on school sign in Station Road. No response yet received from Highways.
- Peeps Lane. Clerk has visited Castle Hill end of lane and has noted that the Rights of Way team have restored the footpath sign to indicate the official route. It is understood that the other end of the path has been cleared but this has yet to be viewed.
- Quote requested for repair to damaged fingerpost at Castle Hill, contractors chased for this so that ESCC may be approached for their 50% contribution. Claim is being pursued with regard to damage to Clackhams Lane fingerpost last December. Despite detailed invoice being provided with our claim this has been mislaid by insurers and CLERK will provide them with a copy.
- Drainage issues Catt's Hill and Windmill Hill junction. Progress report from Highways awaited for this as it is understood they were investigating these areas.
- Cllr. Tidy has raised with Highways the issue of the delay in repairing the kerb in North Street.

c) Receive information and consider further action regarding speeding and other Highway issues within the Parish.

- Station Road traffic loops. DFT have provided information for March 2010, in comparison with March 2009 just after speed limit on the road was altered to 30mph throughout there has been a modest reduction in speeding vehicles. % exceeding 30mph for March 2010 is 71.4 toward village and 67.1 away from village. AGREED that CLERK is to forward a copy of these to Sgt. Etherington and PCSO Boyle for their information and also provide copies for the SLR.
- High Cross/B2101. Cllr Tidy (ESCC) has been in correspondence with a resident there regarding the lack of speed limit on this stretch of road. Catsfield, Ninfield and Netherfield have been named as examples of villages where interactive signs and limits are in place, Clerk is awaiting casualty map data from these areas. Due to lack of casualty history on the B2101 there are no plans to introduce a limit although it has been mentioned that the stretch will again be looked at.

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- Speed Checks. Awaiting information from police regarding approval for additional check sites.
 - Clerk is enquiring about weight restriction on Butchers Cross Road - a large coach has been noticed as a regular user of this route. It is believed that the coaches may be carrying children to an activity centre on this road, CLERK is to check this.
- d) **Receive information regarding proposal to re-site lamp column from Mayfield Road to Meadow View to allow introduction of 30mph reminders in Mayfield Road. Consider further action.**
- Residents in Meadow View near junction have been contacted regarding this proposal. One reply received acknowledging reason for the resiting and enquiring as to details of exact siting proposed as this may cause light to shine into the house. Licence from St Peter's Church would be required if it is decided to go ahead with resiting as they own pavements and road. They have been advised of proposals. ESCC await commitment from Council regarding moving the lamp before giving any commitment to speed awareness measures. £2200 quoted for removing column and re-installing, await clarification if this includes a new column or whether old one may be resited. It was AGREED that CLERK is to revisit the previously discussed proposal for speed cushions, investigate costs and enquire of ESCC Highways regarding funding available toward them. Michael Higgs is to be invited to the SLR and also a possible further site meeting.
- e) **Receive information regarding damaged surface and bollards at Danegate triangle and consider further action.**
- Photos circulated to Councillors of the site. Highways seek clarification as to ownership of bollards at this site, not listed as belonging to Parish. AGREED that CLERK is to contact Highways and advise that bollards are their property and also ask to arrange repair. Whilst it is unfortunate that damage is a regular occurrence at this spot it was felt that the money required to provide more substantial bollards here would be better utilised elsewhere in the Parish.
- f) **Receive information and consider further action regarding parking as Eridge Station.**
- There is a new contact at Network Rail, it is believed that the car park extension is fairly high on the Southern Railway priority list, meeting to be held shortly and progress to be fed back in due course. Vehicles have been noted parking close to the A26, AGREED that this be raised with PCSO as some are less than the mandatory 15m, also CLERK to raise parking issues at the Station with local MP and Cllr. Whetstone.
- g) **Consider results of latest Highways asset check list.**
- Clerk has not had the opportunity to complete this and will attend to it.
- h) **Receive information and consider further action regarding new bollards in South Street.**
- Clerk has asked whether local contractors may be used for this work as their quote

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is less than that from ESCC's. Have also asked if local contractors may be used to resite the bollard in North Street which is a hazard to vehicles leaving Kennedy Bros., reply awaited, AGREED that subject to ESCC confirmation of agreement that Coppards be instructed to proceed with the work.

i) Receive information regarding new bus shelter at Town Row and replacement shelter at Mark Cross A267. Consider further action.

Cllr. Wickenden is to provide plans of shelter proposed and also site plan so that licence may be obtained from ESCC for installation.

j) Receive information and consider further action regarding resurfacing of Mark Cross car park.

Three quotes obtained and sent to ESCC for consideration. ESCC now require full specification for job so that they can calculate their price for the work before considering level of contribution. CLERK is to provide this and also a copy of the licence and also check status of entrance road to see whether this remains in Highways ownership.

k) Consider agenda items for forthcoming SLR meeting with East Sussex Highways.

Agenda was AGREED, CLERK to forward to Highways. Clerk will be unable to attend the meeting beyond 14:50 and Cllr Clibbens also tendered his apology for absence.

l) Receive details of any hedges and trees causing obstruction to the highway and consider further action.

Clerk has recently written to owners of hedge bordering Church Road and also the New Road/Station Road twitten regarding encroaching hedges and will escalate to ESCC as these have not been cut. Details of other hedges causing concern were also raised, CLERK to investigate and write to owners as appropriate.

m) Receive information regarding progress with replacement for Nap Wood fingerpost FP01.

Work is still in progress, this to be carried forward to next agenda.

n) Consider adding area by Town Row old railway bridge to the contractors cut list and also provision of sign requesting horse riders to keep to woodchip path.

Cllr. Wickenden recently held a site meeting with ESCC local inspector at which it was agreed that he may deal with repositioning the "Vehicles in centre of road" sign so that it stands clear of the newly created horse path. It is understood that Highways are not proposing to replace the fence; Cllr. Wickenden has offered to remove remains of old posts. CLERK to request grass cutting contractors to liaise with Cllr. Wickenden to provide quote for cutting this area.

o) Receive information and consider further action regarding village nameboards at Rotherfield and Mark Cross.

Parishioner has highlighted that sign approaching village from Mayfield direction would benefit from a repaint. Mark Cross sign is in similar condition, quote obtained of £100 for both signs, this was AGREED, CLERK to advise contractor

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to proceed with the work and also ask him to remove the unkempt "Neighbourhood Watch" sign from beneath the Rotherfield sign.

p) Receive information and consider further action regarding proposed school "camp out" weekend on the recreation ground.

No further information received, CLERK to chase school and add issue to agenda of Planning meeting as this is the last meeting prior to the proposed event. It is understood that the floor beams for the new pre-school may be delivered next week which will restrict access to the lower field, also if music is involved this will raise licensing issues.

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

- **North Weald Community Transport** – information regarding possible acquisition of mini bus for community trips. Suggested that this information be circulated to the Parish schools, Scouts, St Martin's project, Pre School and Friendship Club.
- **ESCC Rights of Way team.** Confirmation that application to extinguish FP 10a has been turned down.

7. DATE OF FUTURE MEETING.

Next Highways committee meeting is scheduled for October 5th.

8. URGENT ISSUES FOR NOTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDA.

- Bus Stop at Mark Cross by Deilsfoot Cottages has been knocked over, CLERK to report to ESCC/bus company as appropriate.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:55

9. PUBLIC FORUM.

Concerns expressed at condition of road surface from New Road to Church. Hopes expressed that part of the ESCC additional road repair funding could be utilised to rectify this.

.....Chairman.....Date

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