

**Minutes of the Rights of Way, Highways and Lighting Committee held on
Monday 11th January 2021 Remotely Via Zoom at 7.00pm.**

1.APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Carter.

2. PRESENT:

Cllrs Eastwood (Chair), Jones and Wraight.

3. IN ATTENDANCE:

James Overbury (Deputy Town Clerk) and two members of the public.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Cllr Eastwood proposed to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as an accurate record which was seconded by Cllr Jones with all in favour.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Chair proposed to suspend the meeting for Public comment which was agreed.

One person spoke about their concerns about the car park charges to be introduced in the town, particularly the lack of residents' parking permits for The Elms car park.

The Chair reconvened the meeting.

7. RIGHTS OF WAY:

7.1 Castle Brooks Footpath License:
No business.

8. HIGHWAYS:

8.1 Resident request for help at top of Fore St

No progress since last meeting.

8.2 Community bus transport - Update on link to station.

Cllr Eastwood reported that due to the new Lockdown the launch was to be delayed until March at the earliest. It was agreed to go ahead with publicity now and to reinforce the message closer to the time of the launch.

8.3 S.I.D. – Data for Saxtead Rd 20/12/20-6/1/21 attached

Cllr Eastwood noted that the volume of traffic was around 20% down (due to Covid-19) but that 12% of motorists were speeding. It was agreed to continue to make efforts to publicise the information. It was also agreed to investigate the location of the device, potentially through the planned Traffic Survey, and to consider alternative locations for it.

8.4 Electric Vehicle Charging points + see correspondence 13.2

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda until ESC start the process of making the planned changes to on street parking.

8.5 Inventory of problems for mobility scooters

Cllr Eastwood thanked a resident and wheelchair user for sending the Town Council photographs of areas where they had problems and reported that his and Cllr Jones' efforts to map the town from a mobility scooter were on hold until the Covid-19 restrictions had eased.

8.6 Speed Watch Group – update and plans for speed camera

Cllr Eastwood reported that this was another casualty of the Covid-19 restrictions but that efforts would continue to attract volunteers and to work with the police to make this happen.

8.7 Cycle Routes Working Group.

Cllr Eastwood noted that ESC were also looking at cycle routes as part of their Cycle and walking strategy. Cllr Jones reported that he was to meet ESC in his role as Chair of Strategic Planning as part of the Neighbourhood Plan review and asked if Cllr Eastwood would join him to discuss cycle routes at that meeting, which was agreed.

8.8 Covid-19 response

Cllr Eastwood reported that Cllr Jones had kindly made a stencil and he would be marking the pavements the next dry day.

9. PARKING:

9.1 On Street Parking – including update on CPE

9.2 Off-Street Parking

Cllr Eastwood proposed to take the two agenda items together which was agreed. He began by outlining the history and described the process of how ESC were introducing pay and display charges for the off street parking in the town. Cllr Jones reported that ESC was close to agreeing the SLA (Service level agreement) with the College. Similarly, the SLA between FTC and ESC for Market Hill Parking was expected to be signed in early February. Cllr Eastwood and Cllr Jones outlined the history and projected future work around 'on street' parking.

9.3 SMR Site

No business

9.4 Thomas Mills Parking

Cllr Jones reported that Thomas Mills High School had indicated that it was not intending to use the space provided on the Housing development on Saxtead Road as a parking place for teachers at the school. Cllr Jones reported that he understood the landowner was sympathetic to amending the legal agreement to potentially allow students at the school to park there instead of on Kings Avenue. It was agreed that the DTC would suggest a Zoom meeting between the School and FTC to discuss this.

10: DISCUSSION ON ANTICIPATED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE – 2020 -?

It was noted that the anticipated future spend be finalised before May 2021.

11. PEDESTRIAN SAFETY INITIATIVES

Cllr Eastwood reported that SCC had appointed an engineer to look at the sites and propose solutions at no charge to the Town Council.

12. LIGHTING:

12.1 Progress of dark spots in the town.

Cllr Eastwood reported that meetings were being arranged with contractors with a view to seeking quotes for the works planned at the Fens and Pigs Meadow.

12.2 Conversion of sodium lights to LED for FTC owned street lights.

The DTC reported that he had asked SCC for help with this.

13. CORRESPONDENCE:

13.1 Email from resident re Fore St Parking (St Clare's)

It was noted that IBC had granted a concession to a church in Ipswich and the DTC was asked to write to ESC asking for a similar concession for St Clare's.

13.2 Email re EV charging point.

Noted.

13.3 email from resident re Elms Car Park.

Noted. It was also noted that the strategy for 'on street' parking was out of date and would need to be updated.

13.4 Email from resident re Elms Car Park #2

The DTC reported that he had responded to the email and that It was agreed that Cllr Eastwood would write to the District Councillor highlighting the problem for residents on a low income to afford parking in the town under the new tariffs.

14. 2020/21 ACTION PLAN:

14.1. Report of updated plan.

Cllr Eastwood had circulated the headings and would expand these into the new format for Action Plans for the next meeting.

14.2 Suggestions for CIL Bids

None.

15 HIGHWAY PROBLEM REPORTS:

The DTC reported that he was working on ensuring all the grit bins were filled and that the volunteer gritters had been contacted.

The DTC reported that a resident had reported a fence had broken along Fairfield Road and the DTC was trying to have this repaired.

16 MATTERS OF REPORT OR ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

None.

16.1 Items to be reported on monthly update

None.

Next meeting:

Monday 8th February at 7:00pm

The meeting concluded at 8:08pm.