

**Minutes for the Rights of Way, Highways and Lighting Committee meeting held on
Wednesday 29th May 2019 in The Cell, The Old Court House, Bridge Street at 8.15pm.**

1. Election of Committee Chairman:

Cllr Beal proposed Cllr Eastwood, there being no other nominations, this was seconded by Cllr Simpson with all in favour.

2. Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Carter, Fisher and Jones.

Present:

Cllr D Beal, Cllr C Eastwood, Cllr J Simpson and Cllr P Wraight.

In attendance: Mr James Overbury, Deputy Clerk. (DTC)

3. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr D Beal declared an interest in 7.5 (Persimmon)

4. Minutes of previous meeting:

Cllr Eastwood proposed to approve the minutes of the previous meeting (circulated in draft form prior to the meeting) as an accurate record, which was seconded by Cllr Simpson with all in favour.

5. Public Comment:

None.

6. Rights of Way:

Cllr Eastwood reported that there had been an omission on the published agenda in item 6. Item 6.1 was agreed at the last meeting to be on the agenda and it was agreed to discuss the issue at the meeting.

6.1 'Motorcycles on footpaths' Cllr Beal reported that he had investigated the issue and there had been no more reports of motorcycles on the footpaths and the incident appeared to be a one off.

6.2 Footpath from Fairfield Road development to Fore Street (#38) - Update on progress.

The DTC was continuing to urge SCC Highways to produce a quote for the work.

6.3 Proposed hard surface footpath leading from Castle Brooks to the play area across a grass area – Update.

Cllr Eastwood reported that he and the DTC had met the ESC officer on site. ESC has no objections in principle and there are a number of ways the Town Council could approach this. ESC preferred option would be for them to transfer the freehold to FTC. Other options are an easement or a licence. The DTC was asked to investigate further the costs attached to the transfer of freehold and report back to the next meeting.

6.4 Condition of footpath behind The Elms – update.

Cllr Eastwood reported that the tree had blown over and had been cleared by the landowner and the footpath tamped down. Whilst this is a great improvement it was agreed to monitor the location in case it flooded.

6.5 RofW Walk 6th July: - appointment of designated First Aider.

Cllr Eastwood reported that Cllr Garrett was to undertake training and then to be the appointed first aider for the walk.

6.6 Taylor Wimpey Footpath concerns

The DTC reported on the state of the footpath and also other concerns regarding a drainage gully and the lack of a proper junction between footpaths 35 and 38. The DTC was asked to escalate the issue and seek improvement to the footpaths and ensure that storm drains are safe.

7. Highways:

7.1 Update on TRO considerations.

Cllr Eastwood reported that this remains on the agenda as the Civil Parking Enforcement issue was not resolved. It was hoped that CPE would be resolved and at that point it would be clear if the Town Council would need to apply for a separate TRO for the issues identified last year.

7.1.1 SCC Emails regarding parking outside primary school.

Cllr Eastwood reported that due to the introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement SCC Highways were to issue a TRO for all schools with 'Zig Zag' markings. This is so that the restriction these lines indicate can be enforced. Co-incidentally an email from Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School had been received the same day which detailed the School's efforts to control cars being parked outside the school on New Road. The DTC was asked to contact SCC Highways and suggest that within the TRO it was already planning that an additional part of the TRO be included which would deliver both double yellow and/or Zig Zag lines outside the school on New Road.

7.2 New Grit Bin Castle Brooks – Update.

Cllr Eastwood reported that the DTC had made every effort to establish the ownership of the land and how to place a grit bin on that location. It has been established that the land is owned by a temporary management company appointed by Hopkins. The DTC was asked to see if they would consider placing and maintaining a grit bin at that location.

7.3 Grit Bin Bibby's Way – Update.

Cllr Eastwood reported that the same issue applied to this location as in 7.3 above.

7.4 Community bus transport - Update on link to station.

Cllr Simpson reported on the progress of the working group and demonstrated the online survey. Cllr Simpson proposed to recommend to Full Council that the electronic and paper survey on the proposed bus service be actioned from the 15th June to the 31st July which was seconded by Cllr Eastwood with all in favour.

7.5 Bus shelters and improvements - Update on work with SCC Highways and Persimmon. (see email from Simon Barnett).

The email from SCC Highways regarding the inability of them to install two bus shelters on Saxtead Road was noted. The DTC was asked to confirm to SCC Highways the Town Council's agreement for the remaining improvements to the bus shelters.

7.6 S.I. D: - To consider data analysis.

The steady increase in average daily number of cars – now up to 3,500 a day, was noted.

7.7 Station Road Pedestrian Crossing – Halo removed.

It was noted that the illuminated Halo had been removed and that both sides of the crossing were now the same. The DTC noted that this was an example of very poor communication on behalf of SCC Highways. Along with the issue facing the Primary School this was felt worth including in a letter to the SCC Portfolio Holder for Transport – Cllr Mary Evans. The DTC was asked to draft a letter and circulate to all members of the committee.

7.9 Blocked Gullies – Fore St, and Fairfield Road. – report after rain and progress.

Cllr Eastwood reported that the Jetting had been completed and the road will be monitored after the next heavy rain. It was noted that Victoria Mill road had yet to be tackled.

7.10 Children Sign for Brook Lane.

Cllr Eastwood reported that the DTC had made several attempts to find a way of slowing down cars along Brook Lane. SCC Highways had an objection to each suggestion and were not forthcoming on what was possible. It was noted that there was a strong desire from the Committee for SCC to improve its communication and to work towards suggesting what was possible.

7.11 Report from SCC launch of Community Volunteers see <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/community-self-help-scheme/>

Cllr Eastwood reported that he and the DTC had attended the launch of SCC Highways self help initiative. This new scheme allowed town and parish Councils to undertake minor works to highways. The work was restricted to low level maintenance (cleaning of signs and cutting back vegetation) and no work on the highway

was permitted. Council's wishing to do work for themselves had to be trained, follow SCC guidelines and ask their permission first. Whilst the Committee welcomed the potential to solve some of the problems on the highways in the town, it was felt that there was disparity between transferring the County Council's duty and yet maintaining its liability. It was felt that it would be better for the duty, power and liability be transferred to the local Councils and for them to make their own decisions on what they felt was required. The DTC was asked to establish what the costs of the training was. Cllr Eastwood indicated he would be willing to undertake the training.

At 9:30pm Cllr Simpson left the meeting

8. Parking:

8.1 Update from Parking Working Group.

Cllr Eastwood updated the meeting on the progress and clarified a number of points.

At this point the Chairman suggested that due to the hour and the fact that the meeting was rapidly approaching two hours in duration that item 8.3 be considered next and that all other items were to be deferred until the next meeting. This was agreed.

8.2 Provision of charging points for electric vehicles on Market Hill.

Deferred until the meeting on 19th June.

8.3 To approve draft 'provision of car parking spaces at Framlingham Sports Club' - memorandum of understanding – attached

The Committee examined the draft MOU and suggested a number of amendments.

The Meeting closed at 10:10pm

Next Meeting: Monday 17th June 2019 at 6:30pm