

WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES

Minutes of the Highways Transport and Lighting Committee meeting held at The Pavilion, Sparrows Green Recreation Ground, South View Road, Wadhurst on Thursday 17th November 2022.

Present: Cllr P Moore (Chair), Cllr C Moore, Cllr Gadd, Cllr Murphy, Cllr Crawford, Cllr Shairp, Cllr Smith, Cllr Griffin and Cllr Anderson (from 1940 hours).

Also present: ESCC Cllr Standley, Claudine Feltham, Clerk, Liz Dalrymple-White - Deputy Clerk. There were no members of the public present.

1. To receive apologies and reasons for absence.
None
2. To receive declarations of personal, prejudicial and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda and updates to members' register of interests.
None
3. To consider, and approve if appropriate, which agenda items are sufficiently confidential as to warrant exclusion of members of the press and public under the provisions of the Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960.
None
4. Public Forum – time limit 15 minutes.
*ESCC Cllr Standley commented that the lighting from car park to Pavilion at Sparrows Green are not working. **Action:** Clerk to advise Caretaker*
Cllr Standley commented that the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday worked very well. Cllr C Moore added that she had also received lots of positive feedback for the event.

Cllr C Moore had received correspondence from a resident of Newbury Lane who advised they were becoming increasingly frustrated with the drainage issue on Newbury Lane, and that despite years of liaison with East Sussex Highways (ESH) the issues were still not resolved.

Clerks comment: *The Clerk and Cllr P Moore have also been in contact with the resident over these ongoing issues, and Cllr P Moore had written to Cllr Standley to request his assistance with getting a successful resolution to this ongoing problem. **Action:** Clerk to contact Cllr Standley to request an update and add to the SLR agenda list.*

*Cllr Crawford: the flood lights at the Greyhound Car Park are not working. **Action:** Clerk to report to Wealden District Council*

*Cllr Crawford: had received a request for a defibrillator in the centre of the village. **Update:** The Clerk advised that progress was already underway to have a defibrillator installed on the side wall of Carillon Cottage, and was going through the process with WDC as this was within the conservation area. Defib for centre of village – advised that we are in process for installing at Carillon Cottage.*

*Cllr Crawford: raised the issue that there were camper vans parking in layby opposite the Fire Station. Cllr P Moore advised we were already aware and liaising with Sussex Police/PCSO on this. One of the vehicles has no MoT (and therefore would not be insured). Members discussed the ownership of this land – and apparently it belongs to Wadhurst Castle. **Action:** Cllr P Moore to speak with the owner of Wadhurst Castle. **Action:** Clerk to continue to liaise with PCSO on this issue.*

5. To approve the minutes of the Highways, Transport and Lighting Committee held on 21st July 2022.
Resolved: *with the amendment of the date change at the top of the document, the minutes were approved as proposed by Cllr Gadd, seconded by Cllr Shairp and reached a majority approval.*
6. To determine matters arising from the previous minutes for updating and noting.
Item 8.2 since then we have residents raise issue of no cycling signs on the Twitten
Item 8.8 fingerpost at Snape Wood has now been installed, and featured in Focus magazine, thanking the parish council.

At the last meeting Cllr Murphy raised that the fingerposts needed cleaning – they have since been cleaned, and a condition report has been created by the Lengthsman.

Cllr Griffin raised the issue the ESH should have cut the grass of The Walk, Cllr Anderson advised there had been a cut before the Lengthsman cut it, but the previous cutter had not gone in between the trees etc so it still needed to be re done.

Cllr Gadd advised that the path down to the station needed to be swept as it is quite dangerous.

Action: Clerk to advise ESH.

Item 8.14 (Uplands) a remote meeting had been held with MP Nus Ghani and she was going to help facilitate a meeting with the school.

8.12 (The Walk) this has now been dealt with and is looking great. Very positive feedback had been received.

7. Items for discussion, decision, updates and allocation of resources, if necessary.

Cllr P Moore proposed that agenda items were considered in a different order so that items of interest to ESCC Cllr Standley could be considered first.

7.1 To agree a budget and supplier for replacement parking signs – Cllr P Moore

Cllr P Moore explained that he would like to replace the current parking signs at One Stop and Greyhound with fingerposts. There is plenty of room by the One Stop, and the one by the Greyhound may need to be moved slightly. Members discussed the ideas at length.

Resolved: Cllr P Moore proposed that the parish council pursue this idea with ESH and set a budget of up to £4000, if permitted by ESH. This was seconded by Cllr Gadd and reached unanimous approval. **Action:** Clerk to contact ESH.

7.2 Marlpit cycle signs – Cllr C Moore

The location is the twitten between Bankside and Marlpit. Residents would like the 'no cycling' signs back as there is a blind bend along here. There used to be signs on little posts, suggestion is that we add more rural signs on wooden posts. **Resolved:** as proposed by Cllr C Moore and seconded by Cllr Gadd, members unanimously approved for 4 signs to be installed, most appropriate design to be decided by our Lengthsman, with a budget of up to £1,000 for this.

7.3 To consider the ESH report with regards to Sacred Heart School/Mayfield Lane road safety proposals – Cllr P Moore (Note: awaiting response from Sacred Heart School)

Cllr P Moore commented that the reports from ESH were very good, and that the school had been approached for their thoughts. The Clerk updated members that: the headteacher has been away poorly, but now returned and is planning a meeting with the parent who initially raised the concerns. Cllr Murphy commented that some of this land belongs to the Church.

Deferred: once heard back from the school arrange to meet with them to discuss

7.4 Village Gateways – to consider the design plan from East Sussex Highways – Cllr P Moore/Cllr Griffin

Cllr P Moore apologised that the document sent by Cllr Standley had not reached him.

ESH wanted plastic village gateways, whilst the parish council wanted the High Weald AONB suggested design of oak posts.

Cllr Standley commented that the safety would be the overriding factor.

Action: Clerk to forward the design plan to all upon receipt from Cllr Standley.

Action: Cllr P Moore to arrange a Zoom meeting for members to discuss the report and key priorities during week commencing 28th November 2022.

Action: Cllr Standley to set up a further meeting with ESH for a few weeks' time.

7.5 20 MPH speed limit – to consider the design plan from East Sussex Highways – Cllr P Moore/Cllr Griffin

Cllr Standley advised that the area covered would be from Brinkers to Hillside. It would not be possible to have it outside of the primary school though. As per agenda item 7.4: **Action:** Clerk to forward the design plan to all upon receipt from Cllr Standley. **Action:** Cllr P Moore to arrange a

Zoom meeting for members to discuss the report and key priorities during week commencing 28th November 2022.

- 7.6 Replacements lampposts – to consider the comments from Eric Ware and proceed with the order – Cllr P Moore advised members of the options. **Resolved:** Cllr P Moore proposed for the order of three glass Windsor units to match the ones we already have with a 2700 Kelvin colour temperature, this was seconded by Cllr Gadd and reached unanimous approval. **Action:** Clerk to advise Eric Ware, ESH. **Action:** Cllr P Moore to advise the astronomy society of our plans.
- 7.7 Lower High Street drains – Cllr Griffin
Cllr Griffin advised he had again written to ESH about the issues. **Action:** Cllr Griffin to send the photographs of the drains to Cllr Standley.
- 7.8 Lower High Street pavements – Cllr Griffin
Cllr Griffin advised that this has been in a poor condition for a long time and is deteriorating further. Some patching works have taken place but the area is getting far more footfall, and concerned that this will further deteriorate.
Action: Clerk to request that ESH Steward attend to assess both sides of Lower High Street with the view of resurfacing it all.
- 7.9 Pavement outside of the Commemoration Hall – Cllr Griffin
Members discussed, at length, the issues of the area outside of the Commemoration Hall, as well as the semi-circle outside of the Greyhound and the area outside of Uplands. Some areas that should have been bricked, have had tarmac installed.
Members considered whether they should employ the services of a Design Team for the whole area. **Resolved:** Cllr P Moore proposed for this to be an item on the SLR agenda in the first instance, this was seconded by Cllr Gadd and reached unanimous approval. **Action:** Clerk to add to SLR agenda list.
- 7.10 Request for an update on the intended bicycle rack – Cllr Griffin
Clerk updated that he initial underground utilities checks has been organised and paid for, with the results expected by 25th November 2022.
Cllr Anderson advised that a C.A.T and Genny survey would also be required. **Resolved:** Cllr P Moore proposed that the Lengthsman carryout the C.A.T and Genny training (approx. £125) so that this service could be used when installing benches, bins etc, this was seconded by Cllr Crawford and reached a majority approval. **Action:** Lengthsman to carry out the training and invoice the parish council for the costs
- 7.11 Sparrows Green – road surface – Cllr Griffin
Already actioned.
- 7.12 Greenham Farm bus shelter – to consider the outstanding repair works required and decide on a way forward – Clerk/Cllr Anderson
Cllr Anderson gave an overview of the work that had already been carried out, and the work which was outstanding. **Resolved:** Cllr C Moore proposed that the Lengthsman finish the works with an additional budget of £100 for replacement glass and other materials. The Lengthsman to consider if the wood should be preserved with invisible green colour treatment. This was seconded by Cllr Smith and reached majority approval.
- 7.13 Consider quotes for replacement bench opposite the primary school – Cllr P Moore
Cllr P Moore advised that as well as the replacement bench it would be ideal to have a bin at this location, and the ground would require some works as was in poor condition.
Action: Cllr P Moore to contact Dave Smith, ESH to request the ground work.
Action: Clerk to carry out Land Registry check to establish the owner of this piece of land.
Resolved: Cllr P Moore proposed a budget of £2000 for the bench, bin and installation, this was seconded by Cllr C Moore and reached majority approval.
- 7.14 Replacement bus shelter outside of the train station – Cllr P Moore/Cllr Anderson

Cllr Anderson provided an update: approval had been received by ESH; the contractor had been tasked with the work. Dave Smith of ESH had offered to resurface the ground and install a bin at this location (if the bin was provided by the parish council)

Resolved: *Cllr P Moore proposed a budget of £1000 for the new bin (as per style suggested at item 7.13), this was seconded by Cllr Gadd and reached unanimous approval. **Action:** Clerk to order the bin. **Action:** Cllr P Moore to liaise with Dave Smith, ESH.*

7.15 SLR meeting; to agree some possible time/dates to suggest to ESH and approve the agenda items – Cllr P Moore/Cllr Griffin

Action: *Cllr Griffin and Cllr P Moore to provide agenda items to the Clerk.*

Action: *Clerk to request meeting avoiding dates of 4-12 December 2022*

8. Items for noting only

8.1 Highways Lighting and Transport spend to date

Noted

8.2 Fairglen Road triangle – condition of triangle whilst utility company carry out replacements – Clerk

Noted

10. Urgent issues at the discretion of the Chair for noting or inclusion on future agenda.

- *Cllr P Moore commented on the design of signs at end of Primmers and Pell Hill. **Action:** add to SLR agenda.*
- *Cllr Gadd: the dog waste bin on Durgates is rusty and dangerous, believe this is one owned by WDC. **Action:** Clerk to report to Chris Bone, WDC.*
- *Cllr C Moore: any update on the bollards at Faircouch Lane? **Action:** Clerk to make enquiries with ESH.*

Meeting closed: 2125 hours