



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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS LIGHTING
AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 22ND MAY 2018 AT 19:30
IN THE PARISH COUNCIL ROOM, ROTHERFIELD VILLAGE HALL TN6 3LX**

Cllr. A. Martin (Chair)
Cllr. G. Farmer

Cllr. T. Gilbert
Cllr. R. Harris

Cllr. L. Henrick
Cllr. G. Watson-Smith
Cllr. N. Wickenden

COUNCILLORS ABSENT

None.

ALSO, PRESENT

The Parish Clerk, Trevor Thorpe and one Parishioner in connection with item 2b)

1. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING: -

a) Apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85)

Cllr. J. Kitchenham submitted an apology for absence and it was **RESOLVED** that this be accepted by the Committee

b) Declaration of personal, prejudicial and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda, and updates to members' register of interests.

None. Chair reminded those present that they should declare an interest if they became aware of one during the meeting.

c) To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 13th March 2018 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

It was **RESOLVED** that these be adopted as a true record and the Chair signed them.

**d) Update regarding matters arising and action items from previous meetings.
March 2018 meeting**

• CCTV – issues raised by Wealden Conservation Officers re: installation of this on the King's Arms.

Cllr. Harris reported that he was in discussion with the owner of another property in the Village which may be a more suitable location for this to monitor oversize vehicles. He will report any progress.

• Police and Crime Commissioner is unable to attend any of the meeting dates suggested, email sent from their team which suggests a member of the Police force may be an alternative?

Clerk is to go back to the PCCC Office and ask them to provide a list of dates available.

• Trulls Hatch petition re speed limits.

Clerk still to action, will check to see if some or all the area in question is in Mayfield Parish.

• Mayfield turn, request for additional awareness measures.

Cllr. Martin is seeking a site meeting with Ian Johnsons from East Sussex Highways regarding this.

Clerk also reported on the following Highways matters

- Reported to Highways the collapsed fence by the raised footpath in Church Road, also two potholes and a rattling inspection cover in Station Road near the steps to Hornshurst Road.

- Sought and received information from South East Water regarding the work taking place on the Village outskirts – this has been shared on Social Media. Information covers arrangements and dates of work affecting local roads. Clerk is to raise issue

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with them of closure of B2101 for a period during July/August as this shows Rotherhurst Lane as a diversion route and makes no mention of impact on 252 bus service.

- Continues his endeavours to obtain firm information from East Sussex Highways regarding Jarvis Brook – Rotherfield resurfacing. The “roadworks.org” national website has been updated recently and implies that work is scheduled for July, this after South East Water have finished their excavations nearby.
- Gas main work on Spout Hill. Clerk has been contacted by a concerned resident of this area. He had been told by the contractor that the road was to be closed for six weeks and was concerned that this would affect his business which needs access for large vehicles; using the route via Redgate Mill crossroads is not an option. Enquiry of East Sussex Highways disclosed that the contractor only has authorisation for traffic control and not closure; the expectation is that they would work with locals affected to ensure that access is available. Clerk has reported this to resident and advised that he should contact East Sussex Highways direct if issues arose.

e) Committee financial report and agree any actions required.

This was circulated in advance of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that report be accepted and that no actions were required.

2. RECEIVE INFORMATION AND MAKE DECISIONS ON ACTIONS AND EXPENDITURE AS REQUIRED REGARDING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

a) Request from Town Row resident for a permanent interactive speed sign at the foot of Catt’s Hill.

Correspondence on this subject was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Martin advised that the 85th percentile speed as monitored by our speed indicating device was at a reasonable level and that it was unlikely that interactive sign would be approved by East Sussex Highways at this location even if funding were available. It was **RESOLVED** not to install a sign at this location.

b) Update and further action regarding ESCC report on speed limit and awareness measures in Rotherfield Village.

Chair permitted the Parishioner present to address the meeting. Concerns were expressed that the situation regarding speeding vehicles and large lorries had not improved. It was **RESOLVED** that the following actions be taken: -

- East Sussex Highways are to be contacted by Cllr. Henrick (?) and asked to prepare design options for speed reminder and awareness measures on the approaches to the Village.
- Suggested measures to include red tarmac reminders, road surface speed roundels and removal of centre line markings.
- Work to be incorporated with the forthcoming resurfacing work from Village to Jarvis Brook if possible.
- Cllr. Martin to include this matter in his forthcoming site meeting with Ian Johnson of ESCC regarding Mayfield turn signage improvement, it is suggested that this is arranged for the day of the next Strengthening Local Relationships meeting scheduled for 20th June.

Clerk reminded the meeting that funds of £20.6K were being held in earmarked reserve from Community Infrastructure Levy payments made in respect of local building developments. A further £63K is provisionally due from current developments in the Parish but when and if these funds will be received is not known.

c) Update and further action regarding ESCC report regarding additional safe crossing point on the A267 at Mark Cross.

Report and costings still awaiting scrutiny by East Sussex Highways. **CLERK** to circulate when received from them and add to agenda of next Highways Committee meeting or Parish Council meeting to consider further action.

d) Inspection and maintenance of Parish fingerposts, and cleaning of road signs.

Clerk has inspected some of our stock these. **RESOLVED** that **CLERK** circulate list of fingerposts and their locations to the Councillors, identifying those posts which he has

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inspected and photographed. **CLERK** to also instruct the usual contractor used for this work to clean and repaint those signs requiring it and for them to identify and quote for those needing repair.

e) Long Vehicles. Update on progress with implementing and enforcing the ban.

Clerk reported the following: -

- Stats due from ESCC from their speed loops approaching the Village which record vehicle categories – these will cover both Jan – April 2017 and 2018 to enable comparison. It will be born in mind that traffic movements for the South-East Water work by the Milk Lodge laybys will affect the 2018 figures.
- Signs on B2100 Mark Cross approx. 200m from junction when approaching from Wadhurst and on A26 Crowborough Church Road junction still await installation. Allegedly 3 signs near Palesgate Lane/Tesco are also outstanding but it has been pointed out to Highways that these have been in place for several months. Plan of sign sites circulated, progress has not been helped by ES Highways officer dealing with project leaving.
- We have several enthusiastic “lorry spotters” in the Village to whom the Clerk is very grateful for providing photos and details of vehicles passing through. Where sufficient information is available the issue is raised with the companies concerned via email/post.
- Tesco. Disappointed at lack of response from their transport manager Clerk has raised the issue with their chief executive who has responded. Clerk has now spoken with Tesco’s transport manager and pointed out that the drivers of their and their contractor’s vehicles passing through the village will have passed several signs relating to the restriction and advising of suitable alternative routes, generally Bunny Lane and A26. He encourages us to send details of such vehicles to him and will do his utmost to raise the profile of the restriction with the depots, contractors and drivers involved.
- Recent strike by Stobart lorry on the Kings Arms. **CLERK** to contact the “King’s” concerning this and enquire as to their proposals for repairing the damage to the premises by this and previous strikes.

f) Lamp Columns

i. Replacement of damaged column 16 on the B2101 High Cross.

Quote of £2466 received for replacement, reconnection costs will be unknown until Contractor UKPN undertake the work. **CLERK** is to make enquiries of our insurers to see if a claim will be considered and if this will affect our premium. Clerk is also seeking information from East Sussex Highways regarding progress with replacing the damaged column in Hornshurst Road.

ii. Participation in the ESCC street column testing programme for 2018.

Email circulated containing information. **RESOLVED** not to participate as the columns have been inspected within past two years.

g) Issues raised regarding parking enforcement signs by Mark Cross School.

RESOLVED that Cllrs. Cahan and Farmer liaise with Clerk to draft social media message inviting details of these concerns and parking in this area, also inviting suggestions as to how the situation could be improved. Item to feature on agenda of next meeting of this Committee to review responses and consider action.

h) Roadside advertising

i. Areas of Highways land in the Parish which are regularly affected by roadside advertising, as identified by Councillors, for licensing to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that **CLERK** investigate the following areas regarding ownership and liaise with East Sussex Highways with licencing them to the Council.

- Mark Cross - areas of verge in the centre of Village that are not currently licenced to the Parish Council.
- Town Row. “Triangle” containing fingerpost by Yew Tree Lane junction with B2100, and grass area by bridge where path crosses.
- Danegate “triangle” Blackdon Hill.

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Clerk to also investigate ownership position regarding other area of land at Town Row and laybys on B2100 Rotherfield Hill, and arrange licences to the Council if these areas are not registered to others.

ii. Adoption of policy on roadside advertising on Parish owned or licensed land.
Cllrs. Harris and Henrick to prepare draft of this for consideration at the next meeting of the Communications and Social Media Committee **CLERK** to add agenda item.
Clerk recommended that advertising should be limited to that from “not for profit” organisations from Rotherfield Parish, and those immediately adjacent.

i) Items for agenda of forthcoming Strengthening Local Relationships Meeting with East Sussex Highways scheduled for June 20th.

Items for Agenda to Clerk to be with Clerk by end of month. Clerk to ensure that Scout Hut is booked. The two Parishioners who have raised the profile of the speeding issue will be invited to attend.

j) Recreation and Burial issue. Consider and agree terms and conditions for use of Recreation Ground Car Park by fitness classes.

Concerns have been raised by the Hall and neighbouring residents regarding this commercial fitness group, particularly to noise from their activities and the music used. Group had located here from Court Meadow Green at the Council’s request and have been using the car park to avoid damaging the playing surfaces when wet.

RESOLVED that **CLERK** write to the group to arrange a site meeting with the so that conditions can be agreed for their activities to the mutual satisfaction of all parties. Group to also be advised that the exterior of buildings in the area are not to form part of the exercise activities.

3. URGENT ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED ON BEHALF OF OTHER COMMITTEES

Clerk to remove this from future agenda.

4. RECEIVE DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE

- 17th July 2018 in the Parish Council Room, Rotherfield Village Hall, starting at 19:30.

5. REPORT DETAILS OF ITEMS AND ISSUES FOR INVESTIGATION, FURTHER ACTION OR FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- Work continues to find a key or replacement lock for the flagpole in the Rec.
- Clerk reported the following: -
 - Requested that Councillors gave prior consideration as to their roles and responsibilities they would like to fill, for agreement at the forthcoming Annual Council meeting.
 - Will be on holiday Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th returning for the Annual Council meeting on the 31st.
 - Information will be circulated to Councillors regarding background to the long-proposed Jarvis Brook – Rotherfield path.
- Cllrs. Wickenden and Harris to discuss the issue of agricultural machinery parked on Common Land in the Parish with their owner.

6. PUBLIC FORUM

The Chair declared the formal business of the meeting closed at 21:25

7. PUBLIC FORUM.

None.

.....Chair.....Date

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