



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

**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS LIGHTING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 10TH MAY 2016 AT 19:30
IN THE SCOUT AND COMMUNITY YOUTH HALL, ROTHERFIELD.**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Cllr. A. Martin (Chairman)	Cllr. T. Gilbert	Cllr. L. Watts
Cllr. G. Watson-Smith (Vice Chairman)	Cllr. R. Harris.	Cllr. N. Wickenden
Cllr. C. Clibbens	Cllr. L. Henrick	

ALSO PRESENT

Clerk to the Parish Council, Trevor Thorpe.

ABSENT

None.

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (LGA 1972 s 85).

Apologies for absence were submitted for Cllr. J. Kitchenham and Cllr. D. Thomas.
Cllr. Harris reported that Cllr. Curtis has tendered his resignation from the Council.

2. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL, PREJUDICIAL AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND UPDATES TO MEMBERS' REGISTER OF INTERESTS.

None. The Chairman reminded those present that they should declare an interest if at any point during the meeting they became aware of one relating to a matter being discussed.

3. UPDATE FROM CLERK REGARDING MATTERS ARISING AND ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING.

Numbers relate to the Agenda of the March meeting:-

6a) Concerns raised by Parishioners regarding Speeding issues:-

As part of the work associated with the proposed long vehicle restrictions ESCC have installed vehicle speed/volume monitors at the approaches to the Village, they have been requested to share data from this; the cost to the Parish Council of arranging a "stand alone" 7 day survey through ESCC would be in the order of £400 per site. See item 5k) on the agenda of this meeting update regarding VAS/SID procurement.

6b) Launch of the "We're Keeping an Eye on You" Road Safety Campaign in Wealden.

Report from Councillors who attended this event, and actions arising.

Nothing further to report, papers from session circulated to Councillors on March 11th

Clerk: Trevor Thorpe, 82 Fermor Way, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 3BJ 01892 664245.

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6b) Eridge Station area. Request from resident to extend yellow lines in this area due to problems accessing Forge Road caused by parked vehicles.

To be raised at the June SLR meeting, it is not known if residents affected have organised petition to support their concerns.

6c) Parking issues in Rotherfield Village Centre – update and further action.

Letters and associated documents now ready for distribution.

6d) Update and further action regarding street light columns identified as requiring replacement.

See item 5a) on this agenda.

6e) Update re: consent sought from ESCC for installation of bollards by Rotherfield Institute, Highgate Flats and at Yew Tree Lane/A267 junction.

ESCC have assured that licence for the Highgate Flats bollard(s) has been agreed but the paperwork has yet to appear. See 5g) on this Agenda, ESCC are still considering request for permission to install bollard(s) by the Institute to protect the porch as they consider there is insufficient width of pavement at this location to do this safely.

4. TO RECEIVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2016 FOR APPROVAL AS A TRUE RECORD AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES.

Draft minutes had been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting and it was RESOLVED that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record.

5. TO CONSIDER AND MAKE DECISIONS ON ANY FURTHER ACTION AND EXPENDITURE REQUIRED REGARDING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

a) Decision on action regarding street light columns identified by ESCC as requiring attention.

Locations and numbers of those requiring action within 12 months are:

i.	Catts Hill B2100	o/s Dell House	35
ii.	Catts Hill B2100	o/s Wood View	36
iii.	Catts Hill B2100	o/s The Violets	38
iv.	Church Road B2100	Opp. Penn Cottage	2
v.	Cottage Hill	o/s 5	92
vi.	Court Meadow Close	o/s 12	87
vii.	Court Meadow Close	Adj. 23	88
viii.	Court Meadow Close	s/o 15	89
ix.	Hornshurst Road	o/s 36	69
x.	North Street	o/s The Old Bakery	63
xi.	South St. - Mayfield Rd	o/s The Old Rectory	13
xii.	South St. - Mayfield Rd	j/o Cottage Hill/ R'field Lane	14
xiii.	New Road	Opp. Uplands	41
xiv.	New Road	j/o Horsegrove Lane	44

Clerk reported the following:-

- "Chopping off" of a street column and making safe the supply as per the recently removed column 34 in Catts Hill - £126.00 ex Vat.
- Full removal of street column requiring attendance of EDF to isolate the supply – cost in order of £700 ex Vat advised by ESCC.

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- Provision of replacement street column (based on recent quotes) approx. £1300.00. with the latest LED style lamps, "part night" cell option another £80.
- In all the above instances possibility of discounts being negotiated if there are nearby "clusters" of columns requiring attention will be investigated.

RESOLVED the following actions for CLERK:-

- i. Investigate consulting engineers who would be able to inspect and give a "second opinion" regarding the ESCC surveyor's view that action is required within a year on the lamp columns in question. Instruct them to proceed with inspection if cost is less than £500.
- ii. If replacement of columns is still required numbers 87, 88 and 89 in Court Meadow, 63 in North Street and 36 in Hornshurst Road are to be prioritised as they are in residential areas.

b) Rotherfield – Jarvis Brook shared footway/cycleway Options Feasibility Report – decision on further action.

Report circulated prior to meeting. Clerk also circulated the current ESCC free transport for School Pupils policy; concern has been raised in the past that provision of a footpath joining the Village with Jarvis Brook could prejudice this for Village pupils attending Beacon Academy at Crowborough.

RESOLVED the following actions for the Clerk:-

- i. Matter to be raised at the forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting to make Parishioners aware of estimated costs of scheme, also to establish what demand there could be for a path.
- ii. Will Clark to be asked to cut the verge on this section of the B2100 on a fortnightly basis until mid – June and three weekly thereafter with a review at the beginning of September to see if further autumn cuts are required.

c) Action on concerns raised re: parking of vehicles on Mark Cross School "no parking" zig zags.

Documentation relating to the Slip Road closure Notice confirms that the making of the School "zig zags" enforceable was included therein, ESCC to be chased to confirm that this is now the case and that this fact should be communicated to Sussex Police. See also item e) iii below.

d) Request for consideration that a pedestrian crossing be installed by Rotherfield School.

This in response to a "tweet" from a Parishioner who has been asked to outline their concerns and suggested remedy in writing to us – so far not received. Past request for crossing in "The Square" were not carried forward, believed due to sighting and space issues. This is to be added SLR Agenda to discuss with ESCC.

e) Mark Cross

i. Information regarding installation of "Village Gateways" to be funded by local sponsor.

Cllr. Watts reported that a local sponsor is willing to contribute toward the cost of the eight "gateways" required at the four entry points to the Village on the A267 and B2100. Cllr. Watts is to investigate designs available for consideration at the 12th July meeting of this Committee and passing to ESCC for comment. CLERK to add to agenda

ii. Information regarding rare plants growing on and by the Millennium Green, arrangements for grass cutting and tidying and provision of replacement picnic bench.

There are markers indicating that this area is subject to a "Wildlife Grass Verge Order" ACTION for CLERK to establish who the Order was made by and details of its content, report at July meeting of this Committee. An offer has been made of another Oak bench to replace the current one which is in poor condition; if this proceeds the donors of the original bench should be informed.

iii. Suggestion to make the section of road from the Wadhurst Road junction to junction with A267 near Church "one way" for eastbound traffic.

Various issues and concerns have been raised regarding traffic issues arising subsequent to the slip road closure:-

- a) Vehicles are still parking on the "zig zag" markings at school times.
- b) As a consequence traffic is backing up on to the A267.
- c) Enforcement is needed from the Police to discourage this.
- d) The section of road from the A267 junction by the Church to the Wadhurst turning should be "one way" in that direction to improve traffic flow.

It is recommended that the issue of parking on the "zig zags" should be raised via "Operation Crackdown" to encourage action by Sussex Police. ACTION for CLERK to add the "One Way" suggestion to the agenda of the forthcoming SLR.

f) Information on action regarding proliferation of private traffic cones in Rotherfield village centre.

Update regarding legal position with cones reported via email to Councillors on May 5th. Recommend that incidences of obstructive use of cones on the Public Highway be reported direct to the Police via 101, or "Operation Crackdown" website.

g) Provision of bollards on verge outside Highgate Flats to discourage obstructive parking

Although issue of licence has been confirmed by ESCC it has yet to be received. RESOLVED action for CLERK to obtain quote from Coppard's for four bollards in this location, if quote is below £500 instruct Coppard's to proceed as soon as Licence appears from ESCC.

h) Matters for discussion at the forthcoming Strengthening Local Relationships meeting with ESCC Highways Officers on 22nd June.

Items to Clerk by 14th June please. Ian Johnson and Sam Clee will be in attendance.

i) Consider quotes for repair/replacement of bus shelter at Eridge Forstal A26 Southbound, new shelter at Mark Cross opposite the Garden Centre and wood treatment of existing shelters.

No response received for quote request for this work, ACTION for Cllr. Martin to seek alternative quotes for this work to include concrete base for additional Mark Cross shelter proposed. In view of prevailing winds at Mark Cross it has been recommended that the new shelter there is built with the wall facing the road. ACTION for CLERK to submit licence application to ESCC for the installation as it is assumed verge is their property.

j) Request for installation of litter bin in the southbound layby, A26 at Eridge Forstal.

WDC deal with these matters and have quoted is £750 for installation of a concrete waste bin plus £5 per empty. RESOLVED not to proceed with this as the litter problem appears to have subsided in this location.

k) Progress update regarding procurement of interactive speed reminder sign.

Cllr. Martin reported that he was investigating various options, SWARCO have quoted £3180 plus VAT for sign, fixing bracket and battery. ESCC Highways have been contacted to seek information on the criteria for where the device could be deployed in the Parish, response awaited. ACTION for CLERK to add item to agenda of forthcoming SLR.

l) Maintenance/reinstatement of Parish road junction grass “triangles”.

Locations are as follows:-

- i. Danegate.
- ii. Redgate Mill crossroads x 2. One at foot of Cowford Bridge Lane is obliterated; one opposite with fingerpost is subject to some vehicle erosion.
- iii. Town Row – good condition and protected by wooden posts.
- iv. Yew Tree Lane – A267 junction. Not checked.
- v. Castle Hill – good condition, damaged fence reported to ESCC but not a priority for them to fix.
- vi. Dewland’s Hill – damaged by roadworks, contractor to be contacted.
- vii. Burnt Oak Road/Fordbrook Hill junction.

Those at locations i and vii are maintained by public spirited nearby residents. RESOLVED action for CLERK to seek quote for reinstatement of the triangle at the foot of Cowford Bridge Lane, £1000 included in the 2016/17 for work in connection with these.

m) Invitation to nominate a Community representative for the Gatwick Airport Noise Management Board (NMB).

RESOLVED that the recommendations of the High Weald Council's Aviation Action Group (HWCAAG) are accepted and that the following groups are nominated as representatives to stand on the Noise Monitoring Board (NMB) to represent the Parish:-

- i. Richard Streatfeild, as Chairman of HWCAAG, to be our nomination as community representative for the east of the airport, and Colin Stratton-Brown as the Named Alternate.
- ii. Peter Drummond, as Chairman of APCAG, (Association of Parish Councils Aviation Group) to be our nomination as community representative for the west of the airport, and Linda Penny, as Chair of BiPlane, as the Named Alternate

We believe the Board would be more effective if two further community representatives were included. To that end we also nominate:

- iii. East: Martin Barraud, Chairman of Gatwick Obviously Not.
West: Ian Hare, Chairman of Pulborough Against Gatwick Noise and Emissions (PAGNE).

CLERK to communicate this to the NMB; Cllr. Henrick has offered to be the contact point for any aircraft noise related issues; CLERK to add her to the mailing list for communications from HWCAAG and similar groups.

- n) **Response to ESCC consultation re: proposals to impose seasonal closures to a number of Parish byways prohibiting use by four wheeled vehicles 1st October to 31st March each year.**

RESOLVED that the proposals are supported, CLERK to advise ESCC.

6. TO CONSIDER URGENT ITEMS ON BEHALF OF OTHER COMMITTEES

- a) **Quote for inspecting memorials in St Denys' Old Burial Ground, and provision of report with recommendations for any requiring action.**

RESOLVED to proceed with survey at cost quoted of £500 plus VAT, CLERK to advise surveyor to proceed.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

None.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Tuesday July 12th 19:30 in the Parish Council Room, Rotherfield Village Hall.

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

- i. Request has again been made for provision of time restricted parking bays by the Catts Inn.
- ii. Latest ESCC Highways Bulletin indicates that surface repair work is provisionally scheduled for Sham Farm Road from the A26 junction as far as the 30mph limit sign in Eridge Lane on Village outskirts. Extent and timing of work not reported, CLERK to enquire, and request that work is extended as far as the centre of the Village.
- iii. Cllr. Clibbens advised that he will be standing down from the Council after the Annual Parish Meeting.
- iv. Cllr. Watts has requested that consideration be given to providing a "traditional" style fingerpost in the centre of Mark Cross as apparently one used to stand there. She is to investigate details of the old sign so that the matter may be considered further at a future meeting.
- v. CLERK to again report that the northbound VAS at Mark Cross just beyond the crossroad is again misbehaving and requires attention from ESCC.
- vi. CLERK to liaise with Cllr. Watson Smith re budget and arrangement for planters and floral displays.

The Chairman declared the formal business of the meeting closed at 21:35.

10. PUBLIC FORUM.

None.

Confirmed as a true record at the 12th July 2016 meeting of this Committee

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