

Cottenham Parish Council
Minutes of Highways Committee

Held in the Village Hall, Recreation Ground, Lambs Lane, Cottenham
On Tuesday 9th December 2014 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Heydon (Chair), McCarthy, Morris, Ward and Clerk (Jo Brook).

In attendance: 3 members of the public

- 14H/034. Any Questions from the Public or Press – Standing orders to be suspended** – Cllr Nicholas attended as a member of the public and spoke regarding the residents report on a 20mph zone. In his opinion it was a good report however he queried how many residents were involved since the report didn't state this information. Cllr Collier arrived at 7.32pm. Cllr Morris commented that he had contact approx. 25 residents and 20 resident groups as a general traffic consultation but not specifically about a 20mph zone. Some of those consulted strongly lobbied for a 20mph zone but only approx. 5 were involved in the report. Two other residents present (husband and wife) spoke to say that they had commented on the consultation independently of each other.
- 14H/035. Standing Orders re-instated - Chairman's Introduction and Apologies** – Cllr Wotherspoon (business). Cllr Bolitho has resigned from the committee and the vacancy will be added to next full Council agenda.
- 14H/036. Declarations of Interest** *To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.* Cllr Heydon declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 14H/039.
- 14H/037. Minutes** - Resolution that the minutes (circulated to members) of the Committee meeting held on the 14th October be signed as a correct record. **RESOLVED.**
- 14H/038. Reports**
- **Clerk** – report circulated prior to the meeting. Updates: Dunstal Fields potholes have now been filled. Have chased Balfour re. new street light installation. Gavin Wiseman has advised the white lining will be done in the spring. Meeting to be set up with Sue Reynolds in February to discuss Tenison Manor adoption – Cllr Morris expressed an interest in being involved.
 - **20mph representation letter received** - to be considered under Agenda Item 14H/039
 - **Cottenham Speedwatch update** – Kate Heydon, Cottenham Speedwatch co-ordinator. Cllr Heydon summarised. Cllr Morris commented that she shouldn't have acted as a sole Cllr to amend the application form for the signs. Clerk to resend form. Query raised regarding speed enforcement. The speed limit can't be amended if it will criminalise more than 15% of the population. One of the options on the 20mph report therefore wouldn't work. The Speedwatch kit can't be re-calibrated easily because it is shared with other parishes.
 - **Update from Northstowe Traffic Working Group** – Cllr Heydon, Parish Council Representative. No report available; meeting cancelled after sudden death of the Chairman of the Northstowe working group.
 - **Chair** – report circulated prior to meeting. Cllr Morris raised a point of order: the report can't be used to hide agenda items. Agenda items must be explicit and give members of the public a reasonable knowledge of what is being discussed. Cllr Heydon responded that the purpose of the report was to give an update of what had happened within the Highways Committee. Cllr Morris again stated that during the recent Cllr training we had been advised not to have Chairs reports. Standing Orders suspended at 8.03pm. Chair asked public present whether they were happy with the report. Clerk advised that this would not be representative of the general population. Residents present responded that they were

unable to comment. Standing Orders reinstated at 8.10pm. Report should have been entitled as Highways Committee Quarterly Report and therefore a motion tabled for it to be agreed by the Committee.

14H/039. 20mph zone - To consider a 20mph zone in the four year strategy, based on collaborative resident input. (Deferred item from August 12th ref: 14H/004, October 14th 14H/025) – Cllrs Heydon firstly thanked Eileen Wilson for the report. Standing Orders suspended at 8.11pm. Eileen outlined the report. There appear to be a lot of benefits of the scheme and therefore worth seeing whether it was something that Cottenham wanted. There are lots of obstacles to overcome but the benefits would appear to outweigh these. Cllr Morris mentioned that the High Street is a B road and therefore a speed reduction can't be applied. If we lost B road status it wouldn't be gritted or maintained by County and we may lose the bus route. It was generally agreed that noise reduction and safety perception was a positive. No mention in the report of reduction in pollution which would be an added advantage. Consultation suggested with Corbett St/Rooks St/Margett St and Denmark Road in the first instance. Separate consultation with the whole village via newsletter. It was noted that Lambs Lane already had a weight limit and zoned speed limit in force. Standing Orders reinstated at 8.27pm. Suggestion that formal crossings would be a better option for the High Street to reduce speeds. Cllr Ward expressed an interest in being involved with the consultation process. It was noted that we would need to introduce more traffic calming measures before 20mph could be implemented. Resolution to consider a 20mph zone in the 4 year Highways strategy. **RESOLVED.**

14H/040. Meeting with County Council – To receive an update on meeting arranged by Cllr Morris with David Lines, County Highways, looking at the short term, and long-term project planning – Cllr Heydon & Morris plus the Clerk had met with David Lines, the Policy & Regulation Office, to check on the feasibility of various highways projects and how we would enforce existing TRO's (traffic regulation orders). Cllr Ward picked up that a weight limit couldn't be applied on the Twentypence Road bridge because it was on a B road; she will feed back to the Joint HCV group accordingly. Cllr Morris has submitted further questions and is awaiting response from David.

14H/041. Matters for consideration at the next meeting – child-designed street signs (Cllr Collier) and gritting.

14H/042. Date of next meeting – TBC.

14H/043. Close of meeting – 8.57pm.

Signed _____ (Chair) Date _____