

COTTENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Highways Committee Minutes

Meeting held in the Village Hall, Recreation Ground, Lambs Lane, Cottenham

On Tuesday 12th August 2014 at 7.15

Present: Cllrs Heydon (Chair), Bolitho, Collier, McCarthy, Morris, Ward, Wotherspoon and the Clerk

In attendance: 4 members of the public

14H/001. Any Questions from the Public or Press – Standing orders to be suspended – Residents spoke regarding flooding on Denmark Road. Following the heavy rainfall last week the road was closed and neighbouring properties were flooded. Their garden and garage was flooded and they have sent photographic/video evidence to the PC and Highways. This is all due to the drainage ditch on BGW being blocked and the pipe from Denmark Road to BGW being broken (the pipe runs alongside their property). Clerk gave an update on an email received from Highways and currently we are waiting for a response from Martin Allen re. what the next step is to get the pipe fixed. James Rowley (co-opted member of the Committee) asked for an update on the previous LHI. Resident spoke in favour of item 14H/004 - 20mph zone. Resident spoke regarding item 14H/013 to say that the cyclepath was a constant cause of punctures, particularly outside Cottenham Skips. Cllr Wotherspoon mentioned that there should be a sweeping schedule and that County had the power to enforce. Cyclists were also having to swerve on the path to avoid piles of grit/stones which was a danger in itself. Resident mentioned that the hedge alongside Rampton Road needed trimming and the Clerk confirmed that the owner had already been contacted to action the work.

14H/002. Standing Orders re-instated - Chairman's Introduction and Apologies – apologies accepted from Cllr Leeks.

14H/003. Declarations of Interest *To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting* – Cllr Bolitho declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 14H/009.

14H/004. Reports

- **Clerk** – report circulated prior to the meeting. Clerk gave updates to report that she had spoken to Harradine regarding the significant number of lorries currently driving through the village. They are phoning back to confirm the exact routing. Letter has also been received from resident regarding the 'unsuitable for HCV' signs on Telegraph Street. Resident is extremely upset that the signs weren't located at the Denmark Road end which is where the problem actual lies. Clerk to contact Highways. Cllr Morris said that we also need to get details of the operators and report them for using an unsuitable road. Clerk reported that details had been received regarding potential future cycle event which may require road closures.
- **A14 Consultation response via the HCV group** – Report circulated prior to the meeting. This completes our response to the consultation (as per minutes 14/187).
- **Resident collaborative input document on the feasibility of a 20mph zone in Cottenham for consideration of council support.** Cllr Morris commented that the police will support a change in the speed limited if it is proven that 85% of people abided by the current limit and questioned what evidence there was of speeding around the village. Cllr Heydon stated that the Speedwatch data provided evidence and outlined what Speedwatch does. Most events are focussed on Rampton Road at the moment with a view to gaining Speedwatch signage. The data collected is shared via eCops. Presently the data shows that too many vehicles are speeding on Histon and Rampton. Cllr Morris suggested that some kind of calming would be needed before the police would support a reduction in the speed limit.

14H/005. Local Highways Improvement bids – update on the bid proposals – Report circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Morris outlined the background this and item 14H/006. There is a requirement for money to be put in by the party making the application. The deadline for applications is 12th September. Cllr

Morris will collate the information gained to date to form 3 packages to put forward to full Council on 2nd September. Bids are judged in October by County with a view to implementing in the next financial year.

- 14H/006. 4 year Parish Council Highways strategy** – introduction to the strategy and themes – report circulated prior to the meeting. Discussed in collaboration with item 14H/005.
- 14H/007. Bus petition** - resolution for a bus needs petition and standard response in order to monitor local bus needs and to supply information to Stagecoach and the County Council - Cllr Heydon outlined. The suggested is that we publicise the petition on Facebook, website and Cottenham News. Cllr Heydon is meeting with CCC Cllr Jenkins and Stagecoach on Friday. Cllr Morris will look at PC powers regarding provision of buses. Cllr Ward suggested hard copies of the petition are made available. At this stage we need to establish whether there is the need to increase the service to the far end of the village. Resolution for a bus needs petition and standard response in order to monitor local bus needs and to supply information to Stagecoach and the County Council. **RESOLVED.**
- 14H/008. Speedwatch signage** - Resolution for a Speedwatch sign on Rampton Road – Item deferred.
- 14H/009. High Street parking** - update on data collated re spaces and needs: High Street parking near Rooks Street - Cllrs Bolitho and Morris have monitored parking in the layby outside Shaun's newsagents following comments that the layby is permanently full and there is no parking available for customers. Cllr Bolitho stated that there seemed no case to answer and spaces were regularly available. It was noted that currently there were no waiting restrictions on this layby and signage would cost approx. £4k. Cllr Morris stated that from 2015 no TRO would be necessary which would bring the cost down. The police have suggested a package of informal crossings, maybe with refuges, and notched parking bays which would provide additional parking along the High Street.
- 14H/010. Disabled parking** - update on conversation with PCSO Fuller and the Co-Op pharmacy on the High Street, re: PCSO suggestion of a disabled parking space at that location – This will be looked into as part of a LHI package for September. Clerk to follow up with Jonathan Clarke (Highways) to find out why waiting restriction signage is missing from some of the laybys along the High Street.
- 14H/011. Speed signage** - update on child-designed 'sense of place' friendly speed signage - Cllr Collier will circulate some examples of signs. These signs would be in addition to other speed-reducing signage. She will also contact the Primary School to gauge their possible involvement (Cllr Beckford to be cc'd). Cllr Collier to obtain costs from Highways but will also ask if we can get the signs made ourselves (which may be cheaper). Need County permission to erect the signs. It was queried how many people speeding in the village were residents. Standing Orders suspended 8.48pm. James Rowley stated that in a police speedcheck today nearly 50% of those speeding were residents. Cllr Wotherspoon said this tallied with information he had been provided by the police. Standing Orders reinstated 8.50pm.
- 14H/012. Dunstal Field** - Update on Dunstal Field road surface queries with County – Cllr Heydon reported that the road is due to be patched in the next couple of months and it has been diarised to follow up.
- 14H/013. Cycle path sweeping** - enforcement of cycle path sweeping on the B1049 opposite Cottenham Skips – Cllr Wotherspoon outlined the issues with the path. County to be pressed to enforce the sweeping schedule. The lights also need cleaning and the vegetation clearing; Clerk to contact Highways.
- 14H/014. Date of next meeting** – 14th October.
- 14H/015. Close of meeting** – 9.02pm.

Signed _____ (Chair) Date _____