

FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Highways and Road Safety Committee Meeting held on 1 March at 5:00 pm using the Zoom online platform

Present: Councillors Frances Marshall, Richard Freeman, and Andy Bennett
In attendance: Clare Schorah.

H22/01 **Public Forum**
There were no members of the public present.

H22/02 **Apologies for absence**
There were apologies for absence from Councillor Alec Fox

H22/03 **Declaration of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest

H22/04 **Minutes of meeting held on 10 November 2022**
The Minutes were approved and would be signed by the Chairman at the next meeting held in person.

H22/05 **Matters arising from the November meeting.**

05.1 Faulty mobile VAS sign in Station Road (Item H21/26.1) – The ULHP had indicated that they would be willing to replace the faulty sign but because of financial constraints this would not be in the near future. It was agreed at a Full Parish Council Meeting (Item 21/98) not to purchase a mobile VAS sign in the 2021-22 financial year.

The Assistant Clerk has obtained an up to date quote for a VAS sign and asked for it to be put on the agenda for the Full Parish Council Meeting on 2nd March 2022.

05.2 Overgrown and uneven footpath surface in Chelmsford Road (Item H21/26.2) – This problem, affecting the pavement south of the Bakers Lane junction, had previously been reported to the ULHP. The Assistant Clerk had contacted Highways Rangers to arrange to get this organised.

The Assistant Clerk has now sent the request to the Highways Liaison Officer and will add it to the itinerary for the Highways visit to Felsted with the County Councillor on the 7th March.

05.3 Speed Surveys (H21/26.3) – Essex Highways undertook speed surveys in Felsted during November 2020 in 4 locations in Felsted. It was found that there was good compliance with the speed limits in these surveys.

The Assistant Clerk had contacted Speedwatch to find out whether it was possible to arrange Speedwatch sessions in those areas to assess the issue further. The Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator (CSW) contacted the Assistant Clerk to inform her that CSW were able to risk assess up to two new locations for the Felsted rota.

The Assistant Clerk asked for the points at Hartford End and Rayne Road to be considered because they were not being surveyed with a view to assessing for a possible VAS (which the Parish Council are considering buying) so it was decided to prioritise those locations.

The Assistant Clerk has tried to obtain a status on this from the CSW Coordinator, and has had an email back to confirm that they are investigating the suitability of the locations.

05.4 Time limited parking in Station Road (H21/26.4) - This was reviewed initially during the Highways Committee meeting in March and it was agreed to discuss it fully at a Full Parish Council meeting in October (21/228). It was agreed that the three car parking spaces owned by the owner of the village shop will be allocated as reserved parking for customers using the shop/post office. The Assistant Clerk and Chairman have attended a site meeting with the Clerk, the shop owner and the village attendant to discuss the signage needed.

05.5 Highways Issues (H21/29) - The Assistant Clerk has contacted Cllr Foley to inform him of the Highways Issues recently reported and ask for his assistance in getting these problems (in particular any flooding issues) resolved. He is meeting with the Highways Liaison Officer to discuss these issues.

05.6 Bannister Green Road (H21/32) - It was noted that a road in Bannister Green is breaking up and the Assistant Clerk has reported it to Essex Highways

H22/06 **Uttlesford Local Highway Panel applications**

The Assistant Clerk circulated [this report](#).

H22/07 **Highway Ranger work**

This problem, affecting the pavement south of the Bakers Lane junction, had previously been reported to the ULHP. The Assistant Clerk had contacted Highways Rangers to arrange to get this organised. The Assistant Clerk has now sent the request to the Highways Liaison Officer and will add it to the itinerary for the Highways visit to Felsted with the County Councillor on the 7th March.

H22/08 **Highway maintenance work**

The Assistant Clerk circulated [this report](#).

H22/09 **a) Community Speedwatch**

The Community Speedwatch (CSW) group are carrying on with their activities. They have had to cancel some planned sessions due to poor weather, and towards the end of November going into December the speed gun failed and needed to be repaired.

In December the highest noted speed limit was 47mph at Chelmsford Road, in January it was 46mph at Chelmsford Road and in February it was 49 mph at Willows Green.

The CSW volunteer co-ordinator circulated a couple of driver letters and a survey in January, which were forwarded to the committee. The Assistant Clerk answered the survey with the responses sent to her by committee members,

b) Parish Paths Partnership (P3)

The Assistant Clerk provided a report from the P3 co-ordinator.

Essex Highways has been undergoing a restructure and Felsted has a new PRoW officer with whom to liaise. The P3 co-ordinator was able to make contact with the officer and on January 28th she joined the regular Monday walk. Going forward P3 will work with the officer to identify any issues and plan which ones the P3 group are able to remedy. The more difficult ones will remain for Essex Highways to action.

The Assistant Clerk will arrange to update the website with information for residents to let them know that if they are experiencing problems with access to paths, cross field paths which have not been reinstated, missing waymarks or finger posts, broken bridges or stiles, to report it using the Essex Highways online reporting system and to let the assistant clerk know about any issues reported. She will liaise with the P3 co-ordinator so that any works can be included in the P3 programme.

H22/10 **Braintree Road/Stebbing Road Junction.**

The Committee are very concerned about road traffic safety around this junction and have decided to highlight this location and their concerns to the County Councillor when he visits Felsted on the 7th March.

H22/11 **Footpath Request**

A resident suggested at a Parish Council Meeting (22/12.5) that a footpath from top of Jolly

Boys Lane North to Bus Shelter/Post Box should be installed. The Committee considered a suggested sketch supplied by the resident and it was decided to apply for this footpath through the Uttlesford Local Highways Panel.

H22/12 **30mph signage**

The Committee were asked to consider whether using speed awareness stickers on wheelie bins may help alleviate speeding in the November Highways Committee Meeting (H21/31) The Committee recognise that these stickers may be a useful deterrent but will not promote their usage throughout the village.

H22/13 **Other urgent matters and items for the next Agenda**

a) The Assistant Clerk received a message via the website from a resident who was concerned that recent road closures were resulting in diversions through "quiet lanes" which were damaging the verges and causing danger.

The Committee noted that any official diversions for road closures will not go through lesser designated roads so any additional traffic on these smaller roads during road closures is not due to officially diverted routes. The Assistant Clerk will contact the concerned resident.

b) The Committee agreed to co-opt another councillor. The Assistant Clerk will ask the Clerk to add it to a Full Parish Council Meeting agenda.

c) County Councillor Martin Foley will visit Felsted to look at some long standing highways issues. The Assistant Clerk will attend and report back to the Committee.

d) It was noted that a litter bin in a bus stop on Braintree Road had been damaged by the recent storm. The Assistant Clerk will investigate this.

H22/14 **Next Meeting**

The meeting closed at 5.45pm

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 at 5pm

..... Committee Chairman