

FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Highways and Road Safety Committee Meeting held on 14 September 2016 at 5:00 pm in the URC Committee Room.

- Present:** Councillors Nicholas Hinde (Chairman), Andy Bennett and Peter Rose.
- H16/18 **Public Forum**
The Committee were asked if they could assist to get the overgrown pavement trimmed back and re-landscaped (to provide adequate width for wheelchair and pushchair users) between Pound Hill Villas, Little Dunmow and Flich Green. The Little Dunmow resident had already approached her own Parish Council, ECC Highways and her County Councillor. Members sympathised with the problem but informed her that similar Highway matters invariably took a long time to resolve. They suggested that she contact Little Dunmow Parish Council and County Cllr Simon Walsh again and continue to pursue the matter.
- H16/19 **Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**
Apologies had been received from Councillors Richard Freeman and Frances Marshall. There were no Declarations of Interest.
- H16/20 **Minutes of meeting held on 25 May 2016**
The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- H16/21 **Matters arising from the May meeting**
Letter from Jenny Burrett (Item H16/16.2) – The Clerk had received a letter of thanks from Jenny Burrett in response to the Councils letter of appreciation sent on her retirement from the Prep School.
- H16/22 **Uttlesford Local Highway Panel applications**
22.1 Applications for 2015-16 – Members noted that there was no update on the feasibility study into measures on the approach to the old railway bridge above Bannister Green Halt. The other 2 projects submitted (second VAS sign at Willows Green and extension of speed limit from Crix Green to Frenches Green) were still on the reserve list.
22.2 Applications for 2016-17 – None of the applications submitted for the 2016-17 financial year (Double yellow lines in Stebbing Road / school zig zags outside Prep School / Stebbing-Braintree Road junction Keep Clear / 20mph zone at Primary School) had yet been approved by the ULHP.

Members queried if the proposed National Survey of Speed Limits had ever been completed. The Clerk agreed to investigate.
- H16/23 **Highway Ranger work**
Members were pleased to note that the Highway Rangers were in the process of cleaning and refurbishing the village fingerposts and had completed work on the signposts at Willows Green, Cock Green, Molehill Green and Causeway End. Work on the Crix Green signpost was currently underway.
ECC Highways could find no record of the request to repaint the Felsted Village Crest so it was agreed that the Clerk would resubmit this application.
- H16/24 **Mobile VAS sign**
Following the last meeting the Clerk had been told by the ULHP that they would supply a second battery and charger for the mobile VAS sign in Station Road. However the items had not been delivered as agreed. The Clerk had recently established that the ULHP stock of chargers had been exhausted so the Parish Council would need to purchase one themselves (estimated cost £50). The Panel would still supply a second battery for the sign which should be delivered shortly. Members agreed that a battery charger should be purchased to ensure that the sign was operational once more.
- H16/25 **Community Speed Watch**
The Clerk had endeavoured to find a volunteer to run the scheme but without success. Members agreed that the scheme would therefore be put 'on hold' until a volunteer could be found.

- H16/26 **Potholes and Highways maintenance work**
Members noted that the drain outside the URC Hall in Stebbing Road had been cleaned out and that several roads in the parish had been resurfaced after potholes and other defects had been repaired. These included Braintree Road, Rayne Road from Frenches Green to Crix Green and Molehill Green Road. The obstruction on the grass verge at Molehill Green had been removed and the intermittent fault on the VAS sign in Chelmsford Road was being “monitored for deterioration”.
The following highway problems had all been inspected and a ‘defect raised’ but because of a low priority rating no timing for the repairs could be given:
- Crix Green/Main Road corner flooding
- Damaged ‘pedestrians on carriageway’ sign opposite Silverleys, Gransmore Green
- Missing Bartholomew Green 3 way signpost
- Faded white lining at Ravens Crescent
- Rotten post on triangular ‘School’ sign at JBLN/Braintree Road junction
- Street light 19 in Station Road (near Priory Bridge) out
More recent problems reported (potholes in Stebbing Road and Garnetts Lane and broken footbridge on FP62) were still awaiting inspection.
- H16/27 **New ECC Quiet Lanes Scheme**
This matter was now being dealt with by the full Council so it was agreed to remove this from the Highways Committee Agenda.
- H16/28 **Proposal to prohibit HGV's in Molehill Green Road**
The Clerk showed members the range of different signs that were available to prohibit HGV's. Before erecting any of the signs it would be necessary to obtain permission from ECC Highways via the ULHP, even if a Highway Order was not required. It was agreed that the Clerk should submit an application to the ULHP and indicate that the PC may be willing to pay for and erect the requested signage.
- H16/29 **Review of Parish Plan Actions (Roads Section)**
No further Parish Plan Actions had been completed since the last meeting although a number of projects were ongoing.
- H16/30 **Other Urgent matters and items for the next Agenda**
30.1 Parking enforcement contract – Members noted that the current contract expired at the end of the 2016 Summer Term although the NEPP were happy to continue with their visits pending agreement of a new contract. The Clerk provided details of all the Enforcement visits made during the Summer Term including the number of Observations and PCN's issued. Members concluded that the visits were proving effective in deterring parking in restricted areas and consequently reducing traffic congestion and that the contract should be renewed. It was agreed that the Clerk would check if Felsted School were willing to continue making a contribution to the cost of the visits.
- H16/31 **Next Meeting**
The meeting closed at 6.15 pm.

Next meeting to be held on 14 December 2016 at 5pm

..... Committee Chairman

14 December 2016