

FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Highways and Road Safety Committee Meeting held on
11 December 2013 at 5:00 pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, Committee Room.**

Present: Councillors Nicholas Hinde (Chairman), Richard Freeman and Peter Rose.

H13/19 **Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Caroline Scott-Bowden. There were no declarations of interest.

H13/20 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

It was agreed to make the following 2 alterations to the Minutes:

- H13/13 Bus stop at Gransmore Green (H13/07) – The first sentence was replaced with “Members noted that because it was not a raised bus stop disabled access was not possible onto the buses”
- The date of the ‘next meeting’ was a Wednesday not a Tuesday as stated at the end of the Minutes.

The Minutes were then approved and signed by the Chairman.

H13/21 **Matters arising**

21.1 Traffic Congestion at Felmore Farm, Watch House Green (H13/17.01) – The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the nursery organisers and they were aware that problems could occur at certain times of day. Each parent received a copy of their ‘rules of the driveway’ but they agreed to send out a reminder to all parents that they must give priority to vehicles coming into the property.

H13/22 **Potholes and Highways maintenance work**

Members were pleased to note that the pothole outside Wilderwick in Hollow Road had now been repaired.

It was agreed that the Clerk would continue to chase ECC Highways regarding the other outstanding problems:

- Pothole at Cobblers Green (outside Potash Cottage)
- Flooding in Chelmsford Road at junction of Bakers Lane (County Councillor Walsh to be asked to raise this serious issue again)
- Flooding at Crix Green/Main Road junction
- Recurrent flooding in Causeway End outside The Bungalow

The Clerk informed members that a new system had been put in place to request Highway improvement schemes via the UDC Highways Panel. Members studied the ‘Scheme Request Form for Uttlesford LHP’ and the flow chart which detailed the process. It was agreed that the Clerk would report the problems at Bannister Green Halt bridge (broken railings and damage to vegetation on embankment leaving steep drop exposed) to the UDC Highways Panel and ask for substantial barriers to be installed to avoid further accidents.

Clerk

Clerk

H13/23 **Cones Trial**

The Clerk reported that she had been unable to contact Simon Woolley, Felsted School Estates Manager and so could not provide any update. Members noted that the traffic congestion problem appeared to have eased slightly since the school had provided additional parking on the Follyfield site. Members felt that they needed to have access to the Cones Trial data to fully assess the problems but that the most likely improvements would be to construct a box junction at

Clerk

Stebbing Road/Braintree Road (with fine lines because it is in the Conservation Area) and to install yellow lines on both sides of Stebbing Road from Braintree Road to the URC car park / Chantry Court entrances.

- H13/24 **Vehicle Activated Signs** Clerk
- 24.1 Two additional VAS signs** – Highways had asked the Clerk to complete a formal Request Form (see item H13/22) for this project which covered two additional flashing speed signs in the village, one on the reverse of the existing sign in Chelmsford Road and the other at Main Road, Willows Green. The matter would then be considered at the next UDC Panel meeting.
- 24.2 Movable shared VAS sign** - The Clerk had spoken to Little Dunmow's Clerk and followed this up with an e-mail and was awaiting their response.
- H13/25 **New Street Light opposite the Water Tower** Assistant Clerk
- The Assistant Clerk had contacted UK Power Networks to request a quotation for this new street light and was awaiting a site visit from them. The Chairman offered to speak to neighbouring residents once the exact location of the light was decided.
- H13/26 **Footpath 80**
- The Clerk read out an e-mail from Malcolm Raggett (Footpath Warden) detailing a site meeting that had taken place on 12 November with Simon Taylor of ECC Highways and the householders affected by the route of this footpath, as shown on the Definitive Map. Mr Taylor would be writing to the householders giving them a deadline for reinstating the footpath or applying for a diversion.
- H13/27 **Repositioning of the Bus Stop in Gransmore Green**
- The Clerk had written to Andrew Scullion of ECC Highways asking them to move this bus stop and was awaiting a response.
- H13/28 **Speed Limits**
- 28.1 Causeway End Road** – Members believed that ECC Highways had erected Notices in 2012 stating their intention to introduce a 40mph limit on this stretch of road. The Clerk agreed to check this and obtain an update.
- 28.2 Request for 20mph limit around schools** – The Clerk read out an e-mail from a resident and it was agreed to include this suggestion when discussions take place with the schools regarding the Parish Plan Actions (see H13/29 below).
- 28.3 Crix Green to Pyes Bridge – Extension of 40mph limit** – It was agreed to request ECC Highways to look into this possibility.
- H13/29 **Parish Plan Actions** Clerk
- Although a number of Actions identified within the Parish Plan would fall under the remit of Highway Matters, members agreed to wait for the full Council to decide on the way forward (by forming a Parish Plan Actions Working Group to cover all aspects of the Parish Plan).
- H13/30 **Other Urgent matters and items for the next Agenda**
- 13/30.1 Jollyboys Lane North** – The Clerk had received a complaint about cars parking alongside the grassed area and causing deep ruts. Members discussed this problem but concluded that there was nothing that could be done to stop it.
- H13/31 **Next Meeting**
- The meeting closed at 6.15 pm
- The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 26 February 2014 at 5.00 pm