

FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Highways and Road Safety Committee Meeting held on 26 February 2014 at 5:00 pm in the URC Committee Room.

Present: Councillors Nicholas Hinde (Chairman), Richard Freeman, Peter Rose and Caroline Scott-Bowden. Also present Simon Woolley (Estate Manager, Felsted School).

H13/32 **Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

There were no apologies for absence or declarations of interest.

H13/33 **Minutes of meeting held on 11 December 2013**

The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

H13/34 **School Traffic Report (formerly known as the 'Cones Trial')**

Simon Woolley officially presented the School Traffic Report to Members. The report identified a number of improvements which would improve traffic flow and congestion and the primary suggestions were

- a) to install double yellow lines on both sides of Stebbing Road from Braintree Road to the URC car park / Chantry Court entrances
- b) to install double yellow lines or timed parking restrictions on Stebbing Road from Chantry Court to Deacons House car park
- c) to install 'school zig zag' markings in front of the Prep school in Braintree Road and adjacent to Stephenson Gate in Stebbing Road
- d) to construct a box junction at Stebbing Road/Braintree Road (with fine lines because it is in the Conservation Area)
- e) to provide greater enforcement of existing parking restrictions

The report also identified more improvements that could be made, in the longer term, within the school premises to increase parking provision and enlarge the 'drop off' areas.

The Chairman welcomed the report (but noted his objection to one sentence within it which stated that there had been "no interest from the Parish Council" when in fact the Council had always offered their full support to the project). Members discussed the suggestions in detail and noted that a 'no right turn' ban into the school would not be possible. They also agreed that it was essential that all future development at the school must include adequate on-site parking provision.

It was agreed to submit the report to the NEPP (North Essex Parking Partnership) and ECC Highways and arrange a meeting with these parties and the School to agree how the proposals should be implemented.

The Chairman thanked Simon Woolley for his work on this project and for taking the time to attend the meeting.

Clerk

H13/35 **Parish Plan Actions relating to Traffic and Parking**

36.1 Traffic and Parking - The previous item had covered these problems in relation to the village centre but it was agreed to look at these problems in relation to the Primary School at Watch House Green at the next meeting.

36.2 Community Speed Watch – Members noted that because of a lack of volunteers the scheme was not operating at present. Flitch Green Parish Council had offered to lend their 'speed gun' to Felsted when required. The Chairman suggested that a new request for volunteers should be launched by going into the community i.e. at the monthly Farmers Market/ School 450 Celebrations etc.

The Felsted News should also be used to find volunteers and communicate the work that the Council was doing, as a result of the Parish Plan, to residents.

H13/36 **Potholes and Highways maintenance work**

Members noted that repairs had been carried out to the potholes outside The Boote House and the potholes in Braintree Road, opposite East Brackendale, were due to be filled very shortly. However the following works were still

outstanding:

Leighs Lodge junction signpost demolished / 'Molehill Green' fingerpost at Willows Green missing / pothole at Cobblers Green / flooding opposite Crix Green/Main Road junction / potholes in Molehill Green Road near the river crossing / damaged road surface and potholes outside Pyes Barn, Molehill Green Road / pothole outside Helpstons Manor, Hollow Road and the missing 'Felsted' signpost on the B1256/B1417 junction.

H13/37

Vehicle Activated Speed Signs

The Clerk had applied to the UDC Highways Panel for 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 Panel, at their meeting on 10 February, had agreed to undertake speed surveys at these locations.

H13/38

New Street Light opposite the Water Tower

The request for a quotation for this new street light had been delayed by the need to provide OS maps of the site to UK Power Networks, however these had now been submitted.

Assistant
Clerk

H13/39

Repositioning of the Bus Stop in Gransmore Green

The UDC Highways Panel had considered this project at their February meeting and delayed a decision because of lack of funds at the year end. It would be considered again in the next financial year.

H13/40

Speed Limit Extensions

41.1 Causeway End Road – ECC Highways had agreed to look into this request.

41.2 Crix Green to Pyes Bridge – Extension of 40mph limit – ECC Highways had agreed to undertake a speed survey at this location.

H13/41

B1417 at Bannister Green Halt

ECC Highways had inspected and assessed this problem and registered it as a "mid priority". The Clerk had subsequently submitted photos of the damaged and exposed embankment to Highways and stressed the danger to traffic and asked for the priority to be increased to "urgent". Members noted that a response to this request was still awaited.

H13/42

Other Urgent matters and items for the next Agenda

43.1 Parking Enforcement -The Clerk reported that the NEPP had visited Felsted as follows during the latter half of 2013 – August x3, September x0, October x2, November x1 and December x1. 1 PCN had been issued.

43.2 Tour de France – Members noted that all roads on the route would be closed from 7.30am until 4.30pm. Roads joining the route would be designated as 'access only' on the day. Suitable temporary parking sites were being identified including possibly The Green at Bannister Green (standard charge of £10 per car would apply to all parking throughout the route). The Felsted Events Committee planned to organise a Bar and Bar BQ on the Playing Field with a Big Screen (tbc).

43.3 Anticipated traffic congestion on 21 March 2014 – Felsted School pupils are travelling to London that day on 20+ coaches. The School will be delivering leaflets to all local houses/businesses outlining the timetable and warning of anticipated traffic congestion especially in the late afternoon when the coaches are due to return to the school.

H13/43

Next Meeting

The meeting closed at 6.25 pm

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 28 May 2014 at 5.00 pm

..... Committee Chairman 28 May 2014