

FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Highways and Road Safety Committee Meeting held on 27 May 2015 at 5:00 pm in the URC Committee Room.

- Present:** Councillors Nicholas Hinde (Chairman), Andy Bennett, Richard Freeman, Frances Marshall and Peter Rose. Also present was Bill Miller from the Felsted NP Group.
- H15/01 **Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**
There were no apologies for absence or Declarations of Interest. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Frances Marshall to the Committee.
- H15/02 **Minutes of meeting held on 25 March 2015**
The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- H15/03 **Matters Arising from the March meeting**
03.1 Mobile VAS sign (Item H14/42) – Members noted that after months of trying the Clerk had finally located the mobile VAS sign which Felsted had formerly shared with Little Dunmow. UDC had agreed that to return the sign to operation the Parish Council needed to identify 2 sites to locate this sign (Station Road just before the bends / opposite Bannister Green Villas), identify any suitable poles to attach them to, send them a copy of the Council's Public Liability Insurance and agree that the Village Attendant would re-charge the battery. The Highway Rangers would move the VAS sign between the two locations every few months. It was agreed to provide UDC with the required information. Clerk
- H15/04 **School Traffic Report (formerly known as the 'Cones Trial')**
Members were disappointed to learn that the NEPP had declined the Council's request for a meeting and had suggested that the Council submit individual applications for the most important aspects of the Traffic Report. Members agreed to submit applications for a) Double yellow lines in Stebbing Road – On both sides of the road from its junction with Braintree Road to the URC car park entrance and the splay to Chantry Court respectively. b) Zig Zag lines outside the Prep school and c) "Keep Clear" markings over the junction of Braintree Road and Stebbing Road. All of these schemes would aid traffic flow. Clerk
- H15/05 **Traffic and Parking problems at the Primary School**
The Chairman and the Clerk had met the Primary School Head and the Bursar on 22 April. A number of traffic issues had been discussed (marking the bus stop or forming a bus layby/ creating passing refuge areas on Braintree Road/ scheduling deliveries to take place outside peak times) and potential solutions agreed. Of these members considered that marking the bus stop to prevent cars parking there would probably have the greatest effect and so it was agreed to submit a request to the NEPP accordingly. Clerk
The school had requested increased parking enforcement visits to ensure that cars were parked safely and the Clerk had immediately contacted NEPP and asked them to include a visit to Watch House Green in each of their weekly visits up to the end of the summer term.
- H15/06 **Disabled Parking Bay outside Doctor's Surgery**
Members noted that the disabled parking space had been created and signs erected (with the co-operation of Felsted School). It was agreed to ask the surgery to put a notice up drawing patient's attention to the new facility. Clerk
- H15/07 **Community Speed Watch**
Members noted that 3 volunteers were now trained with others attending the next course on 6 June. Additional volunteers had come forward at the NP Event on 9 May. Eight locations had been approved by the Police for the Speedwatch Group to operate. The Clerk was liaising with the PCSO to locate the speed device which was originally allocated to Flich Green and Felsted. Clerk
- H15/08 **Potholes and Highways maintenance work**
Members noted that the pothole outside Weavers Farm had been repaired.

- However a number of other repairs remained outstanding including the missing signposts at Leighs Lodge and Molehill Green Road, Willows Green, potholes near the entrance to Pond Park and at Pyes Green. damaged/missing '40 mph' signs on the bends between Willows Green and Bartholomew Green, damaged 'pedestrians on carriageway' sign opposite Silverleys at Gransmore Green and '40 mph' sign in Mill Lane. The original VAS sign in Chelmsford Road was still awaiting repair and no further work had taken place to address the flooding on the Willows Green bends. It was agreed that the Clerk should continue to chase these with ECC Highways. Clerk
- The Clerk had contacted the owner of Weavers Farm but the hedge alongside Braintree Road had not yet been trimmed.
- It was agreed to report 2 water leaks around the junction of Molehill Green Road and Hollow Road to Affinity. Clerk
- Members noted that ECC Highways had supplied a detailed map showing that the 2 service roads on either side of The Chequers belonged to Highways along with The Chequers frontage. This clarification would be very useful in the future.
- H15/09 **Uttlesford Local Highway Panel (ULHP) projects**
Nothing further had been heard regarding the applications for:
- The installation of a barrier along the top of the embankment above Bannister Green Halt (B1417)
- A second VAS sign at Main Road, Willows Green covering traffic from the Great Leighs direction and
- The extension of the 40mph speed limit from Crix Green westwards towards Frenches Green.
- H15/10 **Highway Ranger work**
It was agreed that the Clerk would chase the request for the Highway Rangers to paint/clean certain fingerpost signs in the village.
- H15/11 **New Street Light opposite the Water Tower**
The Clerk had submitted an official application to UK power Networks for a quote to connect the proposed new street light but had not yet received details of the cost. Members agreed that it would be preferable to install a 'yellow light' to match the existing lights. The Chairman agreed to contact nearby residents to ensure that they were agreeable to the installation. Chairman
- H15/12 **New ECC Quiet Lanes Scheme**
After making several enquiries the Clerk had established that the new Quiet Lanes Scheme would be run by the ULHP. However funding had yet to be allocated for this scheme to enable the project to commence. They were aware that Felsted had taken part in the Quiet Lanes pilot scheme and already had a large number of designated Quiet Lanes and they agreed to keep Felsted informed of any developments.
- H15/13 **Felsted Neighbourhood Plan**
Bill Miller reported that the Public Consultation on 9 May had been a great success with around 500 suggestions being made by the public who had attended. These responses were now being collated and analysed.
- H15/14 **Review of Parish Plan Actions (Roads Section)**
Members studied Page 16 of the Felsted Parish Plan and discussed progress since the last meeting as follows:
"Aim to Reduce Speeding"
- Community Speed Watch: Further volunteer training taking place on 6 June and speed device being located (see Item 15/07).
- VAS Signs: Mobile VAS sign has been located and sites proposed for its future use (see Item 15/03.1)
"Aim to Reduce Congestion and improve parking"
- More no parking signs: Application being submitted to NEPP for double yellow lines in Stebbing Road, zig zag lines in front of the Prep School and 'Keep Clear' markings on the Braintree/Stebbing Road junction (see Item 15/04). Also application to NEPP to mark out bus stop outside Primary School to improve traffic flow (see Item 15/05)
"Aim to Promote safe and courteous behaviour by all road users"
- Quiet Lanes: New scheme being set up by ECC (see Item H15/12)
- Members noted that a Walking Bus operated from Whipper Snappers to the

Primary School.

It was agreed to place an Item in the Parish Magazine and the next Felsted News highlighting progress with the Parish Plan Actions and also include this on the website. It was further agreed to include this as an Agenda item at the next full Council meeting.

Clerk

H15/15

Other Urgent matters and items for the next Agenda

15.1 FKS Closure – It was agreed that the surgery should be made aware of the public support for the suggestion that they consider transferring to the former FKS premises. The impact of the schools closure on traffic flow should be discussed at the next meeting.

15.2 Parking on the pavement – It was agreed to place an item in the Parish magazine asking residents not to park on the pavement which causes problems for pedestrians especially those with children, wheelchairs and push chairs.

Clerk

H15/16

Next Meeting

The meeting closed at 6.15 pm

Next meeting to be held on 9 September.

..... Committee Chairman 9 September 2015