

FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Highways and Road Safety Committee Meeting held on 12 July 2023 at 5:00 pm using the Zoom online platform

Present: Councillors Frances Marshall (Chairman), Richard Freeman and Alec Fox.
In attendance: Clare Schorah.

H23/13 **ITEM 1. Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present.

H23/14 **ITEM 2. Apologies for absence**

There were apologies for absence from Penny Learmonth.

H23/15 **ITEM 3. Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

H23/16 **ITEM 4. Minutes of meeting held on 7 March 2023**

The Minutes were approved and would be signed by the Chairman at the next meeting held in person.

H23/17 **ITEM 5. Matters arising from the March meeting**

5.1 Mobile VAS sign (H23/05.1) The PC considered the recommendation of the Highways Committee to purchase a VAS and noted that it may be possible to apply for funding to help to purchase a VAS sign later in the year (23/89). The Clerk and Assistant Clerk will investigate funding for this.

5.2 Overgrown and uneven footpath surface in Chelmsford Road (H23/05.2) The Assistant Clerk reported this through the Essex Highways 'report a Problem' webpage. After investigation Essex Highways will not take any further action on it. The Assistant Clerk will bring this to the attention of the County Cllr because the overgrowth is making the pavement inaccessible.

5.3 Speeding in School Road, Bartholomew Green (H23/05.3) – There is concern about speeding near Concord Farm in Bartholomew Green. The Community SpeedWatch (CSW) Officer will not risk assess it as a CSW location because there isn't a footpath and it is a 40mph speed limit. CSW have passed these concerns to the Roads Policing Unit at Stanway who will provide assistance with speed enforcement where operational demand allows. *Clerks note: CSW contacted the Assistant Clerk a few days after the meeting to let her know that an Engineer from Essex Highways has been requested to undertake a speed survey at this location. However, again, the issue of finding a safe place to instal the equipment remains an issue.*

5.4 Bannister Green dog waste bin (H23/11a) - A resident requested that a dog waste bin in Bannister Green is moved to a more prominent location to encourage use. The Assistant Clerk made enquiries with Uttlesford District Council to find out whether this is possible but did not receive a response so she investigated whether the Parish Council could move the bin. The Parish Council will not undertake the work due to size of the job, the fact that the bin is still used in its current location and that it also is possible to put bagged dog waste in the regular bins around Bannister Green.

5.5 Damaged Milestone / Tethering Post (H23/11b) A resident is concerned about the safety of the damaged tethering post on Chelmsford Road. The Assistant Clerk has contacted Cllr Evans and the Milestone Society who have given advice on how to fix the tethering post. The Assistant Clerk will arrange for this to be put on the agenda at the September Full Parish Council Meeting. She will also contact the Felsted History Recorder to find out more about the history of the tethering post.

5.6 Pot hole on Chelmsford Road (H23/11c) The Assistant Clerk reported this and it has

been fixed.

5.7 Litter near Sparlings Farm (H23/11d) The Assistant Clerk reported this to Uttlesford District Council.

H23/18 **ITEM 6. Uttlesford Local Highway Panel applications**

[This document was circulated.](#)

It was noted that the applications to reduce speed limits in Felsted do not adhere Essex County Council's Speed Management Strategy. The Assistant Clerk will arrange for this information to be put on the agenda at the September Full Parish Council Meeting.

H23/19 **ITEM 7. Highway maintenance work**

[This document was circulated.](#)

H23/20 **ITEM 8 a) Community SpeedWatch**

The Community SpeedWatch (CSW) group are carrying on with their activities. They are currently managing between 4 and 7 sessions each month, although a few of them were cancelled in April due to heavy rains. They are still observing some high speeds within Felsted. Chelmsford Road and Station Road have recorded speeds of 50mph in April.

PCSO Natalie Smith has joined some sessions and has reported from her observations that

- 4 tickets were issued for excessive speeds
- 3 verbal warnings were given
- Highest recorded speed was 45mph.

The Assistant Clerk received correspondence from the CSW volunteer co-ordinator expressing the frustration that the volunteers experience with the volume of speeding in Felsted. The Assistant Clerk will respond to this correspondence.

ITEM 8 b) Parish Paths Partnership (P3)

The P3 group are still walking the footpaths on Monday mornings and working to improve the footpaths in Felsted. In the last few months the group have cleared a great deal of overgrowth on footpaths 55 and 59. The Highways Committee were very impressed by the before and after photos of the footpath clearances and appreciated the work and effort involved. The P3 group need more volunteers to help maintain the footpaths in Felsted.

The Highways Committee suggested that the group contact the Headteacher at Felsted School to find out whether students would be able to join the group.

H23/21 **ITEM 9. Traffic in Bannister Green**

A resident contacted the Parish Council about speeding in Bannister Green, in particular vehicles coming from the direction of Frenches Green. The Assistant Clerk will apply for a reduction in speed limit and some village gates through ULHP.

H23/22 **ITEM 10. Traffic Congestion in Felsted Village**

Cllr Silcock contacted the Highways Committee to report a resident's concern with traffic congestion in Felsted Village. The Assistant Clerk will arrange a meeting between Cllrs Silcock, Marshall and Freeman and the Estates Manager at Felsted School to discuss the issue further.

H23/23 **ITEM 11. Traffic in Watch House Green**

A resident contacted the Parish Council about traffic safety in Watch House Green. The Assistant Clerk will respond to the resident and encourage them to contact the County Cllr with their concerns.

H23/24 **12. Parking Patrol Update**

NEPP extra Parking Patrols are taking place in the following locations:

- Braintree Road
- Station Road
- Watch House Green
- Watch House Road
- Chelmsford Road
- Garnets Lane
- Ravens Crescent

At the end of the spring term there were 5 vehicles which had been recorded as having been moved on.

H23/25

13. Other urgent matters and items for the next Agenda

Nothing to report.

H23/26

14. Next Meeting

Meeting closed at 5.52pm

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 8 November 2023.

..... Committee Chairman 8th November 2023