

## FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Highways and Road Safety Committee Meeting held on 7 March 2023 at 5:00 pm using the Zoom online platform

**Present:** Councillors Frances Marshall (Chairman), Richard Freeman and Andy Bennett,  
In attendance: Clare Schorah.

H23/01 **1. Public Forum**  
There was one member of the public present.

H23/02 **2. Apologies for absence**  
There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Alec Fox and Penny Learmonth.

H23/03 **3. Declaration of Interest**  
There were no declarations of interest.

H23/04 **4. Minutes of meeting held on 9 November 2022**  
The Minutes were approved and would be signed by the Chairman at the next meeting held in person.

H23/05 **5. Matters arising from the November meeting**

**05.1 Faulty mobile VAS sign in Station Road (Item H21/14.1/19.1)** The Clerk has checked with a developer who needed to install one as a condition of Planning Permission but it needs to be in a specific location so it can not be changed for a mobile VAS for use elsewhere in the Parish. (22/62). The Clerk and Assistant Clerk will investigate grants available later in the financial year that could potentially assist a purchase of a mobile VAS. The Assistant Clerk will arrange for this to be put on a Full Parish Council Agenda at the beginning of the next financial year.

**5.2 Overgrown and uneven footpath surface in Chelmsford Road (Item H21/14.2/19.2)**  
This problem, affecting the pavement south of the Bakers Lane junction, had previously been reported to the ULHP. The Assistant Clerk had contacted Highways Rangers to arrange to get this organised. The Assistant Clerk has now sent the request to the Highways Liaison Officer and he has added it to the work list for the Highways Rangers but going forward has asked that the Parish Council uses the Essex Highways 'report a Problem' webpage. The vegetation is still overgrown and the Assistant Clerk will follow this up with Essex Highways.

**5.3 Speeding in School Road, Bartholomew Green (H22/18)** - The Assistant Clerk contacted Community Speed Watch to ask for the Speed Watch location at Concord Farm to be reassessed to monitor the speed in this area. The CSW Officer does not think that this site would pass the risk assessment today because there isn't a footpath and it is a 40 mph speed limit. Community Speed Watch have made enquiries to the Police to find out about doing additional speed checks in this location. The Assistant Clerk will contact the Community Speed Watch co-ordinator to inquire about the risk assessment criteria for this location.

**5.4 Bannister Green sign at Cock Green (H22/40)** The "Bannister Green" sign at Cock Green has become detached from the finger post. The sign has been removed and stored by the village attendant and he will fix it as soon as he is able to.

**5.5 Accessibility at the bus stop at Watch House Green (H22/43)** - The Assistant Clerk received an email from a resident after the agenda was published. The Assistant Clerk contacted the Highways Liaison Officer to enquire about what can be done to make this bus stop more accessible. The County Councillor has investigated this and will apply for changes to be made through the Uttlesford Local Highways Panel.

**5.6 Flooding at Tin Bridge, Stebbing Road (H22/43)** – This issue was raised at the last meeting. The Assistant Clerk reported to Essex Highways and the County Councillor

**5.7 20's Plenty Update (H22/42)** – The Parish Council agreed to support the 20's Plenty Campaign.

**5.8 Parking and Speeding (22/96.3 & 96.4)** - The Committee has been asked to consider the issues with speeding in the village and dangerous parking near the primary school. It has recently applied for double yellow lines around the corner of the primary school and there should be a new car park for the primary school as part of the planned development at Sunnybrook Farm (UTT/20/1882/FUL) to make it safer around the primary school. It will also continue to investigate purchasing a VAS. The Headteacher has written to all parents to remind them about safe parking around the school and there is now a banner on the school railings asking for responsible parking in the area.

H23/06 **6. Uttlesford Local Highway Panel applications**

[This information was circulated](#)

The Assistant Clerk will check and clarify the location for the parking restrictions applied for in Watch House Green.

H23/07 **7. Highway maintenance work**

[This information was circulated](#)

H23/08 **8 a) Community Speedwatch** - The Community Speed Watch (CSW) group are carrying on with their activities. They are currently managing about 4 and 5 sessions each month and are still observing some high speeds within Felsted. Chelmsford Road has recorded the highest speed of 50mph in January. Watch House Green has seen speeds of 48mph.

**8 b) Parish Paths Partnership (P3)** *Clerks Note: This item was moved up the agenda between items 4 and 5 to allow the P3 Coordinator to speak to the Committee.*

The P3 Coordinator attended the meeting to give an update on the work of the group. They are still walking the footpaths on Monday mornings and working to improve the footpaths in Felsted.

The group is concerned because the local footpath inspector has left her job and not been replaced, which makes it difficult for them to apply for grant funding and to ensure that an inspector is aware of the footpath issues in Felsted.

The Assistant Clerk will contact Cllr Foley to inform him of this issue and to ask for some assistance for the P3 group.

The Chairman thanked the coordinator for the work of the P3 group in making the footpaths in Felsted accessible for walkers to enjoy.

The Assistant Clerk will appeal for volunteers for the P3 group and the CSW group in the Felsted Focus.

H23/09 **9. Speed signs near the playground in Evelyn Road** – It was raised in the Full Parish Council meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> February (23/49.2). Residents in the area believe that the national speed limit sign by the playground needs to be moved further up the road so that cars are not accelerating near the playground. The Highways Committee support this and the Assistant Clerk will apply for this change to be made through the Uttlesford Local Highways Panel.

H23/10 **10. County Councillor Visit-** County Councillor Martin Foley undertook a site visit with the Chair of the Highways Committee and the Chair of the Parish Council to review and discuss highways issues in Felsted. The Chairman gave an update on this visit.

H23/11 **11. Other urgent matters and items for the next Agenda**

a) A resident requested that a dog waste bin in Bannister Green is moved to a more prominent location to encourage use. The Assistant Clerk will make inquiries with Uttlesford District Council to find out whether this is possible.

b) A resident is concerned about the safety of the damaged milestone on Chelmsford Road. The Assistant Clerk will investigate what can be done.

c) Residents have reported concern about the pot hole on Chelmsford Road at the junction. The Assistant Clerk will monitor the situation.

d) A resident has reported littering near Sparlings Farm. The Assistant Clerk will report this.

H23/12

**13. Next Meeting**

Meeting closed at 5.46pm

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 12 July 2023.

..... Committee Chairman 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023