

## **WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of a Meeting of HIGHWAYS, Car Park & Brook Committee at The Council Room, Wedmore  
on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Mr S George (Chair), Mr N Ellis, Mrs S Metters, Mrs L Seymour, Mr P Tinney,  
Mr A Whittingham.

In Attendance: Mr R Pring (Clerk), Mr D Champion (Mark PC)

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1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Mr E Badman, Mr M Bethell, Mrs G Cousins, Mr R Isgar.

2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2015.**

**RESOLVED:** that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record

3. **MATTERS ARISING -**

**A. SEXEYS SCHOOL- ROAD SAFETY.** The Chairman reported that following the agreement for funding the flashing warning lights by the Parish Council, Cllr Huxtable had confirmed that the project would proceed but was unable to give a time scale.

**B. BROOK MAINTENANCE.** Cllr Seymour had previously reported that an inspection had taken place. Cllr Costello was in discussion with Sedgemoor engineers concerning maintenance work to a collapsed wall and ownership of land near Elmsett Hall. There had been no update received from her.

**C. HGV SURVEY USING CCTV** – The Chairman reported that previous information regarding the movement of HGV's through the village was anecdotal and more reliable up to date information was needed to bring to the attention of County Highway officials. Several residents had offered to have CCTV cameras mounted onto their properties at strategic points within the village. Cllr Tinney expressed concerns over access to the recordings and data protection. The Chairman added that there was a Government website covering "surveillance cameras" together with details of a protocol and an ombudsman. He would make further enquiries re costings of such a project for consideration by full council. A particular problem area was on the Grants Lane mini roundabout where the verge had been virtually destroyed by HGV's turning up Billings Hill. Cllr Ellis suggested placing a large bag of road salt on that corner to prevent further damage. The Clerk expressed safety concerns should a cyclist or motor cyclist lose control and collide with the "dumpy bag". It is a one tonne solid weight. The Chairman agreed to check with Highways staff at Dunball Depot and would collect the bag if necessary.

4. **REVIEW AND REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM MEETING ON 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2015.**

**A. CLLR HUXTABLE FEEDBACK** - The Chairman reported that he had been in correspondence with Cllr Huxtable over the HGV issues and missing/damaged signs around the parish and noted that due to financial and staffing restrictions only "safety" signs were being replaced. Other highway maintenance matters were being left for the time being unless there was evidence of serious safety issues. He had written to James Heapey MP expressing concerns over the problems at SCC but had received only a "bland" reply. He was waiting for Cllr Huxtable to arrange a meeting with him and Highways officials at County Hall next month.

5. **TO CONSIDER FURTHER ACTIONS INCLUDING:-**

**A. SPEED LIMITS AND ROAD SAFETY** - Following an article in the IOW News asking for village feedback on speed limit proposals and associated matters, the Chairman reported he had received four replies. Cllr Whittingham suggested an on-line survey be established and offered to set up such a system and prepare something for the full council meeting next week.

**B. HGV ISSUES – AGREE PLAN WITH NEIGHBOURING PARISHES.** The Chairman reported that a survey of missing/damaged signs had been completed by a parishioner and had been sent to Cllr Huxtable whose comments had been reported earlier. Mr Champion was then asked to give details of his experience in obtaining restrictions in the Woolavington area.

Mr Champion said that funding was a major issue and once the restrictions were in place, the Police could not commit to enforcement due to their own financial and staffing issues. He suggested reporting lorries breaching the regulations to the Trading Standards Dept. although he was unable to explain what effect that had but agreed to make further enquiries and to report back in due course.

- C. ROAD MARKINGS** – Cllr Ellis reported that there was still a requirement to clearly mark a passing place opposite the George Hotel. The Chairman reported that he had met with a resident in Pilcorn Street, concerned over visibility when approaching the junction with Glanville Road due to parked cars. Several members expressed concerns that local traders were tending to park their own vehicles outside of the premises leaving nowhere for visitors to park. Cllr Seymour suggested that the village car park could be better signed with an extra sign placed near the Borough Venture mens shop to assist motorists approaching The Borough from Church Street. The Chairman expressed concerns that the situation with the lay-by in Pilcorn Street which was being filled with Landrovers was getting worse. Highways Engineers had suggested making it a restricted parking area but there was a question of who would police it. It was another issue that needed village support and Cllr Whittingham agreed to add that to his on-line survey form.

**6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS NOT ON AGENDA – Nil**

- 7. LATCHAM SPEED RESTRICTIONS** - Nothing further had been received from Highways on this matter.

- 8. CORRESPONDENCE** - All dealt with previously.

The next meeting will be on a date to be advised. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40 pm