

HARTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the **Highways and Byways Advisory Committee (HABAC)** held at **7.00 pm** at **Ivy House, South Harting** on **Tuesday 5 November 2019**

Present: Anthony Palmer (Chair), Sheila Bramley, Penny Curran, Nigel Johnson Hill, John Miller and Andrew Shaxson.

In attendance: Trish Walker, Parish Clerk.

1. Apologies for absence: None.

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Minutes of the meeting on 3 September 2019: Having been agreed, the minutes were signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Footpath Lights

The Chair gave an update on the current footpath light situation. They had recently been switched on for a brief period to see which lights were working and to assess if some could be retained when the new scheme is considered. There are 8 lights down the path, the 2 at the southern end of the path have been flattened and are not in working condition, the others are all working other than the most northern light which appears to need a new bulb. It seems that the lights situated behind the wooden fence are protected and have not been subject to any vandalism. However, these lights are very corroded which makes replacing bulbs and general maintenance very difficult.

Some information had been provided for the committee to consider regarding possible metal cages, made by the local forge at a cost in the region of £200 each, which could be placed over the current lights to protect them against vandalism. The committee agreed that this, although a good idea, was not feasible as it now appears that all the lights will need to be replaced. The new lights should be vandal proof so the cages will not be investigated further.

It was noted that the light consultant recommends an extra 2 units along the pathway to increase the light coverage.

Quotes had been requested from three companies, but not yet received. The potential costs appear to be in the range of £500-£600 per light plus installation costs. One of the companies is visiting within the next two weeks to show one of the bollard designs.

It was noted that the landowners of the path would need to provide permission for any works taking place on the path.

The committee discussed some of the funding options for the lighting scheme: Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Public Loans. It was agreed that further information should be provided to the next meeting.

The surface condition of the path was discussed, in particular potential dangers now the path is not lit. The path is the responsibility of WSCC and it was agreed that they should be contacted about the surface condition.

3Action: *Clerk to contact path landowners*

Clerk to contact Kevin Drewitt, WSCC

Clerk to source further information about CIL and Public Loans.

Mr Johnson Hill left the meeting.

6. Hedges in the Parish

The Chair had spoken to the agent for Whitcombe and Bramshott cottages, North Lane about the hedges outside the properties. The agent felt that the hedges were okay and did not need cutting. It was generally felt that the hedges in North Lane are a problem especially given the parking on the western side of the road.

It was noted that AS and the clerk had arranged for the Council hedge to the east of the Warren to be cut by a local farmer whilst the recent road closure was in place.

Action: *AS to include hedge cutting in his Parish Magazine article.*

7. Footpaths

There were no general concerns other than the issue with the Sheepwash Bridge on bridleway 880. It is in a bad state of repair and WSCC have currently placed hazard tape around it. The Highways Engineer is due to inspect it.

The footpaths in the Warren are currently closed and are not in a good state due to the tree works associated with the ash removal.

Action: *Clerk to contact Kevin Drewitt, WSCC to ask for Sheepwash Bridge update.*

8. Highways

8.1. Traffic Working Group update

Mrs Bramley confirmed she had recently been to visit a parish in Hampshire who were using a Speed Indicator Device (SID). The information gleaned was very useful and it is hoped that a proposal will be made to the next Council meeting in November to purchase a SID for use in Harting and Nyewood. The proposed SID would be battery rather than solar powered as experience shows this is more reliable. Mrs Bramley is consulting with Mike Dare, WSCC regarding the best placing of the device.

Volunteers will be needed to help move the device on a regular basis.

8.2. Road Closures

There had been a number of road closures in the Parish which have caused a great deal of disruption as the signage and diversion routes are not suitable.

Action: clerk to contact WSCC

8.3. Traffic Issues in the rest of the Parish

There were no known problems in the rest of the Parish.

AS noted the potential issues at Durford Bridge if the Soft Sand review decided the West Heath Quarry should be extended. A Parish response will be made when the consultation is announced.

8.4. Fingerposts

The clerk has received a quote for the refurbishment of the fingerpost at Nyewood. One of the contractors requested to quote had suggested that a visit is arranged to the workshop to see the range and quality of work available. The members felt this may be useful.

Action: clerk to arrange visit to contractor

8.5. Nyewood Gateway

PC provided details of the proposed Nyewood Gateway. Mike Dare, WSCC had considered the scheme and, subject to confirmation of details, was happy for it to proceed. The Gateway can only be placed on one side of the road due to visibility splays, and it must be placed at the site of the current signage.

The cost will be covered by a local benefactor.

9. Flood Prevention Plan

The Flood Prevention Plan was reviewed, it was agreed that the area beside the Phone Box in Nyewood should be added. Although the Plan identifies all the possible problem areas, a strategy now needs to be developed to take it a step further. One of the strategies may be to encourage residents to "Adopt a Gulley" near their homes, to keep it clear and to report any problems to the clerk to forward to WSCC. Some maps showing the gullies and their reference numbers had been produced it was felt these could be used to further the scheme.

Action: clerk to produce further maps for discussion and to put an item on the Village Facebook page asking for people willing to take part in the "adopt a gulley" scheme.

10. Winter Management Plan (WMP)

The WMP was reviewed and the emergency contacts for the areas of Nyewood, East and West Harting were updated. The members agreed that the WMP should be presented to the next Council meeting for approval.

11. Any other business

Mr Mackay had resigned as a parish councillor; it is hoped that he may be willing to help the committee on technical matters.

12. Items for next meeting

There were no new topics to consider at the next meeting.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was provisionally set for Tuesday 24 March 2020 at 7pm at Noddswood, Ditcham.

Unconfirmed