

**Minutes of Highways and Environment Committee Held at the Library/Comm
Community Centre on Tuesday 2 August 2011.**

Present: Cllrs C Bament, E Nunn, K Pointer, D Parnaby (Chairman), S Parker, R Vizor and E Wiig.

11/036e Apologies Cllr I Barratt, M Lacey.

It was proposed by Cllr Bament and seconded by Cllr Pointer that Cllrs Parker and Vizor be co-opted onto the Committee. Carried unanimously.

11/037e Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

11/038e Minutes of last Meeting Held on 7 June 2011 : Approved and signed.

11/039e Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Report on Footpath. The Parish Clerk had written to Mr Purssell to hasten a response on the footpath from the Pocket Park to the Industrial Estate.

Damage to Grass Verge on Northampton Road. This matter had been reported to the DDC who had advised that it was an aesthetic matter and that they would not intervene in the absence of Health & Safety considerations of which they saw none.

Suggestion to Install barriers at Kennel Terrace/ Northampton Road Junction. This suggestion had been made on the basis that the prohibition of parking on the double yellow lines in this area was not enforceable. It now appeared that this was not the case and that the police would enforce this prohibition. They would now be asked to do so. Additionally, cards warning offenders of the possible consequences of infringements were available to the PC and these could be used in the first instance.

Flooded Footpath . MGWSP had been advised of the flooding of the footpath at the Northern wall of Brixworth Hall. Puddles rather than flooding was the problem and was currently of a minor nature. However the matter would be kept under review.

Footpath at Honey Holme. A letter had been sent to the occupants in Honey Holme asking for overgrown bushes which were obstructing the footpath to be removed.

11/040e To Discuss Over Parking in Hunters Way. The meeting was advised that nothing could be done about the over parking at Hunter's Way as this was private land.

11/041e To Report on Silver Street Speeding. Two residents of Silver Street attended the Meeting to voice the concern of residents as to traffic safety in that area. They presented a petition to the meeting signed by 21 residents asking that action be taken to improve safety in that area. The recent traffic survey in Silver Street had shown no violations of the 30 mph limit in the street. However, this limit was considered far too high for a narrow street in which there was no footpath and where several houses had doors which opened directly onto the street. Additionally, some residents had small children. Remonstrations from residents with drivers who drove at speeds considered to be excessive had met with abuse. The residents had a number of suggestions as to how safety might be improved and these included lowering the speed limit, reversing the one-way system in the street or

creating a cul-de-sac. Other suggestions forthcoming at the meeting included placing a white line along one side of the street to represent a footway, re-painting the white lines at the entrance to the street, creating a chicane to slow traffic and placing a sign warning of pedestrians in the road ahead. It was agreed that the resident's concerns, together with possible solutions should be put to NCC without delay.

11/042e To Report on Poor Condition of Footpath. There had been a complaint about the poor condition of the footpath opposite the Red Lion. Examination of footpaths in the remainder of the village revealed that generally those in the older parts of the village were not in a very good state and the attention of MGWSP had been drawn to this. Their response had been that in the context of budget restrictions footpaths were a lesser priority than roads and their repair was in many ways more complicated operation. It was agreed that consideration of this matter should be deferred for 6 months.

11/043e To Consider additional location for Parish Council Notice Board. A number of additional locations for a Parish Council Notice Board were suggested, including the Village Hall and the Ashway playing fields. However, it was pointed out that any external notice board in any of the more remote sites in the village was likely to attract the attention of vandals. Before pursuing this matter further it would be prudent to defer it in order to obtain an estimate of the likely cost of both free-standing and wall boards and the Parish Clerk was to be asked to do this.

11/044e To Approve Work to Library Border. Mr Matthew Cox had provided an estimate for work to the Library Border. Including the removal of dead yucca tress this would amount to £ 140. It was proposed by Cllr Wiig and seconded by Cllr Nunn that the quote be accepted and the work carried out. Carried unanimously.

11/045e To Discuss Traffic Calming Equipment Available. The Parish Council had been approached by Mr Beales of CA Traffic Ltd who had presented a number of possible traffic calming measures including a radar speed recorder, a speed indication display and a speed hump designed to operated only when a pre-set speed was exceeded. The Committee noted the this equipment and the Chairman would advise MGWSP of its availability.

11/046e To Report on Parking Near the Pedestrian Crossing- Northampton Road. Parking - or rather more accurately - manoeuvring - near the pedestrian crossing in Northampton Road had been reported. It was agreed that a site meeting should take place at 7pm on Monday 8 August to investigate possible solutions to this problem.

11/047e To Report on Flooding at the Bottom of Froghall/Church Street. Following heavy or prolonged rain the edge of the road in this area was frequently flooded. This had been reported to MGWSP who had advised that the problem arose from the drain which led through fields in disparate ownership which posed both practical, financial and legal obstacles to its improvement. MGWSP was to be asked to use their best efforts to keep this drain clear.

11/048e To Receive an Update on A 508 Crossing. Richard Hall, Principal Engineer, had advised that work on the A508 crossing, originally scheduled for commencement in May 2011, was now likely to start within 6 weeks. EON had provided a quote for an electricity supply to the signs and this had been accepted. It had originally been hoped to provide solar power to the signs but this had proved to be too expensive.

11/049e To Report on Harborough Road, Kingsthorpe Traffic Works. These works were proceeding and would continue until January/February 2012. However, there would be an interval of approximately one month before Christmas when work would cease to cope with the seasonal increase of traffic.

11/050e Urgent matters for report only.

Complaints had been received of parking on the junction of Church Street and Northampton Road in front of the Coach and Horses and on the grass verge at the junction of Northampton Road and the Ashway which caused difficulty to traffic turning at these junctions. The police would be asked to review this and to take action where necessary.

Residents with small children had complained of broken glass and other harmful objects, which had been left in the play parks. This matter was passed for action to the recreation Committee.

Date of Next Meeting would be 4 October 2011 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 8.32 pm.