

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 **Wednesday 19 June 2019**

Present: Anthony Palmer (Chair), Sheila Bramley, Penny Curran, Nigel Johnson Hill, Barry Mackay, 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 23 April 2019: Having been agreed, the minutes were signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

- The clerk had contacted the War Memorial Playing Field (WMPF) treasurer regarding the lengthsman for the Parish Council and the WMPF. Currently he provides the hours worked to WMPF who then invoice the Council for the parish work. The clerk will contact the Council insurers to ensure the lengthsman is covered with this arrangement.
- the verge opposite the village shop is owned by WSCC. Previous residents of the Tythe Barn cut the grass on the verge to keep it neat, if the current resident no longer wishes to do this they will need to contact WSCC.

5. Membership of Committee

The chair welcomed the new councillors; Mrs Curran, Mr Mackay and Mr Miller to the committee.

6. Hedges in the Parish

WSCC had confirmed that hedges along the highway should be cut back 0.5 metres or more, where there is the need for a pedestrian refuge this should increase to 1.2 metres. The overhead distance should be 2.1 metres above a footway and 5metres above a highway.

The members agreed to place an article in the Parish Magazine outlining residents responsibilities in relation to hedges.

It is also important to identify any problem areas and perhaps encourage owners to cut back the hedges.

Action: AP to draft article and circulate to AS and SB for comment.

AP, NJH and BM to identify problem areas and carry out audit of signs at the same time.

7. Flood Prevention plan

The members agreed that they would be responsible for or would organise residents in different areas of the parish to keep the gullies cleared. This work will make a great difference in times of bad weather. Any gullies that are an issue will be reported to WSCC by the clerk.

The following areas of responsibility were agreed:

Hurst – Mr Palmer

West Harting – Mr Miller

Nyewood – Mrs Curran

East Harting – Mr Shaxson and Mrs Bramley

Village – Mr Mackay and Mr Johnson Hill

Brook screen at the Street end of the footpath – Mr Johnson Hill

Action: clerk to locate gullies via Parish On-line system.

8. Footpath Lights

The previous HABAC meeting had agreed that a scheme to light the footpath from the Street to the School should be prepared for consideration by the Council.

Mr Johnson Hill had contacted a local lighting company who has put forward some initial ideas for a new lighting scheme. It was agreed that it was very important to get the scheme right to ensure a good level of lighting whilst being vandal proof.

The members agreed to make a proposal to the Council meeting that a professional lighting expert should be employed, up to a cost of £650, to help produce such a scheme. It was noted that, following the recent spate of vandalism, the lights had been switched off. Mr Mackay offered to take a look at the cabling.

The following recommendation is made:

that HABAC agree to recommend that the Council agrees to pay up to £650 for professional services in respect of a new lighting solution for the footpath leading from the Street to the School.

9. Footpaths

The footpath from the Street to the School is very uneven and there is also a problem with overhanging branches at times. The Parish Magazine article discussed earlier in the meeting will help to highlight the responsibility of land owners with respect to hedges and branches.

It was felt that WSCC should be contacted about the poor state of the footpath.

Action: clerk to contact WSCC about path condition.

10. Highways

10.1. Traffic Working Group update

Mrs Bramley gave a report from the Traffic Working Group. The recent meeting with the traffic consultant and the WSCC Traffic Officer had been very disappointing. The

plan for the 20mph limit throughout the village met with several issues. WSCC lean towards schemes that benefit pedestrian safety, so emphasis will now be placed on these areas.

The possibility of a crossing to South Gardens could be more achievable now the car park has been purchased by the Council. There is also the consideration of pedestrian safety in the Square and in particular crossing at the southern end of North Lane towards the shop.

The WSCC Officer had confirmed that Traffic Schemes can be submitted throughout the year and will be considered for funding from areas other than the formal Traffic Scheme system.

10.2. Traffic Issues in the rest of the Parish

Nyewood has a problem with vehicles passing through the village at high speed, which is both dangerous and noisy. Operation Crackdown was discussed, whereby residents can anonymously report anti-social driving to the police when vehicle details are known.

Nyewood might be a good location for a Speedwatch group if it were to be developed as there is good visibility along the road.

There was discussion about a new type of speed monitor which can measure noise. Further information will be sought.

10.3. Fingerposts

The members considered the fingerposts and the variety of conditions they are currently in. Some posts have been refurbished by local residents and are in a good condition. Others are in a very poor state, the Nyewood post has only the base in place. It was agreed that an improvement in the fingerposts would have a possible impact on the area, and the clerk would invite quotes for the refurbishment of the fingerposts. HABAC will then be able to consider a proposal to put to the full Council.

Action: clerk to request three quotes for the refurbishment of the fingerposts.

10.4. Road closures

The road closures are now listed on the Council website.

11. Funding requests

At this stage there is the £650 for the lighting adviser. There may be other potential budget requests once quotes have been received for the fingerposts.

12. Any other business

- There will be traffic implications to the ash removal on the roadside of the Warren, it will be good to communicate these to parishioners as soon as they are known.
- Mr Shaxson noted that he was going to propose the creation of a Working Party to consider the future options of the recently purchased car park.
- Mrs Curran stated that the Nyewood residents would like to pay to refurbish the 'Nyewood' sign at the entrance to the village, and would like to consider village

gateways. This work would need permission from WSCC. Mrs Bramley, chair of the Traffic Working Group, will contact the officers at WSCC for advice.

Action: SB to contact WSCC regarding Nyewood sign and gateway options.

13. Items for next meeting

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

14. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 5 September 2019 at 7pm at Noddswood, Ditcham.