

## HARTING PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of the **Highways and Byways Advisory Committee (HABAC)** held at **6.00pm on Friday 6 November 2020.**

The meeting was held via Zoom video link in accordance with the Coronavirus Act 2020

**Present:** Anthony Palmer (AP)(Chair), Penny Curran (PC), Nigel Johnson Hill (NJH), John Miller (JM) and Andrew Shaxson (AS).

In attendance: Trish Walker (TW), Parish Clerk.

**1. Apologies for absence:** Sheila Bramley.

**2. Declarations of Interest:** None.

**3. Minutes of the meeting on 28 May 2020:** The minutes were agreed as a true record and will be signed in due course once the restrictions from COVID-19 are eased.

#### **4. Matters arising**

- i. Junction at Torberry Lane  
the visibility has now been improved and the junction lines have been repainted.
- ii. Durford Mill Bridge  
The repairs have still not been completed  
*Action: TW to contact the County Councillor and to email WSCC about the LoveSussex notification*
- iii. Collins Lane  
Some remedial work had been carried out. However, the lane is now in a bad way again as a result of the building works.  
*Action: AP to go and look at Collins Lane*
- iv. Leith House  
The fence issue had been resolved.
- v. Granite kerbstones in the village  
The kerbstones by the Village Stores have been repaired. There are others in the village that need attention, but they are not as urgent as the ones outside the shop.
- vi. Warren footpaths  
Euroforest had reprofiled the paths in June and the WSCC Rights of Way officer was satisfied with the paths.

#### **5. Drainage issues**

##### **5.1. Cow Lane junction**

There are problems on either side of the road. WSCC have put in a bund on the northern side but this is unlikely to last as it is made of loose material which has already been disturbed by tractors passing over it. WSCC have stated the issue is the responsibility of the land owner. It was agreed the bund would be monitored and efforts would be made to establish the ownership of the land.

## **5.2. Drainage in field beside the Congregational Church**

The Church is arranging to have the ditches cleared alongside the hedge.

## **5.3. Gulleys**

This is still in hand with the aim to produce a list of gulleys and people that are happy to keep an eye on them.

## **5.4. East Harting Pond**

The ownership of the pond is still unknown, it is possibly manorial waste. There are still issues with vegetation and a very large hole on the opposite side of the road.

AP will follow this up with WSCC.

*Action: AP to contact WSCC*

## **6. Footpath Lights**

This matter is in hand, the clerk will be requesting quotes to disconnect and remove the footpath lights.

*Action: TW to progress*

## **7. Fingerposts**

The members agreed the next fingerpost for refurbishment would be the one at the southern end of North lane. It is in a poor state with two arms missing. The clerk will ask JM Engineering for a quote.

It was agreed that JM will carry out a survey, with photographs, of the current state of all the fingerposts in the parish and draw up a priority list for those that need repair.

*Action: TW to get quote from JM Engineering*

*JM to carry out survey of fingerposts*

## **8. Footpaths**

It was noted that the Government has announced that applications to reregister abandoned footpaths must be made by 2025. It was agreed that NJH will place an item in the Parish Magazine to ask people to notify the Council of any footpaths that have dropped off the official register, they can then be considered.

*Action: NJH to place item in the Parish Magazine.*

*TW to place on Facebook*

*The following recommendation was agreed:*

*that the committee agree to recommend to the Council that an article will be placed in the Parish magazine asking parishioners to note any footpaths that appear to have dropped off the official footpath register*

## **9. Highways**

### **9.1. Traffic Working Group update**

It was noted that the CIL application for the crossing to South Gardens had not been successful in the last round of grants.

### **9.2. Community Speedwatch**

There seem to be many traffic noise and speeding related issues in the parish. Some volunteers have come forward indicating they would be interested in forming a Community Speedwatch group, but more may be needed to ensure the scheme would work effectively.

It was agreed that TW would check the list of volunteers and, if necessary a further 'callout' will be made via the Parish Magazine.

*Action: TW to check Speedwatch volunteers.*

*AP to put article in Parish Magazine if more volunteers are required.*

### **9.3. - South Downs Safer Roads Task Force**

Communication had been received from Tom Richardson, a councillor at Lodsworth Parish Council, who is heading up the South Downs Safer Roads Task Force. The group hopes to meet soon, but prior to that a questionnaire was circulated, for completion by 31 October 2020, to highlight the issues and plans that are in place in the local parishes.

AP, AS and SBr had drafted and sent a response to the questionnaire, subject to ratification by the full Council (see response below).

*The following recommendation was agreed:*

*that the committee agree to recommend the Council ratify the initial response to the South Downs Safer Roads Task Force.*

### **9.4. Speed Indicator Device (SID)**

The SID is currently moved by SBr and her husband with the help of a member of the community. It was agreed that there needs to be a wider group of volunteers to help with this task, and in particular taller people that can reach the brackets. The SID should only be in position for 3 weeks and not return to that location for a period of 3 months. There are currently 3 locations, a further location has been identified in Nyewood, however a new post will need to be installed by the Council. WSCC need to confirm the position of the new post and quotes are needed for the installation.

*Action: PC and SBr to progress the SID post for Nyewood*

*AP and TW to progress team of volunteers.*

*The following recommendation was agreed:*

*that the committee agree to recommend to the Council that HABAC (Highways and Byways Advisory Committee):*

- i. takes the responsibility for the Speed indicator Device (SID)*
- ii. organises a team of volunteers to move the device and recharge the batteries.*

## **10. Hedges**

It was agreed that there are issues still concerning hedges and verges that do not appear to have been cut by WSCC. The were concerned that WSCC may not check the work carried out by contractors.

It was agreed that all HABAC members would monitor the roadside hedges in their neighbourhood so any problems can be passed to WSCC.

*Action: All members to monitor hedges.*

## **11. Pavement parking**

In September 2020 the Council had referred the Government consultation on pavement parking to HABAC for comment. The consultation ends on 22 November 2020 and the responses are to be submitted online.

The consultation gives three options:

- i. To rely on the current TRO (Traffic Regulation Order) system
- ii. To allow Local Authorities to use CPE (Civil Parking Enforcement) powers to manage pavement obstructions
- iii. National pavement parking with exemptions

The members discussed the options and recognised that although there are issues with pavement parking, it is often the only way to allow enough space to let large vehicles through. It was recognised that there is a need for a minimum 1.5m gap on the pavement to allow pedestrians, wheelchair users and pushchairs to pass.

It was agreed that option (i) is too difficult to operate, option (iii) is not possible in the parish. Therefore, option (ii) is felt to be the preferred choice. It was noted that some pavement parking does have the benefit of slowing traffic in areas such as the Street, North Lane and Nyewood. AP and AS will complete the online survey.

*Action: AP and AS to complete survey by 22 November 2020*

*The following recommendation was agreed:*

*that the committee agree to recommend to the Council that Mr Palmer and Mr Shaxson will complete the online survey for the Government consultation on pavement parking expressing a preference for option (ii) 'A legislative change to allow local authorities with civil parking enforcement powers to enforce against unnecessary obstruction of the pavement'*

## **11. Any other business**

### Telephone boxes.

One of the members asked which committee was responsible for the Council owned telephone boxes. It was agreed this would be a matter to discuss at a future Council 'away day' type meeting.

## **12. Items for next meeting**

The members were reminded to pass any items for consideration to the clerk to include on the agenda.

## **13. Date of next meeting**

A further meeting date will be set for March 2021.

Action : TW to arrange

The meeting closed at 7.10pm

## **Supporting Document to Item 9.3**

### **1. Problems for our area**

Speeding cars and motorbikes within and outside the villages of South Harting, East Harting, West Harting and Nyewood.

Outside the villages one particularly bad stretch of road is the B2146 between South Harting and the Hampshire border with extremely fast and very noisy groups of motorbikes especially at weekends. There have been at least two separate fatalities in recent years (one motorcyclist and one car driver). Within the villages the straight road through Nyewood is notorious for speeding despite the new 30mph gateway signs.

Bikes and cars climb both the hills over the Downs south of South Harting at speed, continuing travelling too fast down the dip slopes. The B 2146 is especially affected on the days when 'breakfast' meetings are held at Goodwood. This is not just a speeding issue but the noise can be heard several miles away.

### **2. Implemented so far**

The parish council bought a speed indicator device one year ago and it has been deployed in three WSCC approved locations on a rotating basis with beneficial results. The data are available.

New 30mph gateway signs entering Nyewood.

### **3. Hoping to implement**

The parish council is seeking volunteers to provide a community speed watch scheme. We are also seeking funding to install a pedestrian crossing in the village to the council owned playground.

### **4. What the police/county council could do to help**

Speed cameras with warning signs at key locations.

Periodic speed traps at weekends (especially on mornings of Goodwood members' breakfast meetings, and during the Festival of Speed and the Revival Meeting).

### **5. Anything we have formally applied for**

In addition to the SID, grant money to aid the construction of a pedestrian crossing to enable South Harting villagers to safely access the play area at South Gardens. We were recently informed that this application CIL funds was unsuccessful but we plan to make further applications.

### **6. Anything else relevant**

Traffic noise on the B2146 Petersfield road has been amplified by the new road surface laid by Balfour Beatty approximately two years ago though without decibel readings this cannot be substantiated.