

HARTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Highways and Byways Advisory Committee (HABAC)

held at 6.00pm on Tuesday 30 November 2021.

The meeting was held via Zoom video link.

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: None

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Minutes of the meeting on 6 July 2021: The minutes were agreed as a true record and will be signed in due course.

4. Matters arising

Phone box – West Harting

JM confirmed he had not circulated a summary, this would be done shortly. The British Heart Foundation are not issuing grants for defibrillators at this time. He is hoping a local resident will be willing to take on the project to raise funds from local residents, he believes there is sufficient interest. A further progress report will be provided to the committee in the next few weeks.

Action: JM to circulate a summary to the members of HABAC

5. Flooding/drains/gulleys/grips

AP, AS, TW, Kate O'Kelly (District and County Councillor) and Lesley James (local resident) had met with officers from WSCC and CDC on 9 November 2021. They inspected the gulleys and grips in South Harting and in North Lane and the Elsted Road. WSCC confirmed the drains are no longer jetted on an annual basis and have been moved to pattern of between 6 and 48 months, depending on the defined need. The officer was going to confirm which schedule Harting was on, but this has not been forthcoming. AP will keep chasing this.

It was confirmed that an ad hoc request would be submitted to have the drains jetted.

PC requested the Nyewood drains should be included in that process, AP confirmed this was unlikely. However, it was hoped they could be included when WSCC clear the drains, reported via the Love.westsussex website, in December. KOK had helped to get this work scheduled, so may be able to extend the work.

JM noted there were problems with some drains in West Harting as well, although they did not pose a threat to flooding.

It was noted the bund in the field entrance along the Petersfield road had been washed away in the recent floods.

AS had contacted Mike Dare, WSCC regarding the East Harting flood pond, but was told the problem must be logged through the Love.westsussex system. This has now been done.

AP and TW had met and logged the gulleys in the Parish, however there was then some concern about the safety of local residents inspecting the drains along the highways, so a formal schedule has not been drawn up.

6. Fingerposts

The Council had agreed the work on the 6 fingerposts, in need of professional refurbishment, should go ahead and Tim Ralph had been appointed to carry out the work. Work has started and it is hoped the work will be completed by the end of the financial year.

There has been no further contact from WSCC regarding the consents.

7. Highways

7.1. Collins Lane

WSCC have raised a job for intervention level carriageway defects and will be carrying out a carriageway assessment in due course.

7.2. Lining

The renewal of lines by the two churches and by Sheep Wash corner was still outstanding.

Action: AP and TW to check status following KOK's intervention

7.3. Traffic Working Group

AP confirmed the Traffic Working Group had reconvened on 10 November 2021, following a break during the pandemic. He had agreed to take over as Chair of the group.

The group is looking at the possibility of a Community Highways Scheme (CHS), funded by WSCC, to cover four main areas of concern:

- South Gardens road crossing
- Petersfield road markings
- 30mph signs on the Chichester/Uppark road
- Traffic islands in the Square

The CIL application for the South Gardens crossing, made to SDNPA in 2020, had been unsuccessful, and although it could be resubmitted the likelihood of success is low.

It was noted that Rogate Parish Council had been successful with CHS applications in recent years, and they may be willing to share some of their experiences.

The group had previously considered the option of 20mph speed limits in Harting, but this was not accepted by WSCC. However, it appears the WSCC view on 20mph zones may be changing.

The group intends to engage with WSCC and KOK in the new year.

Action:

*TW to report the repairs needed for the 30mph signs to south and west of the village.
TW to purchase the 30mph wheelie bin stickers approved by the Council in March 2020, prior to the pandemic.*

7.4. South Downs Safer Roads Task Force

There had been no contact from the group.

7.5. Speed Indicator Device

SID is working well. TW will be able to download the data once the appropriate software is on the new Council laptop.

Action: TW to download SID data

8. Hedges

There had been no complaints from farmers about overhanging hedges during the harvest season.

NJH agreed to approach the owner of a property in North Lane to request the hedge is cut further back from the pathway.

9. Footpaths

9.1. brook path lights

The lights have now been disconnected and it is hoped they will be removed shortly.

9.2. brook path fence

There are several rotten rails along the length of the fencing, in addition to the rotten post. AP and TW will be requesting quotes for the work and will present them to the Council for decision.

9.3. other paths

There were no major issues with footpaths in the Parish. The campaign to look after footpaths, by removing overhanging vegetation as you walk, seems to have worked well. JM noted there were a number of footpaths signs that needed attention, NJH will contact KOK about this.

Action: NJH to contact KOK about footpath signage repairs

10. Any other business

None.

11. Items for next meeting

None.

12. Date of next meeting

To be arranged for March 2021.

The meeting closed at 6.53pm

unconfirmed