

## **HARTING PARISH COUNCIL**

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

held at 6.00pm on Wednesday 4 January 2023.

The meeting was held via Zoom video link.

**Present:** Anthony Palmer (AP)(Chair), Penny Curran (PC), Vicky Maxwell Davies (VMD), John Miller (JM) and Alex Olphert (AO).

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

**1. Apologies for absence:** Sheila Bramley (SBR), Nigel Johnson Hill (NJH) and Andrew Shaxson (AS).

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

**3. Minutes of the meeting on 7 September 2022:** The minutes were agreed as a true record and will be signed in due course.

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

There were no matters that were not covered within the agenda.

#### **5. Footpaths**

##### **5.1. Ash trees by Brook footpath**

There was no further progress on this. The land owner is awaiting confirmation from WSCC that the works will be carried out in the summer when the ground is dry.

##### **5.2. Other footpaths**

###### **5.2.1. Sheepwash Bridleway**

This has been closed by WSCC as the bridge on it is not safe. It is not known how long it will be closed as repairs may take some time.

###### **5.2.2. FP 2844 – East Harting**

This footpath runs in front of Kent House, there is a ditch which is being blocked by a fallen ash trees. AP will contact the landowner to ask them to remove the tree.

*Action – AP to contact landowner*

##### **5.3. BOATS (Byways open to all traffic) update**

There has been no further information on this situation.

#### **6. Highways/Traffic Working Group**

##### **6.1. Community Highways Scheme (CHS) update**

The Traffic Working Group (TWG) has not met since the CHS application was submitted. However, Mike Dare (WSCC Highways) had met with some members of the Council and had indicated he was optimistic the application would be approved and that this would be some time in January 2023.

If approved, it will take about one year for the design and technical side to be done with implementation in the next two years.

## **6.2. Community Speedwatch**

At the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) in May 2022 about 20 people signed up to volunteer for a Community Speedwatch scheme. This was put on hold to await the outcome of the CHS application. As this seems likely to be approved it was agreed that contact should now be made with PCSO Nathan Ford and the Speedwatch trainers.

It was suggested that the PCSO should also be invited to attend the APM planned for 1 March 2023.

Action – TW to contact PCSO Ford and Speedwatch trainer

## **6.3. Hurst road speed limit in liaison with Buriton PC**

TW has emailed the clerk at Buriton parish council to suggest that the two parish councils work together in their approach to WSCC and HCC about this dangerous stretch of road. No reply has been received at this time. TW will follow up.

Action -TW to send reminder

## **6.4. WSCC replacement reporting system**

It was noted that the LoveWestSussex system previously used for reporting problems had now been replaced with a new system 'Making an enquiry or report a problem'. It is hoped the new system will be more user friendly and there is an associated app which can be downloaded to phones.

## **7. South Downs Classic Event**

The Council had been informed of a cycle event taking place on Sunday 25 June 2023.

There are three routes starts from Fontwell with two of them passing through Nyewood and South Harting. The members felt the impact of this event would be minimal compared to previously planned cycle events which entailed road closures and use of the narrower country lanes.

It was felt that as this was a Sportive rather than a race that it may bring business to the area if participants stop for refreshments. Nearer the event it was felt an article could be put in the Parish Magazine and on the Council website.

[The South Downs Classic \(ukcyclingevents.co.uk\)](http://ukcyclingevents.co.uk)

## **8. Midhurst Area Cycling (MAC)**

The group had contacted the Council outlining the projects that are in hand across the area to try to improve cycling routes for local residents. To aid this work they are asking for parishes to consider giving financial support to MAC to help with the administration and ongoing work.

The members considered this and felt it would be appropriate to recommend the Council gives a grant to MAC.

The following recommendation was made:

*That the committee should recommend that the Council agree to a grant of £100 to Midhurst Area Cycling.*

## **9. Flooding/drainage/gulleys/grips**

### **9.1. French drain – Petersfield Road**

The gulley clearance that was carried out by WSCC does seem to have made a difference, no problems have been reported in The Square following the recent periods of heavy rain.

### **9.2. Top priority gulleys to be reported**

There is still the ongoing battle to get gulleys cleared and it seems the only way is to report them via the WSCC system. It was noted there were several blocked drains in Nyewood and, despite being reported via LoveWestSussex, they had not been cleared. TW will report them again under the new WSCC system.

It was reported there was a problem with a gulley outside Coombe, a house along the West Harting road. VMD will try to gather more information and TW will report.

#### Action

*TW to report gulleys under new WSCC system.*

### **9.3. East Harting flood pond**

The work carried out by AO had made a big difference.

### **9.4. East Harting Street.**

There are a number of problems with blocked gulleys. AO will have a look and report to TW.

#### Action

*TW to report gulleys under new WSCC system.*

## **10. Hedges**

The beech hedge running alongside the path from the Hall to Lower Culvers is very overgrown and is causing some problems. The ownership of the hedge is unknown at this stage. TW will make enquiries.

Action – *TW to contact WSCC about ownership.*

## **11. Bicycle rack**

AP, AS, TW, Kate O'Kelly and Katherine Hewitson (Harting CAN) had met with Mike Dare (MD) WSCC Highways to discuss the potential for a bike rack in South Harting. The aim being to encourage people to stop off in the village to use the facilities such as the pub and the shop.

One of the proposed locations opposite the shop was not favoured by MD although it would be possible to put some racks alongside the postbox at the side of the shop. This would need to be taken forward by the Shop Association as it is on private land.

Two other potential locations were found by the phone box in The Street and on the pavement outside Port and Starboard cottages (the Old Ship). MD felt these were good

locations and suggested planters could also be added to the latter position. Both of these locations would be on land owned by WSCC.

MD suggested the Council consider the options and then forward a proposal to WSCC.

The following recommendation was made:

*That the committee should recommend that the Council agree to put forward a proposal to WSCC for two sets of bike racks by the phone box and on the pavement outside of Port and Starboard cottages.*

## **12. Any other business**

### **12.1. Annual Litter Pick**

This usually takes place in March of each year and as it is usually mostly associated with clearing paths and areas alongside the highway, it was agreed this could be organised by HABAC. It was agreed that the following recommendation would be made to the Council:

*That the committee should recommend that the Council agree to hold the Annual Litter Pick on Saturday 18 March 2023.*

### **12.2. Road from Durford Bridge to South Harting**

JM reported the road was in a very bad condition and was very cracked and ridged.

Action - JM to report the road via the new WSCC system 'Make an enquiry or report a problem'

### **12.3. Durford Bridge**

It was noted that Durford Bridge had been damaged again and that WSCC were aware of the situation.

## **13. Items for next meeting**

None at this stage.

## **14. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12 April 2023 at 6pm via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 7.10pm.