

# Environment & Highways Committee

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018, 7.30pm  
Catshill Village Hall, Golden Cross Lane, Catshill

**Members Present:** Cllrs M Shephard (Chair), P Masters, B McEldowney, O Sweeting, N Ward

**In Attendance:** Clerk R Powell

1. Apologies for absence Cllr M Ball and Cllr G Blackmoor
2. Declarations of Interest None
3. To consider members' written requests for dispensation None requested
4. Adjournment of meeting for Public Question Time

No Members of the public were present

5. To reconvene to consider approval of minutes of meeting held 07/09/17

The minutes of the meeting 07/09/17 were approved and signed

6. Clerk's report, to include:

**6.1 Agreement of Councillors to be part of the Emergency Plan Committee**

At Full Parish Council in September (Minute no. 17/09-12.1) all Members had agreed to be part of the Emergency Committee for the Emergency Plan. Cllr Stark was not yet appointed at this point so the Clerk would ask her separately to confirm

**6.2 Parishioner contact to include:**

- **walkway at the bottom of the steps near Miu Miu takeaway and subsequent action**

A parishioner had contacted the Clerk regarding the muddy pathway at the bottom of the steps on the A38 and requested some hard core be put down. The Clerk has explained that the land is owned by the neighbouring hotel and therefore the Parish Council cannot make any physical changes to the area. The Assistant Clerk has been tasked with writing a letter to the hotels new owners regarding the situation, but also in relation to the steps and the hand rail and request some action on this point. Confirmation that the land is owned by the hotel, including the land registry title number, had been received from Cllr Helen Jones.

Members discussed this issue. It was noted that the hotel was part of the Britannia group of hotels and that they had been accommodating in recent attempts for assistance with a fallen tree on their land. It was noted that speaking with the Manager was probably the best way forward. There was a possibility that WCC had, at some point in the past, laid material on this stretch of pathway.

- **Golden Cross Lane Car Park and lighting and subsequent action**

This was an ongoing issue. A resident emailed a complaint about the surface of the car park and the lack of lighting. This was forwarded to Cllr Shirley Webb who has attended site. The pot holes are now filled, but there will also be a request made for the whole area be resurfaced. The lights will also be attended.

- **Garden at The Dock**

Further complaints have been forwarded from Cllr Shirley Webb about the area and the Clerk had sent a holding reply regarding the planting of shrubs and regrading the ground once Russell from Meadowfields Ground Maintenance is back working in March. The Clerk had also asked if there were any plans to have kerbs put in the area to assist with it but this was not the case.

Members discussed this issue. It was noted that in general the garden was making some progress in relation to establishment.

**It was agreed** that no more bark would be used on the area.

**It was agreed** for the Clerk to obtain some quotes for fencing the area.

### **6.3 Suggested walkway through Co-op Car Park**

The lady that was dealing with this has been made redundant. She had promised to leave the information in the hand over details for her successor. The Assistant Clerk remained tasked with this case.

### **6.4 WCC/BDC information – A38, Bracken Grove, bus shelters**

**A38** - A long email of complaint regarding the A38 including a number of planning, road conditions and health and safety concerns had been received. Cllr Shirley Webb and Richard Clewer (Highways) have met with the residents and discussed the problems with traffic including some parts of the road which need repairs. The Marlbrook junction (traffic lights at the crossroads with Braces Lane and Golden Cross Lane) will be assessed by the safety team.

**Bracken Grove** – This alleyway is in need of some maintenance but it has been established that it is an unadopted area. Cllr Webb was looking into whether it can be adopted.

**It was agreed** that the Lengthsman could attend the area

**Bus shelters** – The Lengthsman should now have cleaned all the Parish owned bus shelters. The Clerk had contacted Kevin Hiron, part of the Environmental team at BDC, regarding the condition of the shelters on the A38 and requesting if any maintenance is planned for them in the near future.

To note, deferred items: Contact with WCC re: signs for shopping centre, contact with WCC re: prices of repeater signs and 'suggested speed' signs, letter to residents regarding tree planting

### 7 To consider the current location of Grit Bins within the Parish and possible need for additional locations (document circulated)

Cllr Webb had asked for Parish Council's to review where these were located but had also asked for our Parish Council to provide green bins in the more vulnerable places. The Clerk had requested the criteria for the installation of the grit bin be forwarded to her.

**It was agreed** to wait for the WCC assessment of locations before making any decisions

- 8 To consider the views on the repair work of pavements undertaken by Virgin Media and any subsequent action that Members may wish to take.

Members discussed the work and noted that some areas they had performed a good repair and in others less so.

**It was agreed** to wait until all work was complete and then assess the situation with a view to registering concerns about certain areas.

- 9 To consider the request of a Parishioner to have additional planting of bulbs/flowers in the Parish

The Clerk explained this had been suggested for the green area at the top of Woodrow Lane at present

**It was agreed** to put this item back on the Agenda in time for bulb planting in September

- 10 To discuss the purchase of speed stickers for wheelie bins on certain roads in the Parish and the possibility of purchasing Radar Speed Feedback signs (as deferred from Full Parish Meeting 26/10/17) (documents circulated)

Members discussed the concept of the speed stickers on the wheelie bins, including the consideration of level of impact for the short period of time the bins are on the pavement.

**It was agreed** to purchase 50 stickers as a starting point and that the Clerk would liaise with Cllr Shephard regarding distribution.

Members considered the use of the Radar Speed Feedback signs. It was noted that the fact that this particular type was portable may be beneficial to use to raise awareness, setting it up on the sides of different roads at different times. It was queried if the Community Speed Watch team may have funding to assist in the purchase of such an item.

**It was agreed** that the Clerk would find out if training is needed to use an item such as this for a speedwatch programme.

- 11 To consider a location for the next bus shelter replacement by the Parish Council

Members discussed this and considered it alongside the outcome of the previous Agenda Item.

**It was agreed** that the budget put aside for a new bus shelter would be used instead for a speed awareness initiative to include the stickers on the wheelie bins and the possible purchase of the Radar Speed Signs.

- 12 To review the Lengthsman Contract details ahead of renewal at the beginning of April (documents circulated).

**It was agreed** to accept the contents of the contract and cover letter as presented

- 13 To receive an update on the progress of the Emergency Plan (Cllr Shephard)

Cllr Shephard reported that the document was nearly complete. It was requested that Members consider if they knew of anyone with certain resources that could be listed as available for use in an Emergency, such as 4 x4's or chainsaws.

**It was agreed** to add information regarding Terrorist incidents to the plan and to also include an incident log.

**It was agreed** that the Clerk would send Cllr Shephard the updated contact list for Councillors to add to the plan

14 Date, time and venue of the next meeting

8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 19:30hrs in Catshill Village Hall Committee Room

This meeting ended at 21.01 hrs

Agreed as a true record of the  
meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018

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Chairman, Environment & Highways Committee  
Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council