

**Highways, Safety & Verges Committee meeting minutes held on Friday
8th September 2023, 11:30 am at Sparkes Pavilion**

CLRs Present: G Pharo (GP), (Chair), J Cheshire (JC), J Langley (JL), K Williamson (KW)

- 1. To elect a chairman for the committee**
KW proposed GP, who agreed to accept the role. Seconded by JL. All in favour.
Resolved that GP is chair for the forthcoming year.
- 2. To elect a vice chairman for the committee**
KW proposed JL, who agreed to accept the role. Seconded by GP. All in favour.
Resolved that JL is vice chair for the forthcoming year.
- 3. To receive and accept apologies** and reasons for absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 S 85 (1).
- 4. Disclosure of Interests**
In accordance with the Localism Act 2011 to receive any disclosure by Members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of the interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Revised Code of Members Conduct

There were no disclosures of interest.

To consider granting any dispensations.
There was not requirement to grant any dispensations.

Reminder - Any changes to register of interests should be notified to the clerk.
- 5. Public participation session re matters on the Agenda at the Chairman's discretion.**

There were no members of the public.
- 6. Exclusion of the Public**
To exclude the public for a particular agenda item the following resolution must be passed. 'Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.'

There was no requirement to pass this resolution.
- 7. Minutes of previous meeting** to be considered for approval and signed as a true record – The Highways, Safety & Verges Committee meeting held Friday 24th March 2023.

Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held Friday 24th March 2023 be signed as a true record.

8. **Matters for discussion.**

- a **To review with a recommendation for approval the terms of reference for the committee.**

Resolved that the terms of reference for the committee were approved.
To agree a project plan for the traffic calming project.

- b **To agree a project plan for the traffic calming project.**

The clerk explained that the idea for the meeting was to scope out the whole project – what needs to be done in the village.

JC discussed developing the speed watch group and purchasing a new camera. There is a current active group who are being supported by the police. This is really useful as the police can stop motorists and issue fines on the spot.

JL commented on the issues associated with areas like Manchester Road and the other lanes that are shared surfaces. This should be incorporated into the project. GP commented that he didn't think it would be possible to change the speed limits on the rural lanes. JC commented that he agreed but that the group should do everything possible to make people aware that there is a problem with the speed in the lanes.

There was a discussion about the middle white line being removed from The High Street. The clerk explained options that may be available such as build outs at the entrance to the village, with a rural feel. The clerk explained the ESCC match funding scheme along with other options available.

JC commented that the group need to compile evidence.

The clerk explained that in order to develop the project further the group needs to put some thoughts and suggestions together, to engage with the village to assess if residents are supportive and whether they have other suggestions.
For example – one idea may be to reduce the speed limit of the main road through the village, this may be supported for good safety reasons with the school, doctors' surgery and zebra crossing as well as the position of the bus stop used by secondary school children. This should be tested for resident support (along with any other ideas, + ideas from residents) and then we would need to collect evidence to support the action.

JC commented that there is evidence available from the NDP questionnaire.

JL summarised that the council could put a voluntary 20mph speed limit on Manchester Road using 20 is plenty style messaging.
Focus on the High Street and Lower Street to try and get the speed limit reduced and introduce traffic calming measures.
GP commented that the entrance and exit of the Memorial Hall is a problem and should be considered. The group discussed considering a build out.

JL suggested that the different aspects be prioritised and tackled separately.
JC commented that the first priority could be 20 is plenty and that the group needs to engage with resident for ideas.

JC suggested an exhibition on a Saturday in the Methodist Hall and ask them where they think measures are needed in the village and how we might achieve the measures.
The clerk suggested having an exhibition in the village, for example in Manchester Road to

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encourage more engagement.

The clerk was asked to find out the cost of pencil cases and pens or pencils would cost to give out.

Cost the printing of stickers for bins.

Printing on Corex for roadside signs

Car window stickers.

The group discussed borrowing the Black Cat. The clerk explained that the group need to decide exactly where they would like to site it. To site on an A road the clerk would need to let National Highways know. If its on any other road, then a licence is required from ESCC.

JC agreed to check the diary for a booking of the Methodist Hall, GP agreed to speak to the landlord of the Blacksmiths to see if an event could be held there.

JC suggested that the group look around for traffic calming measures and take some photos.

The clerk mentioned how little the difference in time would be between driving from one point to another at 30mph and 20mph. GP offered to capture the timings.

The clerk was asked to put an agenda item on the Full council agenda to discuss this matter.

Resolved the group will organise a meeting at the Methodist Hall possibly 11th November if the diary allows.

9.

Communication

Correspondence – to note for possible inclusion on next agenda.

There was nothing further.

The meeting closed at 1.53pm