

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Highways Committee held at 7pm on Wednesday 22nd September 2021 in the Salmonsbury Room, The George Moore Community Centre

Those Present: Cllr A Roberts (Chairman and Minute taker), Cllrs B Hadley, M Macklin, L Wilkins

In Attendance:

Members of Public: 4

The Committee agreed to allow a short public session for 3 residents of Moore Road to voice their concerns regarding the new TRO measures. Two residents at the bottom of the road felt that speeds had not significantly reduced despite the 20mph limit. They were also concerned about visibility problems exiting their driveways due to the arrangement of the parking bays. Cllr Roberts would pass their concerns on to GCC Highways. The resident at 2 Moore Road was having difficulty exiting their driveway because of cars now legitimately parked opposite (previously yellow lined) and the difficulty in turning due to the high kerb by the drive. (This problem has already been discussed with Cllr Hodgkinson.) It was suggested that the resident could obtain a quote for the cost of dropping the kerb and GCC Highways would be approached to see if this was feasible. The Clerk was requested to liaise with the resident regarding them obtaining a quote.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs N Randall and B Wragge. Accepted.
2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.
3. The minutes of the Highways Committee held on 16th August 2021 were approved unanimously.
4. Matters Arising:
 - (a) TRO signs and lines to be corrected. Some superfluous poles removed, but still waiting on some yellow lines and parking restriction signs to be installed. Will continue to monitor.
 - (b) Repair of trip hazard(s) along the riverside. Not completed yet.
 - (c) Bollards on Victoria Street. One lock is damaged but the post can be removed if a resident needs access. The intention is to replace the bollards in future with more aesthetically pleasing ones. No action at this time.
 - (d) Speedwatch Group. Five volunteers have come forward. Cllr Roberts will organise training in the next few weeks.
 - (e) Copins Court Dropped Kerb. Following his site visit, the Deputy Area Highway Manager has stated he doesn't see this as a priority for his minor works budget as there are other dropped kerbs close by. This has been challenged as these driveways are without tactile markings. A response is awaited. The Disability Access Survey may add weight to our request.
 - (f) Fosseway Signs. The Deputy Area Highway Manager is checking whether the type face for the 'All Traffic' stickers is as per his order. Response awaited.
 - (g) Drainage pipe at Paynes Footbridge: The Deputy Area Highway Manager has agreed that Cllr. Hodgkinson can contribute the £200 from his 'Highways Local' budget.
5. Police. It has been reported that the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable all support ANPR Speed cameras. As a result of this endorsement, it is hoped that at a future date, warning letters to speeding drivers will be sent out from a central source at Gloucestershire HQ, thus reducing the admin burden on our local police.
6. Footpaths:
 - (a) Footpath between tennis courts and Rye Close: The quote from Cheltenham Surfacing for £1,980 was reviewed but is outside the current budget. A second contractor had advised that the roots were too shallow and should not be cut out as the trees might be destabilised and that any repair work would have a short life without dealing with the trees and roots. The Committee decided that without a long-term solution to the roots it was not cost effective to accept the quote. A solution had to be reached with the owner of the trees. Cllr Wilkins would investigate case law relating to tree root damage and supply information to the Clerk. The Clerk was requested to contact the tree owner to point out his responsibilities, but say that the council might consider contributing to the cost of tree removal after further discussion.

- (b) Footpath by Mill House Lansdowne and one at the rear of the football club. The Cotswold Voluntary Wardens have put down gravel on those areas which get particularly muddy in winter.

7. Traffic & Highways:

- (a) To receive updates from GCC Highways: Cllr Roberts reported the following:
20mph roundels had been painted on various roads and others repainted.
The leaning lamp post at Post Office corner had been reported for repair.
The brown tourist sign cleaning is the responsibility of licence holders - GCC asked to identify who owns what.
The Library sign on the Village Green can be moved, but once the location is decided it needs final permission from GCC.
Repainting of riverbank, Clapton Ford to Birdland was done by GCC as a safety issue. It has been pointed out that it is parish property.
Trip hazard paving at De La Hayes has been cordoned off.
Meadow Way roundabout - brambles. Cllr Roberts is still in dialogue with Highways regarding cutting back and future maintenance.
- (b) Community Emergency Plan (Paper 2) – Some minor amendments to contact details were still required. The Clerk will be advised to action.
- (c) Paynes Footbridge repainting: GCC Highways structures team will carry out an inspection.

8. Finance: The proposed budget for 2022-23 (subject to final council approval) was unanimously agreed as follows:

£510 - Footpaths

£1,326 - Contingency

£1000 - Reserved for a proposed solar-powered street lamp to illuminate part of the Melville play area

£510 - Winter Weather

£4500 - CEO additional hours

£5000 - Speed reduction measures

£3000 - Camera maintenance

£15846

9. Correspondence:

- (a) Road safety outside the nursery on the industrial estate. The paper presented by a resident was discussed and he made a brief representation to state his case. The Committee were sympathetic to the situation but explained that the pavement belonged to Highways and we had neither the power nor the funds to install railings. However, it was agreed to forward the paper to GCC Highways for their opinion and copy in Cllr Hodgkinson. Cllr Roberts will action.
- (b) 20's Plenty Group campaign. The majority of the Committee agreed to support this in principle, with one abstention. The Clerk is requested to write to GCC saying we support the aims of the 20s Plenty campaign and there should be a county policy for 20mph in residential streets and village centres.

10. Any Other Business (items to note only):

County Cllr Paul Hodgkinson has asked the Deputy Area Highway Manager at GCC to arrange the payment of the £3000 subsidy for our ANPR cameras from the last financial year.

11. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 18th October 2021 at 6.00 pm.