

# Gerrards Cross Town Council

South Lodge, East Common, Gerrards Cross SL9 7AD 01753 888018

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## Virtual Minutes of the Highways Committee Meeting held 8pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021

Present: Cllr A Woods (Chairman,) Cllr N Barnett, Cllr I Bayliss, Cllr C Brown, Cllr J Chhokar, Cllr J O’Keeffe, Cllr H Orme, Cllr E Surkovic, Cllr T Scott.  
In Attendance: Cllr J Palmiero and Sue Moffat, (Town Clerk).

- 1. Public speaking from residents** – None.
- 2. Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were received from Cllr P Roberts.
- 3. Potholes** – AW reported that potholes were being repaired in Fulmer Way today (he has circulated photo). GXTC has £23k left in the budget for pothole repairs so need to prioritise. No longer need to repair Oval Way as Bucks Council have spray patched the surface. Also trying to chase up damaged left by the Company installing the fibre cabling for superfast broadband along the highways. AW, together with SM, had a positive meeting with the Highways Officer at Bucks Council who provided updates on Woodlands and Packhorse Rd resurfacing. The Officer fully accepts that GXTC is doing a good job on pothole repairs. AW is meeting up with Highways UK tomorrow to go through the next pothole repair schedule. Bucks Council now charge £1700 for a Traffic Order for a road closure to cover the cost of advertising and legal work. However, we have now been informed we can have a group road closure which will reduce costs. CB added that at the last Parish Liaison meeting, GXTC is recognised as being the leader of the Pilot Pothole Repair Scheme and we will be able to continue in the new financial year, after March, but there does not appear to be any match funding available from Bucks Council.
- 4. Reports from Councillors on the Town Sectors including Devolved Highways Work**

**South West Sector- HO and IB** carried out an inspection and results are in the Shared Drive. HO added that Windsor Rd needs sweeping. CB added that Windsor Rd and Fulmer Rd were only resurfaced a couple of years ago and already breaking up. He will report this to Cllr Gibbs. Add to Outstanding Works.

**North East Sector – ES and JO.** ES reported that she will carry out quarterly inspections. She is pleased to see that all the roads have been swept which she had reported. JO reported that need to check the ownership of land regards the overgrown vegetation at 6 South Park.

**South East/West Sector - TS and NB.** TC reported that she carried out a comprehensive report last month and nothing further to report. NB will provide an update at the next meeting.

AW reported that he has been told there is a smell of drugs outside GX’s Waitrose. JO added this is happening along Packhorse Rd, back of the E Thorpe and E/W Commons. CB advised that this should be reported to the police.

TS enquired about the standard of repair after laying the fibre cabling along Bulstrode Way. AW has checked this out and has been advised that the Company have the legal right to lay the cables. CB added the repairs should be done in a zig zag fashion to avoid wheels getting fixed in any ruts.
- 5. Reporting Lists for Outstanding Highways Issues.**

Wapseys Wood Enforcement – CB had a reply from Cllr Gibbs who is asking for more details of what is happening but as it is going through legal channels information is limited. However, CB has seen more development being carried out with diggers, on a daily basis, at Wapseys Wood. It was agreed that CB will write to Cllr Gibbs and Bucks Council for an Emergency Stop Notice.

AW reported that resurfacing of the Woodlands was right at the end of the surfacing season, so unable to complete before the weather turned. When the programme recommences Bucks Council will ensure the parking is formally suspended.

AW confirmed that Packhorse Road will be resurfaced in April as it is a Plane and Patch Scheme which uses hot rolled asphalt so needs warmer weather conditions. It is high priority on Bucks Council’s list. Also, AW is organising the repair of the dip outside the Guide Hut by Waitrose. ES reported puddles all along Station Rd to Oak End Way. JO responded that the puddles are caused by the brick paving which was part funded by

GXTC and we would not have the funds now to re-lay all this so should report any defects to FixmyStreet. JC agreed to this as it is an area of high footfall. NB reported blocked drains along Fulmer Rd to the end of St Hubert's Close. AW responded that Highways response is that they carry out a cyclic programme of gully cleaning. GXTC are not allowed to carry out work on A roads.

6. **SPWP Phase 3 Updates** – JO reported that the Parking Consultation has now been handed over to Bucks Council and he is waiting to check the formal consultation before it is sent out.
7. **CCTV updates** – SM reported that she is still waiting for the quote from the CCTV and Electrical Contractors.
8. **Climate Change and GXTC**. To consider the following proposals:-  
**To stop the use of chemical weedkillers** – Bucks Council responded:- *‘..Non-chemical alternatives to treating roads and pavements for weeds have a place in an integrated approach to weed management but, as extensive research has shown, cannot currently compete with weed killers in normal day to day operations on economic or effectiveness grounds.....*  
*TfB is however very mindful of the negative press around glyphosate based chemicals and will be monitoring the UK/ EU approval process on the lead up to the end of the current 5 year extension of its use. TfB will continue to look into alternate methods of treatment in anticipation of the potential future ban on Glyphosate’.*
9. **To discuss and consider any issues regards road-sweeping by Buckinghamshire Council**. It was generally agreed that road sweeping has improved recently although it was pointed out that parked cars remain a problem and a parking suspension should be made to clear the roads before sweeping. CB raised the issue at the Parish Liaison meeting that there was no sign of the pedestrian sweeper in GX. May need to supplement the service but in the meantime to keep the pressure on to get results.
10. **Mill Lane Bridge, Pedestrian Safety Improvements** – SM is waiting for the Signalling Engineer to respond to the request for the use of WiFi traffic lights.
11. **Budget** – Not on the agenda. SM to report back to AW, JC and JO if there is any spare budget available this financial year.
12. **Communications** – Nothing to report.
13. **Correspondence** (i) Chalfont St Peter NAG have asked TVP Commissioner's office to support a reduction of speed limit on the A413 between the Greyhound and Kingsway roundabouts. After much discussion the Highways Committee was not in favour of a speed reduction; (ii) Cllr David Martin (Cabinet Member Logistics) response to local resident regards parking violations at South Park Crescent. He has asked for more parking enforcement if vehicles parked on double yellow lines. If vehicles are parked on the pavement then this is a police matter. JO to send out information on the legalities of parking.
14. **Items for the next meeting:-** Nothing to add.
15. **To confirm** that the next meeting of the Highways Committee will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021, 8pm after the Commons' meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed.....

Date.....