

Gerrards Cross Town Council

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

Clerk to the Council - Mrs S Moffat clerk@gerrardscross.gov.uk



Virtual Minutes of the Highways Committee Meeting held 8.09pm on Monday 1st March 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 p Roberts, Cllr E Surkovic and Cllr T Scott.
In Attendance: Cllr J Palmiero and Sue Moffat, (Town Clerk).

- 1. Public speaking from residents** – None.
- 2. Apologies for Absence** – None.
- 3. Potholes** – AW reported that Bucks Council have carried out some very bad pothole repairs around the area which he has reported on FixMyStreet to be redone. Due to an unexpected gap in their schedule of work, our contractor, Highways UK, started work on clearing out the ditches today along the Commons, Packhorse Rd A manhole and grate has been discovered underneath a foot of soil which now is exposed so will assist the drainage in the area. Some kerbstones next to the traffic lights need relaying and it would be efficient to do this at the same time as there is traffic management already in place. The quote for this work is £1006 which was agreed. The gully cleaning along this section will take place at the same time as that scheduled for Fulmer Drive. It has been agreed by the Commons Committee to carry out an annual review of the ditches to ensure they are kept unblocked in the future. Further pothole repair work is programmed to be carried out in St Huberts Lane, dip outside the Guide Hut Station Rd and Fulmer Drive. AW has been reporting potholes regularly and persistently on FixMyStreet which has proved to have had some success. Highway Committee will review with F & GP to see if there is any spare budget available for more pothole repairs.
- 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.
North East Sector – ES and JO. ES reported a number of defects and AW will analyse these. JO was concerned he did not have a chance to view these as some may have already been reported. JO went on to say that he no longer wished to be a Sector leader. ES was happy to continue on her own.
South East/West Sector - TS and NB. AW asked for their reports to be sent prior to the meeting in future. CB reported that the fibre cabling work in Bulstrode Way was leaving sand and gravel on the road which was washing into the drains. This will be reported to FixmyStreet. The MVAS sign in Bulstrode Way will be charged up and relocated to the next site once access is gained after the cabling work is completed. AW reported that the Leader of Bucks Council has announced there will be extra funding for drainage and every drain in Bucks will be cleaned in 2021-22. ES also reported that the fibre cabling work in Layters Way was below standard. AW responded that they are legally allowed to do the work but if below standard this work should be reported. AW has a quote of £1000 to repaint the white lines at Packhorse/Windsor Rd/A40 junction (in case it is needed) but it is on the programme of work for TfB to carry out.
HO suggested that it would be logical to map out the key targets that need reporting in each sector.
ES asked that completed work should be removed from the sectors.
- 5. Reporting Lists for Outstanding Highways Issues** – Noted. A reminder that Packhorse Rd, from Station Approach to Ethorpe Crescent, is going to be resurfaced with hot rolled tar this coming March/April which will solve the problem of all the potholes in this section of road.
- 6. SPWP Phase 3 Updates** – No further updates.
- 7. CCTV updates** – SM reported that she is still waiting for the quote from the CCTV and Electrical Contractors.
- 8. Mill Lane Bridge, Pedestrian Safety Improvements** – The Signalling Engineer at Bucks Council has responded to the request for the use of WiFi traffic lights. He has stated that there are no wirelessly controlled permanent traffic signals in use on a public road and there is no national Performance Specification for such a system. As Wifi traffic lights across Mill Lane bridge is not viable, the previous suggestion from Highways UK will be adopted which is the one proposed and agreed in the grant application for Community Board

funding:- *'Signage improvements and TTRO: Option that can be used to highlight the safety issues to motorists using signage and road lining or pigmentation, possibility to reduce speed limit to 20mph over the bridge and apply lane restriction markings to provide an improvised walkway over the bridge and along the road leading to the bridge from that adjacent footways. This is cosmetic only and will not physically enhance safety, but should influence the speed of motor vehicles'*. AW reported for Highways UK to prepare a plan to be approved by Bucks Council it will cost £5k-£8k and £2k for Bucks Council to approve the plan. Highways UK still certain they can complete the work for just under £30k. ES asked if there was any data regards the footfall on this bridge as she has never seen anyone use it so would it warrant the cost? AW has seen 12 to 15 walkers. CB responded that there used to be 15-17 parents walking to school via the bridge, but numbers are diminishing as more school children travelling by car and too scared to use this route. SM reported that there is match funding of £15k available from the Community Board for this project.

9. **To discuss footpath width for wheelchair users** in Gerrards Cross – AW had circulated a Planning document on the width of new pathways for new developments but, unfortunately, this cannot be enforced retrospectively. However overgrown hedges can be enforced within reason. TS responded that we need a uniformed approach to this problem. Parking on pavements is also a problem. It was pointed out that some residents, such as Pinewood Close, need to park on the pavement as nowhere else to park. CB was informed by a PCSO that the guideline the police adopt for owners of cars parked on pavements was they would only ask cars to be moved if a double buggy could not pass. These comments were noted and agreed to continue to send out letters to owners of hedges blocking the pavements.
10. **Budget** – JC reported that there was just the standard expenditure last month. HO confirmed that £4300 for Packhorse Rd ditches would be funded from the Commons budget and the additional drainage work (£1006) will funded from the Highways budget.
11. **Communications** – VOICE - Packhorse Rd ditch work, Packhorse Rd proposed resurfacing and volunteer work of refurbishing the no cycling sign.
12. **Correspondence** (i) Press releases from Bucks Council – ‘New joined up legal orders for Buckinghamshire Roads’ and ‘Residents consultation on new vehicle removal policy’.
13. **Items for the next meeting:** - AW asked councillors to add a report with any agenda item they wished to include so better understanding of the issue.
14. **To confirm** that the next meeting of the Highways Committee will be held on Monday 6th April 2021, 8pm after the Commons’ meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed.....

Date.....