



Working for the Community in Rotherfield, Mark Cross,
Eridge Green, Boarshead and surrounding areas

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS LIGHTING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 17TH SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 19:30
IN THE PARISH COUNCIL ROOM, ROTHERFIELD VILLAGE HALL TN6 3LX**

Cllr. A. Martin (Chair)

Cllr. J. Kitchenham (Vice Chair)

Cllr. R. Harris

Cllr. L. Henrick

Cllr. P. Kember

Cllr. A. Moore

Cllr. G. Watson-Smith

Cllr. N. Wickenden

COUNCILLORS ABSENT

Cllr. D. Hiles

ALSO PRESENT

The Parish Clerk, Trevor Thorpe, and one parishioner in connection with item 2f).

1. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING: -

Apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85)

None.

Declaration of personal, prejudicial and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda, and updates to members' register of interests.

None declared.

To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 16th July 2019 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Copies of the draft minutes have been circulated to the Councillors.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be adopted as a true record and the Chair of the Committee signed them.

Cllr. Kember reminded that he had raised an issue regarding overgrowing hedges obstructing highways and footpaths but had not had a response, **CLERK** to investigate.

Budget report to date for this Committee and consider any actions required.

It was agreed to defer of this matter and deal with under item 2d) of the agenda.

Update regarding matters arising and action items from previous meetings.

Clerk reported the following: -

Kings Arms "keep clear" markings.

Chased Highways who apologise that we should not have been charged £46 for repainting them – this fee only applies to "access protection lines" requested across private driveways. A refund will be arranged, the work was undertaken on September 3rd.

"Town Row" entry sign(s)

Highways call centre are investigating and will report back on progress.

North Street - Lamp column by Old Bakery.

"Life expired" – as it is of a "heritage" style it is taking longer for a replacement. Progress report requested – officer concerned is on holiday and, although call centre have enquired, they have not been able to provide an update.

"Urban grass" cut

Clerk is reviewing/requesting policies and other documents from our contractor so that they

Clerk: Trevor Thorpe, 82 Fermor Way, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 3BJ

Tel: 01892 664245. **Email:** clerk@rotherfieldparishcouncil.co.uk

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can be forwarded to Highways. This should enable the release of funds agreed to us in acknowledgment that we have agreed to “take over” responsibility for this cut.

Finger posts.

Report and quote received from our usual contractor for this work. Clerk has identified the posts requiring urgent action within the £3.5K budget agreed. Has contacted Highways to see how much they will contribute toward the cost before advising contractor to proceed with the work.

Village entry signs

Contractor's quote of totalling £450 to remove, shot blast, paint and return to site the 2x Rotherfield cast metal signs and the sign at Mark Cross on the A267 has been accepted under delegated spending limit. This work was suggested by our street sweeper.

2. TO CONSIDER INFORMATION AND MAKE DECISIONS ON ACTIONS AND EXPENDITURE AS REQUIRED REGARDING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

a) Rotherfield – Jarvis Brook path. Proposal to provide a section of path avoiding the roadside at the Palesgate Lane end of the route.

Cllr. Wickenden detailed a proposal for providing this route for pedestrians who wished to walk between the Village and Jarvis Brook. He envisages that it would be possible to provide a path for most of this distance. By running it along ESCC owned land it will avoid the high cost involved of constructing a pavement as had previously been investigated in the past. This initial section would be on land for which the registered owner is ESCC; much of the work could be undertaken by Councillors.

RESOLVED that the proposal be followed up by applying to ESCC seeking permission to build this section of path.

CLERK to action, also to instruct our usual contractor to flail the bank between Palesgate Lane and Rotherfield.

b) Update regarding additional measures to restrict HGV's passing through Rotherfield. No new developments to report.

c) Report and recommendations from the Working Group investigating Community Match funding for speed awareness measures for Rotherfield Village.

Cllr. Henrick had little to report as it had not been possible to held a Working Group meeting to progress this matter. She has made initial enquiries of East Sussex Highways to establish what measures could be introduced without the need for a Traffic Order, which would add to the cost. Clerk has provided information of the regulation regarding installation of 30mph reminder roundels in the Village. Traffic regulations preclude installation of these where there are streetlights with spacing of 200 yards or less. Work remains in progress with this matter.

d) Agreement of this Committee's 2019 – 20 budget and precept requirements.

This was dealt with as the last item on the agenda. Financial reports circulated prior to the meeting. Clerk reported that, other than the cost of the pavement at Mark Cross which was funded via Community Infrastructure Levy monies, there had been little other expenditure of note.

RESOLVED that the 2020/21 budget be considered at the 12th November meeting of this Committee by which time we may have a clearer view of costs involved in the project detailed in item 2a), also whether Community Infrastructure Levy funds have been allocated.

Cllr. Kitchenham advised that an approach has been made by Mark Cross Community Centre for grant funding to purchase additional Christmas lights at a cost of £625 plus VAT. Cllr Kitchenham recommended that these be purchased, and agreed under delegated spending powers with the Council purchasing the lights so the VAT element can be reclaimed.

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e) Annual review, in conjunction with the Recreation and Burial Committee, of the Street Sweeper/Litter Picker

He has contacted Cllr. Martin and outlined his work in the Recreation Ground and other areas in the Parish and its roadside verges. It was considered that he undertakes a very thorough job.

RESOLVED that no changes be made to his duties or hourly rate.

f) Deployment of “calling cards” and other action on vehicles parked illegally such as to create a hazard for pedestrians and other road users in the Parish.

Adam Hardy, Clerical Support, has highlighted potential GDPR issues in the “calling card” proposed which will require addressing. This item was dealt with first on the Agenda as a Parishioner was present in connection with parking issues. He was permitted to address the meeting with his concerns, particularly the obstruction and danger created by this at the junction with North Street, South Street and Church Road. Cllr. Kember declared a personal interest in this item as he knows the Parishioner.

Parishioner proposed that the pavement be widened and realigned, with bollard protection near the junction and opposite the Institute. This would discourage parking at this location and protect those wishing to cross. This has been discussed with neighbours.

RESOLVED the following: -

Review “calling card” wording and add item to the agenda of the September Council meeting to agree wording, circumstances of deployment and reporting to “Operation Crackdown”.

CLERK to report faded double yellow lines in the Village centre to Highways for repainting – Parish Council to fund work if this will hasten matters.

CLERK to arrange for ESCC Officer to undertake site visit with Councillors to view the area of the proposal.

g) Review Village Wardens duties, management, areas to be patrolled and effectiveness

This was discussed by the Councillors. It was generally considered that his presence in the Parish did not have sufficient impact to justify the cost of engaging him. These funds could be put to better use with extension of CCTV coverage being suggested.

RESOLVED to discontinue his shifts once the current roster is complete.

CLERK to advise Forest Row Parish Council.

h) Urgent item on behalf of the Recreation and Burial Committee in respect of further action regarding a reoccurrence of damp beneath the Pre School.

Details of legal, and other costs incurred so far in pursuing this issue were circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. East Sussex officer previously involved is currently on leave and has been requested to visit to inspect next week as a matter of urgency, particularly with winter approaching

RESOLVED that Cllr. Martin will continue to be the point of contact with ESCC for this matter.

CLERK to add item to agenda of the September Council meeting for update and decision regarding further action.

3. TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE.

Tuesday 12th November at 19:30 in the Parish Council Room, Rotherfield Village Hall.

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4. REPORT DETAILS OF ITEMS AND ISSUES FOR INVESTIGATION, FURTHER ACTION OR FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- Request received by Cllr. Moore for deployment of the SID near the former Bicycle Arms. Cllr. Martin has also received this request and has advised Parishioner concerned that we do not have authority from East Sussex Highways for deploying the device in a 50mph area.
- Cllr. Watson Smith advised that areas of Brickyard Lane required surface work. **CLERK** to investigate and report to Highways.
- Cllr. Harris advised that weeds in the pavement between school steps and Hornshurst Road steps require manual removal. **CLLR. HARRIS** to advise our contractor of the work required.
- Cllr. Kember raised the issue of lack of house numbering in some area of the Village causes confusion to delivery drivers and could lead to delays to emergency services. He is to investigate and make suggestions for a future agenda item. Clerk advised that this matter was ultimately a Wealden District Council responsibility.
- Cllr. Wickenden has identified gullies at the bottom of Spout Hill and in Baiden Close had been omitted from emptying as they were obstructed by overgrowth.
- Cllr. Kitchenham advised that the St Chéron "twitten" was becoming overgrown, also that there were surface defects in the highway on the B2100 by the Mark Cross Inn, **CLERK** to investigate and report to our contractor and Highways.
- Clerk requested that he or Adam Hardy be made aware of any issues with their PC's/tablets and/or accessing Council papers and files so that help may be provided.
- Chair advised the meeting that he is to attend a First Aid course with Cllr. Wickenden at the end of October and invited other Councillors to attend.
- Cllr. Martin hopes that he and the suppliers had resolved issues with storage of CCTV footage caused by the high definition of recording.

The Chair declared the formal business of the meeting closed at 21:55.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

None.

**Confirmed as a true record, adopted and signed by the Committee Chair
at the 12th November 2019 meeting of the Committee**

.....Chair.....Date

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