



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

**MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS LIGHTING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 19:30  
IN THE MARK CROSS COMMUNITY CENTRE, ST. MARK'S CHURCH, MARK CROSS TN6 3PJ**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT**

Cllr. J. Kitchenham (Committee Chair). Cllr. P. Beach. Cllr. G. Watson Smith.  
Cllr. A. Martin (Committee Vice Chair). Cllr. P. Kember. Cllr. N. Wickenden.

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Parish Clerk, Trevor Thorpe, and Deputy Clerk Adam Hardy.

**ABSENT**

Cllr. L. Buck.

**1. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING: -**

**a) Public forum.**

No public present.

**b) Apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85)**

Cllrs. Harris and Henrick submitted apologies for absence in advance of the meeting and it was **RESOLVED** that their reasons be approved.

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

None declared. Councillors were reminded that they should declare an interest if they became aware of one at any point in the meeting.

**d) To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.**

The draft minutes had been circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting and it was **RESOLVED** that they be approved and signed. Chair is to review minutes and deal with those currently unsigned due to the meetings being conducted remotely due to Covid.

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

Copies were circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting, and it was **RESOLVED** that there were no actions required.

**f) Report and updates regarding matters arising and actions from previous meetings.  
Updates on matters arising and actions from previous meetings.**

**Village Gateway match funding request.** This is to be considered at the ESCC Highways Lead Member meeting to be held on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Eridge Station.** Councillors attended the "157<sup>th</sup> Birthday" of Eridge Station which also celebrated the refurbishment work and ongoing lift installation. Reports on the event appeared "online" and in various publications, including the nationally circulated "Railway Magazine" that noted the Council's involvement in funding the mural of local railway lines.

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

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### **Proposal for North Street junction reconfiguration.**

Clerk has requested a site visit from ESCC Officers to discuss this and dates have been provided by them for consideration. Cllrs. Martin, Kitchenham and Kember will attend and the resident who submitted the proposal will be invited.

### **B2100 Rotherfield Hill speeding issues.**

- Some bollards have now appeared near the site of last year's accident. Clerk has requested action on the trees and relocation of the telegraph pole and will contact BT Openreach. ESCC are of the view that the trees are their responsibility.
- An Item is on this agenda to consider commissioning a report from Highways regarding measures to reduce speeds here, and possible installation of "Halcrow" barriers.

### **Improvements to parking area in Eridge Lane by bank adjoining the Rec.**

Chair has spoken to Warren Drives seeking advice as to who could prepare drawings to submit to Highways in respect of the work and they have suggested a local surveyor. Cllrs. Martin and Harris to update Clerk as to how they wish to progress this project.

**Drainage issues.** An Item is on this agenda for update.

### **Strengthening Local Relationships meeting with ESCC Highways**

A selection of dates has been provided by Highways. Chair and Vice Chair of Committee to please liaise with **CLERK** regarding preferred date and time for the meeting so that venue booking may be made.

### **Christmas Lights**

#### **The additional lights for Mark Cross have been ordered.**

- Clerk is liaising with the contractors for installing the Rotherfield lights regarding arrangements for this year. Confirmation will be sought from Parishioners who have previously allowed attachment to their properties that they are again happy to consent for this year; Application for licence for lights and cherry picker to be made, also arrangements for delivering the consent forms. **CLERK** to action after consultation with Council Chair.
- Additional solar fairy lights have been ordered for Mark Cross as agreed at the July meeting of this Committee.

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

### **a Rights of Way matters**

Concerns were raised regarding FP43 Spout Hill – Catts Hill which is overgrown. **CLERK** to raise with the ESCC Rights of Way team. Clerk reminded the Councillors that the online ESCC rights of way map was being upgraded to show more detail and allow direct reporting of items requiring action.

### **b Highways and Lighting matters**

#### **i.Speed issues on the B2100 Rotherfield Hill**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council will not fund a feasibility study regarding further measures at this location but would instead seek the following: -

- Removal of the trees which are on East Sussex Highways land.
- Relocation of telegraph pole.
- Seek installation of an "Armco" style barrier at the location.

**CLERK** to action.

#### **ii.Drainage issues**

- No update yet received from our County Councillor.
- Drainage issues on the B2100 near Medway Farm are to be dealt with by ESCC.

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- Local residents are dealing with issues on the unadopted section of Horsegrove Lane.
- New Road. Drainage issues at the junction with Station Road B2100 causes debris to wash out into the highway after heavy rain, thus creating a hazard. **RESOLVED** that **CLERK** to contact WDC and ESCC and request that this is dealt with. It is understood that the bottom section of New Road is maintained by WDC.

### iii.Fingerposts

- **Receive maintenance inspection report and consider repairs identified.**  
JAKK have inspected and provided cost details of the posts that they consider require attention. It was **RESOLVED** that **CLERK** contact JAKK and advise them of the posts that we wish them to paint/repair and remind them to inspect the post on the A267 at Danegate which was overlooked on the inspection. **CLERK** to contact ESCC Highways to enquire if, as in previous years, they have funds available to support part of the cost.

### iv.Review preparations to deal with winter weather.

**CLERK** to provide Cllr. Martin with the list of grit bin locations for him to inspect and deal with any require “topping up”.

### v.Brickyard Lane.

- Concerns have been raised regarding road surface conditions and overgrowing hedges, together with debris washed into the carriageway, particularly near the bridge. **CLERK** to report to ESCC requesting inspection and action.

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

9<sup>th</sup> November at 19:30, venue to be confirmed. This meeting will consider and agree the Committee’s budget and precept requirements for 2022/23.

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

- Councillor Kember has been provided with a supply of notices which he will apply to cars parked such as to cause obstruction and potential danger.
- Charging points for electric vehicles. At a recent ESALC meeting their legal adviser expressed the view that there we no existing powers to fund these unless Councils held the General Power of Competence. However, if they owned land, they could seek a partnership arrangement with a provider to install it on this and maintain chargers in exchange for agreed payment.
- Cllr. Martin reported that the Speedwatch Group had been resurrected and now have 10 authorised sites. From these they may monitor and record vehicles and report to “Operation Crackdown” if they were exceeding the speed limit. ID cards are to be provided for the volunteers and Cllr. Martin suggested that the Council should fund the cost of these.
- Currently they are operating for two sessions per week and had submitted 100 reports over the past fortnight. Subject to volunteers coming forward it is hoped that a site for monitoring will be authorised for the group to use at Mark Cross.
- Request has been received for details of correspondence from Sigma Homes in respect of the site proposed for housing on Court Farm. This has been provided to the enquirer. Deputy Clerk advised Councillors that any correspondence regarding these applications should go through the Clerk.
- Forthcoming meeting in St. Denys’ Church regarding proposals for further house building. Deputy Clerk advised Councillors to not attend the meeting this could be construed as pre-determination. This would preclude them from voting at the Parish Council’s planning committee meeting at which the applications would be considered and comments made.

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

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