



**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 11TH JANUARY 2022 AT 19:30
IN THE PARISH COUNCIL ROOM, ROTHERFIELD VILLAGE HALL, TN6 3LX**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Parish Clerk, Clerk Adam Hardy, Deputy Parish Clerk, Trevor Thorpe,
and a Parishioner in connection with item 2e).

ABSENT

None.

1. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING: -

a) Public forum.

Items 1d) and 2e) were considered at this point in the meeting as a Mark Cross resident was present to provide information on both matters. They reported that there was undesirable late night/early hours activity occurring here from vehicles in the parking area; unpleasant and potentially hazardous litter was also deposited. It was stressed that the newly formed Youth Club was not a cause of this.

The Council has raised this matter with the local Police team; it was recommended that a note be made of future incidents and reported via email or 101, or 999 in extreme cases. On Friday and Saturday, the Police operate "Operation Blitz" to address anti-social behaviour. Our litter picker is happy to deal with litter deposited here. **DEPUTY CLERK** to send information on police anti-social activity measures, together with details of the Smith and Fermor Charity, to the Parishioner.

Regarding the lighting outside the Community Centre, two councillors reported that they had tripped on leaving meetings and suggested that the lighting be improved. It was **RESOLVED** that £500 be allocated to improve the lighting and that Cllr. Martin will investigate options for this and liaise with the Centre.

b) Apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85)

Cllr. L. Henrick submitted an apology, and it was **RESOLVED** that the reason for her absence was approved.

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

None declared. The Chair reminded the Councillors present that they should declare an interest at any point of the meeting if they became aware of one in connection with an item being discussed. Councillors who are receiving payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Council are reminded to declare a personal and pecuniary interest.

d) To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 9th November 2021 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

It was **RESOLVED** that these be adopted as a true record of the meeting, and they were signed by the Committee Chair.

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

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- e) **Budget report to date for this Committee and consider any actions required.**
Budget and nominal ledger reports were circulated with the summons and agenda. It was **RESOLVED** that there were no matters arising from the reports.
- f) **Report and updates regarding matters arising and actions from, previous meetings**
- JAKK have been chased regarding the annual fingerpost inspection and have promised to finish the work identified by month end. **DEPUTY CLERK** to establish if a contribution toward repair costs is available from ESCC.
 - Urban cut. **DEPUTY CLERK** will arrange paperwork for this together with the items required from our usual contractor, also liaise with Cllrs. Martin and Kitchenham regarding additional areas to be dealt with under this arrangement.
 - Streetlights in New Road. Eric Ware, ESCC officer concerned, wishes to have a Zoom meeting regarding these; **DEPUTY CLERK** to arrange dates for this with him.
 - North Street junction. Information regarding match funding is awaited so that an application may be submitted.
 - Match funded traffic calming measures on village entry points.
Councillors who wish to attend a site meeting with the ESCC Officer involved please advise availability to the Clerk/deputy clerk so that they may confirm arrangements. Deputy Clerk has enquired regarding the 2022-23 round of match funding and understands that details will be announced around mid-year.

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

- a) **Rights of Way matters requiring action.**
- **Concerns raised by walkers regarding Rotherfield 22a/b/c particularly in the area of the Golf Course.**
These has been raised with the ESCC Rights of Way team and they been asked to make a site visit. It was noted that, ultimately, the responsibility for ensuring the route is maintained for the safety of user's rests with the landowner. It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair and Cllr. Kitchenham meet "on site" with a rights of way officer to view the issues and actions required. **ACTION Deputy Clerk** to organise a site meeting as detailed above.
 - **Concerns raised locally regarding unauthorised diversion of Fp27 near to Briar House Farm.**
The Rights of Way team area due to make a visit shortly and they have been requested to update us once this has taken place.
- b) **Highways and Lighting matters**
- Review arrangements for street sweeping for the Highways Lighting and Transport Committee and litter picking for the Recreation and Burial Committee.**
An increase to £14.50 per hour has been requested for this work. It was commented that the litter pickers were very diligent in their duties, and it was **RESOLVED** to agree the increase effective from 1st January 2022. Deputy Clerk to advise them and note for future invoices.
 - 20's Plenty for Us". Consider request from the campaign to lobby ESCC to pass a motion to support the campaign for 20mph where people live, work and play.**
It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council agreed to support this initiative. **DEPUTY CLERK** to complete and dispatch the documents involved.
 - Receive update and further information regarding provision of electric vehicle charging points in the Parish.**

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Clerk has contacted our District Councillors to seek a progress report with Wealden's efforts in providing these. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council request WDC consider installation of charging points by them in the Parish. Cllr. Martin has offered to investigate a partnership arrangement with an outside organisation, and report back at a future meeting.

c) **Discuss request from parishioner to set up a mobile business selling newspapers, coffee, and refreshments from Mark Cross Green.**

Deputy Clerk has investigated formalities regarding this. The business will be required to register with Wealden District Council and fulfil food safety requirements. Enquires of East Sussex Highways disclose that no licences are required to operate a food van by the highway unless there are obstruction issues. Deputy Clerk reported that the parking area on Mark Cross Millennium Green is held under licence granted to the Parish Council by ESCC and that the 10-year term had expired in 2019. **DEPUTY CLERK** to contact ESCC to arrange licence renewal and enquire if the terms of the licence would permit parking of a food van on the Green.

d) **Discuss anti-social behaviour taking place at Mark Cross.**

This item was dealt with under item 1a) as a Mark Cross resident was present to provide information on the matter.

e) **Consider improvements of the lighting by the Mark Cross Community Centre.**

This item was dealt with under item 1a) as a Mark Cross resident was present to provide information on the matter.

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

Tuesday March 1st at 19:30 in the Parish Council Room in Rotherfield Village Hall.

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

- Cllr. Harris reported that the gutter "hedgehogs" for the Surgery have been delivered and it was agreed under delegated spending powers that Cllr. Martin will install them at a cost of £150. He declared a pecuniary interests as a result.
- Cllr. Watson Smith reported that the parking area opposite Danegate on the A267 was still in an unsatisfactory state and that the surface had not been repaired. **DEPUTY CLERK** to report to ESCC.
- Cllr. Kember reported that gravel continues to wash down New Road and deposits at the junction with the B2100 at Town Row. Various remedies for this were discussed as the issues appears to be caused by ditches adjacent to properties on the unadopted section of New Road being infilled over the years. Letters are to be delivered to New Road residents in this section requesting contributions toward improving the drainage. **DEPUTY CLERK** to investigate Council powers to support drainage work and add item to the January Council meeting agenda.
- Dog bin at end of Treblers Road fp22. The Council have a dog waste bin "in stock" and it has been agreed to install it at the end of this popular dog walking route. Cllr. Martin is to obtain a post and install with expenditure under delegated powers. **DEPUTY CLERK** to be advised when the bin is in place so that Wealden can add it to the list for emptying.
- Both Councillors Kitchenham and Martin have spoken at length to a resident of Catts Hill regarding drainage issues. These appear to have been created by the intrusion of tree roots.
- Clerk is liaising with ESCC Lighting regarding an issue with cost recharge to the Parish Council.

The Committee Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:50.

.....Committee Chair.....Date

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