



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

**MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS LIGHTING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE  
HELD ON TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022 STARTING AT 19:30  
IN ROTHERFIELD VILLAGE HALL**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT**

Cllr. J. Kitchenham (Committee  
Chair).  
Cllr. B. Johnstone  
Cllr. G. Watson-Smith

Cllr. P. Beach (Committee  
Vice Chair).  
Cllr. N. Wickenden

Cllr. A. Martin  
Cllr. P Kember

**ALSO PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT**

None.

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

**a) Public forum.**

No members of the public attended the meeting.

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

Cllr. R. Harris submitted an apology for absence. The meeting **RESOLVED** that his reason for absence was accepted.

**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 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be adopted, and the committee Chair signed them.

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

See separate report attached. Clerk reported that expenditure since the previous meeting of the Committee was of a routine nature, and of modest scale. It was confirmed that the current project to increase the parking spaces available by the bank in North Street was progressing and was being funded by the Parish Council and not "match funded" by ESCC.

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

**North Street junction changes**

This work project has been closed by resolution of Full Council at the August 2022 Parish Council meeting.

**Mark Cross Millennium Green – renewal of Licence.**

Cllr. Kember to please review this and request that ESCC provide details of the cost if the renewal period were to be extended.

**Christmas Lights –**

Work in progress, consent forms sent to properties involved and these are being returned. Site for the Mark Cross tree has been identified and details sent to the contractor who is installing.

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Licence paperwork is with ESCC Highways, and they will be contacting us regarding payment of the fee for this.

### **Misuse of disabled parking bays**

This relates to the bays in Hornshurst Road, and a request for an additional bay to be marked. **CLERK** to request update from Cllr. Buck as she is not a member of this Committee.

**Re – lining of Surgery car park – work completed**

### **Temporary width restriction at Mark Cross to discourage large vehicles using the B2100 Catts Hill.**

- Clerk has contacted the officer dealing with this; he shares our frustration with the delays for this small project.

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

### **a) Rights of Way matters requiring action.**

- Rotherfield 27 – Rights of Way team have been contacted to seek an update on the suggestion for re-routing of Fp27. They reported that progress is slow with this. The landowner is applying for formal diversion, but this is subject to another route on their property being reinstated to its original location before this can be considered.
- Concerns have been raised re: the surface condition of ROT/LF033/1 running parallel to the railway from Jarvis Brook and into the Parish. Clerk has reported this to the ESCC Rights of Way team who have responded and will be inspecting within the next two weeks.

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

#### **i. Measures to discourage large vehicles using local lanes. Use of CCTV in the Village to record long vehicles and, if necessary, report to the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA).**

Cllr. Beach suggested that large vehicles passing through the village without justification should be reported to the DVSA via their website. He outlined details of the Operator Compliance Risk Score (OCRS) scheme under which operators can accrue points if reported, and penalised if this is excessive.

**Cllr. Beach** please liaise with deputy clerk to share details of this scheme and if it could be of benefit if implemented by the Council.

#### **ii. Streetlights. Report from Cllrs. Henrick & Harris regarding research into alternative and cheaper energy suppliers.**

It has concluded that no significant savings would be made if the Council changed providers from ESCC and that this would not be pursued. **DEPUTY CLERK** to investigate which of the Parish's streetlights are fitted with "part night" units so that they do not burn overnight.

#### **iii. Consider replacement and possible relocation of Rotherfield street lamp unit 19 at junction of B2101 and Sheriff's Lane.**

- This column has been unreliable for over a year and ESCC advise that it requires replacement; a quote in order of £5k has been provided. They also advise that it would be more effective if relocated on opposite side of the road, but this could involve additional cost as there are underground power lines in the area. Local resident has raised concerns as the light is at the school bus pick up point. Cllr Martin reported that he had passed the column recently and that it appeared to have received a new lantern unit. Clerk is to investigate if this is the case.

- Column 79 in Hornshurst Road. Foliage has been cut back to allow access to this column, replacement lantern is in stock with ESCC, and the team have been asked to visit and install it.

**DEPUTY CLERK** to report lamp column 53 in Spout Hill, and a unit in High Cross B2101 as not functioning.

#### **iv. Agree Budget and precept 2022-23 for this Committee.**

See separate report. It was **RESOLVED** that the proposed budget and precept for this period be approved.

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- v. **Arrangements and cut date for grass cutting of Mark Cross Millennium Green to allow seeds in the area to propagate.**  
Resident has requested that cutting of this area be deferred to late September to allow wildflower seeds to set. It was agreed that this area will be cut at the end of the winter period and at the end of September.
- vi. **Update regarding provision of EV charging points.**  
Details circulated to Councillors of the locations of the first batch of points. Of this batch the nearest WDC points to the Parish will be: -
- Croft Road car park, Crowborough.
  - Mill Road, Heathfield.
  - Luxford Road, Uckfield.
  - Greyhound, Wadhurst.
- CLERK** to post on social media to seek demand for charging points in the Parish. Cllr. Obbard (WDC) is also researching the matter for us.
- vii. **Consider the Council's response to the "Help shape the future of transport in East Sussex – Consultation" running from 31<sup>st</sup> October – 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022.**  
It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would not make submissions to this..

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

17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 19:30 in Mark Cross Community Centre.

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

- Drainage and debris issues at the New Road/Station Road junction. These have been raised with ESCC who are responsible for the drains, and WDC who deal with street sweeping. Clerk is to contact ESCC to arrange a site meeting with Councillors and a nearby resident, the garden of whom receives flood water from the highway.
- Tollwood are to be requested to strim around the telegraph pole near the start of Eridge Lane and on the left as this is intruding into the road thus causing a possible hazard.. **DEPUTY CLERK** to action.
- Verge protection on the A26 at Eridge. Item to be added to the agenda of the January meeting of this Committee.
- Cllr. Kitchenham has been contacted by a High Cross resident with regard to large vehicles speeding and a recent incident when a delivery van was "shunted" by another vehicle. SID is to be deployed in this area; previous monitoring sessions show that the majority of vehicles were within the limit on this road
- Clerk is to provide a further supply of yellow parking reminder notices for vehicles who are pavement parking in Station Road opposite the WDC car park; also, for those parking by the bus shelter in the centre of Mark Cross.
- Cllr. Wickenden reported that a tree by the twitten behind the disused railway bridge at Town Row required cutting back. **DEPUTY CLERK** to investigate ownership of this area and, if necessary, request that Tollwood tidy and make good the area.
- It was confirmed that all arrangements for Remembrance Sunday were in place.
- **CLERK** reported that a separate Unity Trust bank account is in the process of being set up for income and expenditure on the Institute. £57 had been spent for Conservation advice for the building.
- The Finance and General Purpose Committee meeting scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> December is to be rescheduled to 6<sup>th</sup> December and will follow the Planning and Building Committee meeting which is being held on that date.
- An item is to be added to the December Council Meeting to select a new Chair for the Highways, Lighting and Transport Committee as Cllr. Kitchenham is standing down from the post.

Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:25.

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

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