

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ROADS & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2016 AT 7.30PM FBC CENTRE, GORSE RIDE NORTH FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKSHIRE RG40 4ES

PRESENT: Cllr Bromley, Chair.
Cllrs Bowers, Mrs Driver (part), Rampton, Weeks.

Mrs Dagnall, Clerk.

406/2016 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cundy, Marshallsay and May.

407/2016 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were received.

408/2016 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2016 were agreed and signed as a true record.

409/2016 MATTERS ARISING

234/2016 Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE)

Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) is moving forward with CPE and consultation will take place over the coming months with a view to CPE being in place in Autumn 2017.

The Committee had previously discussed priorities for enforcement within the Parish and agreed that a policy should be put in place, rather than adopting a blanket or ad hoc approach. The focus could be on areas around schools, and other areas where there are road safety issues. This will be considered when WBC plans and priorities are clarified.

234/2016 WBC Street Lighting Upgrade

The WBC contract to replace or upgrade lamp columns runs to March 2018 and the Finchampstead columns have not been programmed in yet.

The lamp column at the Memorial Park is being dealt with separately and will be replaced through the WBC contract in November or December 2016. The Finchampstead Park Management Committee (FPMC) will continue to provide and pay for the energy supply, but the Council will include the column in its maintenance contract.

The 6 Council owned columns on Nine Mile Ride will be replaced / relocated and then adopted by WBC when the planned cycleway works take place, but until then remain the responsibility of the Council.

238/2016 White Horse Lane / Church Lane

Further to the site meeting with the WBC Highways Officer in June 2016, the Clerk will arrange a meeting with a contractor to discuss improvements at the junction.

The WBC Highways Officer had suggested installing a 'crossroads' sign on White Horse Lane near the Church Lane junction. The Clerk will follow this up and will also request that the road markings at the junction are refreshed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public were present.

410/2016 WAR MEMORIAL JUNCTION

Incidents at the junction have become more frequent and there are increasing concerns over safety for road users. WBC had advised that it planned a study of the War Memorial junction to look at options for improving safety but the timescale for this is unclear.

It was agreed that the Council should press for road safety improvements at the junction and the following actions were agreed.

- The Clerk will contact WBC suggesting installation of a 'vehicles in the middle of the road' sign and an improved 'bend in the road sign', and asking that road markings are refreshed.
- Cllr Weeks will ask a local transport expert for advice and comments.
- Cllr Weeks will ask WBC to progress its planned study. It was noted that The Clerk has recently contacted the WBC Lead Member for Highways regarding the study and is awaiting a response.
- Subject to the outcome of the above, the Council will consider commissioning a study.

411/2016 VILLAGE GATEWAYS PROJECT

Cllrs Bromley and May met a WBC Highways Officer on 23 June 2016 to discuss the potential for gateway signs for Wellingtonia Avenue. WBC agreed a location for one sign, and there is potential for a second subject to co-operation from the adjacent land owner. However, WBC does not have the resource to progress this at present.

The condition of the existing gateway signs on Barkham Ride and Finchampstead Road has been reported to WBC. To date only the Barkham Ride sign has been repaired and the Clerk will chase up the outstanding repairs.

A number of road sign issues were raised and will be reported to WBC. Any further issues should be reported to the Clerk who will collate a list and forward to WBC.

412/2016 AVERY CAR PARK

A meeting was held with the WBC Car Parks Manager on 20 October 2016, as a follow up to the meeting held in June 2016. WBC had made little progress and presented a quotation for an unviable scheme. WBC has now agreed to provide a quotation for the scheme agreed in June 2016, and to provide a firm price for the relocation of a telegraph pole, which would allow the direction of flow of traffic to be changed.

The Committee agreed that up to £2500 could be allocated to the project, which is within the current budget.

Following the California Crossroads tidy up session on 23 October 2016, the blocked drains in the parking bays in front of the Co-operative Store and other shops have been reported to WBC. WBC has also agreed to re mark the disabled parking bay as the markings are very faded.

The parking bays at the Crossroads are again being used by staff from shops and businesses and another letter will be sent reminding the businesses that the bays are for customers. Cllr Bromley advised that until CPE is in place, WBC will not consider progressing Traffic Regulation Orders to allow the bays to be for short term parking only.

413/2016 DATA LOGGER (SDR), SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SID) AND TRAFFIC SPEED ISSUES

- The possibility of installing 30mph roundels on the stretch of Nine Mile Ride from Kings Mere to Manor Park Drive was raised with WBC. WBC has advised that this is contrary to their policy and confusing for road users, and has also advised that any existing roundels will be allowed to fade and will not be relined. Cllr Weeks has followed this up with WBC - apparently legislation does not permit the installation of roundels in areas where there are street lights and a 30mph speed limit.

- The potential for pole mounted static speed indicator device (SID) signs was discussed at the previous meeting. Thames Valley Police (TVP) may be able to assist with funding and Cllr Weeks is following this up.
- Neighbouring Parishes continue to express interest in the traffic monitoring issues. Cllr Bromley has agreed to run a session in Shinfield with Shinfield Parish Cllrs, and will advise TVP. Enquiries from Eversley and Barkham are also being followed up.
- Following a meeting with the WBC Leader and Chief Executive WBC is also showing interest with a view to encouraging other Local Councils to undertake similar activities, and a meeting is being arranged with the WBC Lead Member for Highways.
- SID sessions continue weekly, and Cllr Weeks is drawing up a schedule for the next 3 months.

414/2016 INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2016/17

A report showing the current position was circulated. The only expenditure to date relates to routine street light maintenance, and also the energy supply for the lights. Potential commitments are for works to the Avery Corner Car Park, works at Church Lane and pole mounted SID signs.

Proposals for 2017/18 were discussed and were agreed as follows:

Street light maintenance	£800
Street light energy supply	£600
Avery Car Park / California Crossroads	£5000
Road Safety improvements (to include provision for pole mounted SID sign(s))	£4000
Street lighting improvements	£1000
SDR /SID maintenance	£250

Road safety issues at the Village School have previously been discussed, including input from Cllrs, WBC Officers and TVP. It is now with the School to consider the options available.

Parking in the Village and at the Memorial Hall is a further issue. The FPMC has asked for a quotation to install a knee rail to prohibit parking on the verge by the Hall. This is one of several parking related issues to be discussed by FPMC when the quotation is to hand.

415/2016 MAJOR PROJECT CO-ORDINATION MEETINGS

Cllr Bromley attended the meeting held on 18 October 2016. A report was circulated for Main Council on 19 October 2016.

416/2016 ROAD AND FOOTWAY CONDITION ISSUES

- A number of footways are restricted due to encroaching vegetation. The Clerk will mention this in the next newsletter.

417/2016 INCIDENT REPORTS

- Incidents at the War Memorial as previously discussed.

418/2016 CORRESPONDENCE

- Residents of Burnmoor Meadow raised concerns over the lighting of the car park and its use for anti social behaviour. This was looked into but as 5 lamp columns are located close to the car park no additional lighting is thought necessary. However, WBC has been asked to prune tree branches away from one of the lights.
- WBC issued a consultation on proposed speed limit reductions on parts of Barkham Road, Sheerlands Road and Bearwood Road. A response was submitted supporting the proposals.

419/2016 FORUM

- No matters were raised. .

420/2016 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

This will be confirmed shortly.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the Committee.