

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ROADS & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5 JULY 2017 AT 7.30PM FBC CENTRE, GORSE RIDE NORTH FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKSHIRE RG40 4ES

PRESENT: Cllr Bromley, Chair. Cllr May, Vice Chair.
Cllrs Cundy, Mrs Eytle, Marshallsay, Weeks.

Mrs Dagnall, Clerk.

269/2017 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Bowers.

270/2017 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were received.

271/2017 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record.

272/2017 MATTERS ARISING

94/2017 Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE)

Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) is progressing with plans to introduce CPE in October 2017. This will be covered in a Parish Council e newsletter nearer the time.

94/2017 WBC Street Lighting Upgrade

The six columns owned by the Parish Council have now been replaced or have had the lantern replaced through the WBC contract. The Memorial Park lamp column has also been replaced.

WBC will be taking over the six columns on Nine Mile Ride which are owned by the Parish Council but the timing is still to be confirmed.

The Parish Council has previously held a contract for the maintenance of the lamp columns but in the circumstances this year the arrangement has been changed so that any work is commissioned as and when required against a schedule of rates. Future maintenance agreements are yet to be agreed.

The Clerk will contact WBC regarding the possibility of WBC taking over the 6 Parish owned columns.

94/2017 Parking in The Village / at the Memorial Hall

The Finchampstead Park Management Committee (FPMC) has consulted residents and is now planning to extend the existing knee rail along the length of the verge.

FPMC is also planning to mark out the car park to ensure that maximum use is made of the space available.

98/2017 War Memorial junction

WBC has advised that the proposed study of the junction may take place this year but has yet to be scheduled. WBC has not acknowledged the Council's offer of support for the study.

Cllr Weeks agreed to follow this up with WBC.

102/2017 Road and Footway issues – FBC Centre car park / Gorse Ride North

Cllr Mrs Driver had reported concerns over the footway leading from Gorse Ride North into the car park itself. This was raised at the FBC Centre Advisory Board meeting, apparently the layout was designed in this way as the car park is intended to be 'shared space'.

Further concerns were raised about safety at the car park entrance due to the lack of visibility for pedestrians and vehicles when cars are parked along the car park entrance road right up to the entrance. The 'shared space' concept assumes that and only works when this space is free of parked cars. Cllrs Cundy and Weeks will raise this again with the FBC Centre Advisory Board.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public were present.

273/2017 INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2017/18

There has been no expenditure to date, but an invoice is expected this month for the lamp column replacement work. An invoice has been received for repairs to the Longwater Road column – it was noted that this is still leaning and the Clerk will follow this up.

Funds are also committed to the work at the Church Lane / White Horse Lane junction covered under agenda item 275/2017 below.

Generic Finchampstead Neighbourhood Action Group badges have been ordered for representatives of the Group to use at events. It was agreed that the cost of the badges should be covered by the Council.

274/2017 DATA LOGGER (SDR), SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SID) AND TRAFFIC SPEED ISSUES

Cllr Bromley has tried to arrange a demonstration of the Traffic Technology Ltd static pole mounted SID. It was agreed that if a video is not available, a skype session should be arranged.

The SDR brackets have been removed because of the lamp column replacement programme, a small number may have been lost.

Information and advice on speed watch activities has been provided to Woodley Town Council. A meeting has also taken place with the WBC Highway Officer who expressed interest in the local traffic monitoring activities.

Residents have been in contact regarding various traffic and parking issues relating to Nine Mile Ride, Nash Grove Lane, The Village, St James' Road, Fir Croft Lane, Gorse Ride North and Park Lane. Some issues and queries are resolved and others are in hand.

It was agreed that WBC should be approached regarding the potential for installing roundels on Gorse Ride North, and a flashing school sign as used on other roads close to schools.

Three Traffic Regulation Orders have been commented on as follows, all were supported by the Council.

Byway 18 (Hogwood Lane) – formal consultation on the proposal to prohibit vehicle traffic.

Fleet Hill – informal consultation on a proposed reduction in the speed limit from 50 to 40mph.

Nine Mile Ride and Park Lane – formal consultation on a proposed reduction in the speed limit from 40 to 30mph.

275/2017 CHURCH LANE / WHITE HORSE LANE JUNCTION

Proposals to improve safety at the junction were discussed at the previous meeting. It was agreed that the work should go ahead up to a maximum cost of £1300 subject to getting a second quotation.

The areas in question are on Church property not public highway, and the Church has committed to pay for the road repairs required at the junction.

Efforts have been made to secure alternative quotations but these have not been successful. It was agreed that the Reading Asphalt Company quotation should be accepted and that the Company be asked to proceed with the work as soon as possible.

276/2017 VILLAGE GATEWAYS PROJECT

There has been no further progress since Cllrs Bromley and May met a WBC Highways Officer in June 2016 to discuss the potential for gateway signs for Wellingtonia Avenue. The verge is too narrow to accommodate a standard sign but options include using an offset post, or installing on private land. Cllr May agreed to follow this up with the adjacent landowner.

It was agreed that a gateway sign on the B3348 Fleet Hill should be considered if and when the speed limit is reduced reference agenda item 274/2017 above.

277/2017 AVERY CORNER CAR PARK

A site meeting was held in May 2017 and some progress made, but this has now stalled again. WBC Officers are due to draw up an amended design which can then be priced by the Contractor with a view to the work being implemented during the 2017 summer holiday.

Cllr Weeks agreed to follow this up with WBC.

278/2017 FORWARD PLAN 2013-2018

A copy of the Roads & Road Safety section of the Plan was circulated prior to the meeting. This included an update on progress from 2013 to March 2017, and a draft action plan for 2017/18.

The Clerk will incorporate agreed changes and will circulate a further draft.

279/2017 MAJOR PROJECT CO-ORDINATION MEETINGS

Cllr Bromley attended the meeting on 23 June 2017. South East Water will be installing water meters in every house in the Parish – work is expected to be completed by 2018. Various roads will be affected by utility company works over the coming months. The next major projects meeting is on 20 July 2017.

280/2017 ROAD AND FOOTWAY CONDITION ISSUES

- The cycleway markings on the Finchampstead Road footway/cycleway have recently been refreshed along with various other road markings in the Parish.

281/2017 INCIDENT REPORTS

- No incidents were reported.

282/2017 CORRESPONDENCE

- WBC issued a Transport Vision document following a workshop attended by Cllrs Bromley and May in January 2017. This has been circulated.

283/2017 FORUM

- No matters were raised.

284/2017 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 25 October 2017.

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