

## FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ROADS & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.30PM FBC CENTRE, GORSE RIDE NORTH FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKSHIRE RG40 4ES

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PRESENT: Cllr Bromley, Chair.  
Cllrs Bowers, Cundy, Marshallsay, Rampton and Weeks.  
  
Mrs Dagnall, Clerk.

#### **400/2018 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies were received.

#### **401/2018 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were received.

#### **402/2018 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record.

#### **403/2018 MATTERS ARISING**

##### **226/2018 Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE)**

In March 2018 Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) agreed to progress the introduction of timed parking in the bays at the shop frontages at the California Crossroads and 6 bays in the Avery Corner Car Park. There is no progress to report but this will continue to be followed up.

Cllr Weeks will speak to the owner of JATS Pharmacy over the use of its car park by Tooth Booth staff.

##### **226/2018 WBC Street Lighting Upgrade**

WBC has declined the offer to take over the remaining 6 columns owned by the Parish Council but advised that a formal collective approach from a number of Local Councils may be considered. The Clerk is progressing this.

##### **226/2018 Parking in The Village**

The Finchampstead Park Management Committee (FPMC) has appointed a contractor to install a knee rail on the verge outside the Park to prevent parking. The work may be implemented in January 2019.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

No members of the public were present.

#### **404/2018 INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2018/19**

A report showing the current position was circulated at the meeting.

- The charges for the electricity supply for the lamp columns have increased significantly and Cllr Bromley is looking in to this.
- There may be further expenditure on Road Safety Improvements if the Gateway project progresses as expected.
- There has been no expenditure on Parking Enforcement. The Clerk will contact WBC regarding the possibility of enforcement in The Village over weekends.

#### **405/2018 DATA LOGGER (SDR), SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SID), POLE MOUNTED SID AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT**

- SID sessions continue, targeted at priority areas identified through SDR monitoring and / or previous SID sessions.
- Nine Mile Ride (west) is still the road with the most significant speeding issue. In a recent session 60 vehicles were recorded exceeding the speed limit, the highest number recorded in any location to date.
- New volunteers continue to come forward. A new SID rota is now in place with 3 volunteers for each session. Cllr Jukes has offered to assist with the production of reports from the SID sessions.

#### **Post mounted SID's**

- Brackets have now been installed at the selected locations and the units are being used on a rotational basis.
- The Clerk will order 6 additional brackets for the PSID's and 4 brackets for the SDR units.
- WBC will be notified of the locations to be used for the units and the planned schedule.

#### **Equipment and risk assessments**

- The Clerk will purchase a first aid kit for use with speed watch activities.
- A case is needed for the Simple SID - the supplier does not provide these. Cllr Cundy agreed to progress this – Cllr Bromley will provide the dimensions of the unit.
- A risk assessment is in place for speed watch activities. Cllr Bromley and the Clerk will review this to ensure all potential risks are addressed.

It was agreed that SDR data will continue to be valuable in connection with formulating comments on certain planning applications. Cllr Bromley will continue monitoring in the current locations and will monitor additional locations as required.

#### **406/2018 VILLAGE GATEWAYS PROJECT**

As reported at Main Council Cllr Bromley met a WBC Highways Officer in early September 2018 to discuss the existing and potential gateways.

WBC has now replaced the damaged gateway signs on the Finchampstead Road and Barkham Ride with smaller signs. The damaged Reading Road signs are also due to be replaced. WBC has also agreed additional locations for signs including Wellingtonia Avenue, Park Lane near the Reading Football Club Ground, the Nine Mile Ride Extension (when complete) and potentially the Eversley border near the Tally Ho.

Cllr Weeks suggested that gateway signs for the Lower Sandhurst Road could be considered.

#### **407/2018 ROAD SAFETY ISSUES**

##### **Pedestrian / cycle route to Bohunt School**

There are still some concerns over the crossing at Commonfield Lane, particularly as the number of pupils at the School and therefore users of the crossing increase. WBC has undertaken a safety audit and is keeping this under review. Cllr Bromley advised that traffic on the Lane continues to be monitored at intervals with the SDR units.

##### **War Memorial junction**

As reported at Main Council WBC is undertaking a study of the junction. The consultants have been in contact with the Clerk and have been seen monitoring the junction.

WBC is still considering Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) for the junction.

The encroaching vegetation on the footway leading between the Memorial and The Village has been reported to WBC again.

### **Church Lane / Whitehorse Lane**

Following a site meeting in September 2018 WBC has agreed to install a crossroads sign at the junction.

### **Gorse Ride North / South**

There have been some complaints about motorcycles using the path between the two roads. This has been referred to WBC but it is unlikely that the issue can be resolved. A barrier was installed but had to be modified to allow access by large mobility scooters, therefore it also allows access by motorcycles. Thames Valley Police is aware of the problem.

### **Lower Wokingham Road / Wellingtonia Avenue**

A resident has suggested installing in traffic islands near the roundabout at the junction of the two roads to make a safer crossing for pedestrians, particularly those walking from Wellingtonia Avenue towards Crowthorne Station. It was agreed that this should be referred to WBC for comments.

### **408/2018 ROAD AND FOOTWAY CONDITION ISSUES**

The WBC Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2018/19 includes a review of the condition of footways, kerbsides and road signs in Finchampstead. The Parish Council submitted the bid due to the deteriorating condition of these areas and the lack of action on issues reported to WBC. The desired outcomes are as follows:

- Improvements to highway safety and the quality of the local environment through
  - Clear and visible road signs
  - Footways safe and useable for pedestrians, and cyclists where appropriate
  - Gullies cleared so reducing roadside flooding
  - Removal of unnecessary signs and posts reducing streetscape clutter
- Efficient use of WBC resources through contractors complying with contract specifications and conditions

A number of examples of the problems were provided to WBC and site visits have taken place. The current position is that very few issues have been resolved. Issues will continue to be reported to WBC through [www.wokingham.gov.uk](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk) or the My Council app.

One issue which has been raised is the lack of visibility for pedestrians crossing the Finchampstead Road near its junction with Church Lane. WBC has cleared some of the footway and the land owner has recently cut the hedge back but visibility is still poor. The Clerk will follow this up with WBC and the land owner.

### **409/2018 CALIFORNIA CROSSROADS IMPROVEMENTS**

Cllrs Bromley and May attended a meeting of the Working Group in September 2018. A public consultation will take place on 1, 3 and 4 December 2018 at the FBC Centre.

The plans shown to the Working Group were viewed. These will be revised for the public consultation and the Council will submit comments at that stage.

### **410/2018 BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2019/20**

It was agreed that current budget figures would be put forward again with minor adjustments. The exception is the Road Safety Improvements budget where an increased sum of £6000 will be requested.

An Ear Marked Reserve of £4000 is proposed to cover the replacement of Simple SID and an SDR unit as and when required.

A Sentinel camera for use with SID sessions has previously been discussed but was ruled out as too expensive and complex for the purpose. It was agreed that a dashcam could be purchased for mounting on the SID unit itself to provide additional footage. A video camera would be an alternative.

Cllrs Bromley, Marshallsay and Weeks agreed to look in to this with a view to purchasing the equipment within this financial year, that is by the end of March 2019.

#### **411/2018 MAJOR PROJECT CO-ORDINATION MEETINGS**

Cllr Bromley attended a meeting on 19 September 2018. Gigaclear and BT are progressing with the roll out of superfast broadband in the local area, although the work is behind schedule and is not due to be completed until December 2019.

[www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org) provides information on local roadworks.

#### **412/2018 INCIDENT REPORTS**

- An incident at Park Lane / Reading Road was reported.

#### **413/2018 CORRESPONDENCE**

- No correspondence has been received that has not already been noted.

#### **414/2018 FORUM**

#### **415/2018 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting will be confirmed in due course.

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

### **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

MINUTE REFERENCE	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)
403/2018	Speak to Jats Pharmacy regarding use of its car park by Tooth Booth staff	SW
403/2018	Approach WBC regarding taking over lamp columns in Finchampstead and other Parishes	Clerk
404/2018	Review the cost of the street light energy supply	SPB
404/2018	Contact WBC regarding potential parking enforcement in The Village at weekends.	Clerk
405/2018	Order 6 brackets for PSID and 4 x 100mm brackets for the SDR.	Clerk
405/2018	Notify WBC of the locations used for PSIDs and the planned schedule.	SPB/Clerk
405/2018	Purchase a first aid kit for Speed Watch sessions	Clerk
405/2018	Case for Simple SID - SPB to provide RC with measurements of the unit so a case can be purchased or made.	SPB/RC
405/2018	Review the Speed Watch risk assessment	SPB/Clerk
407/2018	Contact WBC regarding potential installation of traffic islands on Lower Wokingham Road near Wellingtonia Avenue	Clerk
408/2018	Contact WBC and the land owner regarding additional work on the Finchampstead Road crossing by Church Lane	Clerk
410/2018	Look in to the purchase of a dash cam / video camera for use at SID sessions	SPB/RM/SW