

## WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Highways, Car Park & Brook Committee by ZOOM video conferencing on  
Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Mr A Smith (Chair), Mrs I Beacom, Mrs J Candy, Mr D Cox, Mrs J Farley,  
Mr D Kirley, Mr A Landers, Mr J Newton  
In Attendance: Mr R Pring (Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Mrs P Costello, Mrs S Worrall

2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

The minutes had been circulated to all members with no comments received.

**RESOLVED:** that the Chairman be authorised to sign later as a correct record.

3. **MATTERS ARISING** -

**A. KELSONS LANE CORNER** - Cllr Smith reported that the hedge had been cut back thus improving visibility. No further action needed.

**B. CYCLE AWARENESS SIGNS** - The Chairman reported that the proposed cyclist warning signs in the Little Ireland area were still not in place. - **ACTION PC**

**C. YELLOW LINES IN WEDMORE** - The Chairman reported that three locations within Wedmore had been recently advertised by the Highways Dept. If no objections are received they would be put into the works programme. Locations are near the village hall, outside Providence House and Glanville Road.

**D. SAND HGV'S** - The Chairman reported that he had received a further complaint concerning HGV's using the roads around Sand as a cut through. He had referred the complainant to the County Highways Dept. together with Cllr Huxtable.

4 **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** - Nil,

5 **UPDATES**

**A. SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE** – The Chairman reported that he was considering two quotes for a second machine, both in the region of £4k. Permission to proceed had been agreed by the full Council earlier this month. He had looked at joining forces with other parishes but this was impractical as many had already placed orders. There were also practical reasons why the equipment could not be powered by solar energy. Cllr Candy asked for the location of the original machine and was told it was in the Council Rooms. Unfortunately only a previous councillor knows how to operate it and due to a current ongoing situation it was not possible to seek assistance from him. Cllr Smith said a second machine would allow greater flexibility

**B. SPEED WATCH** - Cllr Kirley had no update on progress.

**C. BLACKFORD** - Cllr Newton reported that some improved safety signs and road markings had been completed but some signs had still to be changed. He was following this up with County Highways. The proposed gateways were well on course and he was hoping to get approval at the next Council meeting. He had received an estimate cost of the project from a national supplier which he would negotiate and Cllr Farley offered to provide details of an alternative supplier which was agreed. **ACTION – JN/JF**

**D. CAR PARKING** - Cllr Smith reported that the restricted waiting sign had been removed from the layby near the church. SCC were not amused. Some locals had asked if they could pay for residents' permits to park there. Cllr Candy gave details of the history and problems that had occurred in this layby by the occupant of a neighbouring property and as a result Highways Dept. had stated that they owned the land and made a traffic order for restricted waiting. This was for the Highways authority to sort out.

6. **PRIORITY HIGHWAY PROJECTS** - Cllr Smith expressed concerns that the Highways Dept. seemed to take ages with everything they dealt with. The traffic calming proposal for Cheddar Road had

been finalised and submitted ages ago yet there was no sign of any progress. The Blackford traffic calming measures were being progressed. Strongvox had agreed to fund the a new pavement in front of the council houses in Pilcorn Street at a cost of £104k where Sedgemoor DC own the land.. The second suggested place in Pilcorn Street for traffic calming nearer the village centre would now need futher discussion and funding. Cllr Smith proposed that the Cheddar Road and Blackford traffic calming schemes be prioritised for CILfunding in the forthcoming Priorities discussions – the other projects listed previously be deferred to a future date,

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** - The Chairman said that he read an article which stated that women in particular were nervous about leaving cars on electric chargers in isolated carparks and other remote locations. He wondered if the proposal to instal one in our car park was the right thing to do. He suggested as an alternative the lay by by the church. There was general agreement and this would be discussed further at the Priorities Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Farley said that local children had made road safety signs to be displayed on the roads around Sexeys School. Cllr Candy raised the question of getting a pedestrian access from the Holdenhurst development.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.21pm. Date of next meeting to be confirmed in September.