

Goudhurst Parish Council



HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting held on 23 June 2020 via Zoom

Present: Cllrs David Boniface (Chairman), Antony Harris, Guy Sutton and Peter Wood.
Ted Bennett (advisor), Claire Reed (Assistant Clerk) and one member of the public,
Paul Green.

1. Apologies were accepted from: Cllr Alan Foster.
2. Declarations of Interest. None.
3. It was **agreed** that the minutes from the Highways Committee meeting held on 25 February 2020 were a correct record.

4. *Questions from the public and press.*

4.1 Paul Green, a resident on the A262 Station Road, spoke to the Committee about the speed of the traffic travelling west along Station Road, from the village centre to the Green Cross Inn. Mr Green reported that he had witnessed a number of accidents on that stretch of the road and asked if the 40mph road markings could be repainted to warn drivers of the need to slow down for the sharp bend. **Action: Clerks to raise with KCC.**

It was **noted** that Council had not yet received a quotation for new 'Max 30mph' signs for Station Road as discussed with Chris Koningen (KCC) at the Highways Improvement Plan meeting in March. **Action: Clerks to chase KCC for the quotation.**

5. *A21 Campaign to lower speed limit*

5.1 It was **agreed** not to escalate to a higher level the complaint to Highways England regarding their nonresponse to GPC's application for a reduction in the speed limit.

5.2 Ted Bennet shared with the Committee a PowerPoint he had created containing photographs of collisions on the stretch of the A21 between Bewl Water and the former Skinners Sheds site. He also shared a video taken from his driveway illustrating the speed of the traffic passing his property and the difficulties faced by residents trying to pull onto the A21.

It was **noted** that Ted Bennet has already informed Greg Clark of GPC's meeting plan. It was **agreed** to send out invitations to the meeting now (for a meeting at a later date), developing the invite text to ensure focus remains on the 2-mile Goudhurst Parish stretch. It was further **agreed** to review the decision to involve all A21 MPs. **Action: DB**

6. *Update on the Lorry Watch on the A262:* No update received due to COVID-19.

7. *Highways Improvement Plan*

7.1.1 High Street raised platform – This is no longer being pursued in the current HIP.

7.1.2 Iden Green speed reduction – It was **noted** that Chris Koningen had agreed to a speed reduction of 50mph for Iden Green but that a further speed survey needed to be carried out once traffic was back to 'normal' levels. It was **agreed** to invite Chris Koningen (when guidance allows and it is safe to do so) to meet with Peter Wood in Peter's house so he may witness the difficulties experienced by residents. It was **agreed** to raise the possibility of reducing the limit further with Chris Koningen.

7.1.3 A262 near Green Cross Inn - See 4.1 above.

7.1.4 Footway beside A262 – It was **agreed** that Cllr David Boniface would draft a letter to Kent Highways. It was **noted** that the developers of Market Place (Fernham Homes) have agreed to contribute £1000 toward the cost of the project.

Action: DB to draft letter (with Clerk).

7.1.5 Pedestrians and Children in road warning sign at Goudhurst Tennis Club. It was **noted** that the minutes of the meeting with Chris Koningen wrongly stated that the sign was for the southbound carriageway. **Action: Clerks to clarify position of the sign with Kent Highways and to chase the quotation, Also, request a quotation for a sign on both carriageways.**

7.1.6 Lidwells Corner safety improvements. It was agreed that Cllr David Boniface would contact residents after Lockdown to establish their thoughts on collision causes. It was noted that the visibility is poor as trees have not been cut back. **Action: DB, Clerks to contact landowner overhanging vegetation.**

7.1.7 Virtual platform outside the Goudhurst Inn. It was **agreed** that a volunteer from the committee would photograph the virtual platform at the junction of Benenden Road and Tenterden Road (TN27 8DL) and report back to the Committee. **Action: Highways Committee**

8. A262

8.1 HGV Trial Area – It was **noted** that this was awaiting Government approval. It was **agreed** that Cllr David Boniface would send the report from the KCC HGV Member Working Group to Committee members for information. **Action: DB**

8.2 Emails from Residents – It was **agreed** that Cllr David Boniface would draft replies to be sent by the Clerk.

Date of next Virtual Highways Meeting: Tuesday 25 August 2020, 7.30pm Via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Date	Minute	Item	Action	Who	Target Date	Status
10.12.19		Lorry Watch	Pay cost of printing stickers for residents' waste bins on submission of invoice.	Clerk		Open
10.12.19		Speed surveys	Agreed to carry out surveys at three sites at cost of £345 + 2x£65 = £475 + VAT	Clerk		Open
10.12.19		Village designation of Iden Green	To organise details from Cllr Peter Wood's research into an application for lower speed limit based on village designation of Iden Green area.	PW and DB		Open?
25.02.20	6	Old Parsonage Site	Draft letter to TWBC regarding schedule of works and pollution survey	Clerk & DB		Open
25.02.20	7.3	A21 Speed Limit Reduction	Redraft letter to MPS re A21 meeting.	AH	Jul-20	Open
23.06.20	4.1	A262 Station Rd	Contact KCC - repainting of 40 mph road markings on bend	Clerks	Jul-20	Open
23.06.20	4.1		Chase quote from KCC for 'Max 30' signs for Station Rd	Clerks	Jul-20	Open
23.06.20	5.2	A21 Speed Limit Reduction	Draft invitations for MPs to attend A21 meeting	DB	Aug-20	Open
23.06.20	7.1.4	Footway beside A262	Draft letter to Kent Highways	DB/ Clerk	Aug-20	Open
23.06.20	7.1.5	Children in road signs - Tennis Club	Clarify position of the sign with Kent Highways and to chase the quotation	Clerks	Jul-20	Open
23.06.20	7.1.6	Lidwells Corner	Arrange meeting with residents - causes of collisions	DB	?	Open
23.06.20	7.1.7	Virtual Platform - Goudhurst Inn	Visit to take photos and report back to Committee	DB? Volunteer?	Jul-20	Open
23.06.20	8.1	HGV trial area	DB to send report from KCC members working group to Committee	DB	Jul-20	Open
23.06.20	8.2	Residents' Emails	Reply to emails	DB	Jul-20	Open