

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE WITH PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Minutes of a Meeting held on 14 December 2021 at 7.30pm in Goudhurst Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs David Boniface (Chairman), Craig Broom, Alan Foster and Guy Sutton.  
Also Mr Ted Bennett (A21 resident) and Helen Sampson (GTAG).

It was noted that Cllr Mrs Alison Webster was absent.

Apologies: There were none.

Declarations of Interest: There were none.

Questions from the public and press: There were none.

**Lorry Watch in Goudhurst Parish.** A local resident is taking photographs of lorries passing the church and GTAG are contacting the hauliers to ask them to use alternative routes. It was noted that the majority appear to be UK registered. There are 6 lorry watch signs from KCC Lorry Watch to be erected in the village.

**Speed Watch.** Speed Watch is currently taking place monthly on a Saturday. There are now 10 volunteers.

**HGVs in Goudhurst Village.** It is agreed that the *status quo* is unacceptable. The proposal to send a letter to senior officers at Kent Highways regarding the lack of action and the possibility of direct action was discussed but no decision was made.

**Highways England A21 safety improvements.** Cllrs David Boniface and Antony Harris have been sending additional information to Highways England. Ted Bennett has also provided data and additional information on collisions. Mr Bennett has also written again to Kent Police regarding a proposed reduction in the speed limit. Kent Police refuse to support a reduction in the speed limit citing a lack of evidence. Mr Bennett suggested inviting the Chief Inspector Craig West and/ or the Police and Crime Commissioner to a Highways Committee Meeting. **Action: Clerk**

**EV Charge points.** It was agreed to apply to the Kent Highways scheme to change the current chargers to those that charge for the electricity used. It was noted that Mr Howard Huntingdon, a local resident, had offered to investigate alternative chargers and suppliers. **Action: Clerk to make contact with Mr Huntingdon, Cllr David Boniface to draft the Kent Highways application form.**

**Parish Highways Improvement Plan.**

**ATC arrangements.** Three locations have been identified for the surveys and approval has been granted by Kent Highways. It was **noted** that the ATC must not take place during periods of untypical traffic levels. **Action: Clerk to raise the ATCs and engage TSP.**

**A262 - Green Cross Inn (HIP 4).** The contractor has been engaged by Kent Highways to erect the two new 'Max 30' signs.

**B2079 North Road - signs at Goudhurst Tennis Club (HIP 6).** This item has been 'shelved' for the time being – the sign cannot be erected until the owner of the verge can be identified and permission sought.

*A262 Cranbrook Road* - Proposed traffic calming adjacent to Beaman Close & Primary School (HIP 8). There is no useable mains power source. Kent Highways have agreed to investigate solar 'wig wag' signs. It was **noted** that Kent Highways would require the Parish Council to take responsibility for the maintenance of the signs. The signs cannot be repaired and have to be replaced once failed, a reasonable guarantee would have to be obtained from the supplier.

Priorities for inclusion on the revised HIP. This was discussed but no decision was made.

Footways. This was discussed but no decisions made.

Winter Preparations. The Clerk has been contacted by the ad-hoc contractor from last year. It was agreed that he should be engaged again for 2021-22 to salt agreed footways and to keep the Highway salt bins across the Parish topped up. **Action: Clerk.**

Next Highways Committee Meeting on Tuesday 01 March 2022, 7.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.46 pm

Claire Reed, Clerk