

**Minutes - Hunton Parish Council
Traffic & Road Safety Working Party (TRSWP)
Grafton, East Street at 2.30pm 14th June 2023**

Present : Mike Summersgill (MS), Iain Simmons (IS), Jonny Goddard (JG), Celia Kennedy-Sloane (CKS), Stephen Banks (SB), Sue Pinks (SP). *Apologies:* James Forster(JF), Fay Joyce (FJ)

1. Minutes of meeting 7th March 2023

The minutes were agreed as a true record. Outstanding action points:

- **Signpost at the bottom of Barn Hill** - JG to ask ANO for 3 large rocks as protection to new post.
- **Wares Farm Signage** - MS had communicated with ISS & Driscolls had put a new sign up. Still, no-one will pay for an advisory sign ON the highway, which LintonPC would need on their HIP.
- **LorryWatch** - JG had re-registered and was awaiting new signs.
- **KCC 7.5t limit map** is wrong – SimonW advised KCC Councillor, MS to chase and see if done.
- **Clear overgrown/dirty signs** – KCC have visited one sign but consider it to be landowner's role (postnote - it has now been done). MS has cleared one and will do a 2nd one on East Street. SpeedWatch have advised that we must NOT clean dirty signs, but report on KCC website!
- JG, JF and SB to try and make progress on listing of signs and drainage gullies on map/plans.
- **Benstead Road mirrors** – installed and so far undamaged.
- **Salt Bins** – MS has still to do the review and send details to PC for onward to KCC.
- **RedWall Lane** – mud on road. A new warning-Tractor sign has been erected on eastern side.
- **Drainage Culvert on RedWall** – old manholes found at Brickyard Cotts.. MS to report blockage.
- **Clearing open Ditches** – KCC will not do this (rocks in ditch near Bull corner), as landowner is responsible under riparian rights. In that case, when hedges strimmed, they should clear ditch!

2. KCC Highways Issues, Speed Limits and Signage

Hunton PC now has a new contact at KCC Highways, Greg McNicol. Greg liaises with over 40 Parish Councils and has a limited budget. Hunton PC can bring three road improvement proposals per year to the KCC planners.

JG discussed a number of proposals with Greg in a Teams call in March. Greg then took the three most promising proposals up to KCC for assessment. The results of the KCC assessment is as follows:

West Street Road narrows; signage by the Gudgeon. Not approved.

The road is the same width all the way along this stretch, with bollards providing a visual effect of the road narrowing. White lines in the middle of the road are also not possible, because the road is less than 5.5m wide.

West street tight bend signage (near Scotts Farm House). Approved.

Approved to investigate a possible design plan. Hunton PC have to approve the fee of £326 for KCC designers to carry out a full assessment and to design a signage plan. The likely design will involve extra chevron signs which may be bigger and in a different location.

Hunton Hill 40mph speed limit extension. KCC strongly advised against.

This scheme is possible but would involve a large number of new signs on each approach to the junction, which would clutter the highway and be expensive. The average speed in this stretch of Hunton Hill is 32mph making a 40mph limit less than relevant.

Kerbs by Hunton School

Double height kerbs will be installed during this year's summer holidays and the carriageway has already been marked out.

Surfacing works

The stretch of West Street from North Lodge to East St will be resurfaced from the 17th June for four days. The section of West St that has been badly damaged by the running water through the winter needs surfacing again. Jamie Cunningham from KCC is pushing for the drainage team to fund this resurfacing because it was made a lot worse by the continual delays to the unblocking works.

Redwall lane junction white lines and resurfacing.

The junction has been marked out by KCC for work. This should be resurfaced before the lines are repainted. MS noted that the highway had been marked out by KCC last week, all down RedWall.

3. SpeedWatch

MS has completed organising and (re-)training 6 volunteers for SpeedWatch, and the first Watch is imminent. Police had been and approved two locations, now in either direction. MS would like to be able to monitor at South Lodge entrance, but 30mph limit sign is too close (need get it moved?).

4. Traffic Calming on West Street and School-time Issues

No agreement at HPC level on double yellow lines by Benstead Close, Grove Lane and Bishops Lane, but mirrors have been placed at end of Benstead – it was felt there wasn't enough space to put them at end of Bishop's Lane and that it would be useful to try and 'set back' the hedges in school and almshouses, to give more vision splays. CKS mentioned that additional parking is coming.

IS tabled a one-page sheet that he has used to put under windscreens of cars that park up on pavement and opposite junctions, with some success but more engagement is still needed. In parallel, there had been an initiative by school parents to discuss the parking issues (and they had produced some thoughts/options), and IS was meeting them on 15/6 to discuss aspects further. There was no quick fix, but the school has initiated staggered start and end times (by 5/10 mins) in the hope that there could be an improvement; he had to gather more information on that aspect. MS suggested a 'walking bus' once a week in this term, to encourage parking at the Hall; IS, MS & JG will be getting involved, as ParishCouncillors, in gathering more data to understand school options.

5. Lorry Watch

There have again only been three reports submitted to email address, two of which were foreign.

6. Highway Drainage Maintenance issues

KCC had cleared the drains and culverts on West Street from Grove Lane to Vicarage Road 4-5th April (but not the open ditches); SB to check at next storm. Highways did some small patch repairs.

KCC had also opened up and jetted the culvert system on East Street & RedWall Lane on 1st/2nd June, but MS not present; they have again marked out the covered gully, where a blockage exists.

7. Any other business and/or New Safety issues

- Church Cottage had flagged increased incidence of speeding on West Street near Church (SpeedWatch to be active at this junction; let's see what happens).
- Elm Corner is concerned about probable damage to home from large vehicles and speeding on approach, and asked if anything can be done (such as a bollard or fencing on the corner). This has been raised before and been refused by KCC, and topic was raised again at HPC on 20th March (post-Meeting Note; owner wants to discuss this again with MS – message received on 15th).
- SP raised the problem with slippery tarmac on the side road at top of Barn Hill, a danger for horseriders; confirmed by others. Should be reported via KCC Highways system as safety issue.
- There was a road danger action plan, called Vision Zero, which KCC were pushing forward. CKS suggested this should be looked at for bike, horse and runners' safety precautions/proposals.

8. Date of next meeting

To be arranged – September 2023, second half.