

**Minutes - Hunton Parish Council  
Traffic & Road Safety Working Party (TRSWP)  
Grafton, East Street at 2.30pm 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024**

**Present :** Mike Summersgill (MS), Jonny Goddard (JG), Iain Simmons (IS), Stephen Banks (SB), James Forster(JF). *Apologies:* Fay Joyce & Celia Kennedy-Sloane (away) and Sue Pinks (wishes to step down)

**1. Minutes of meeting 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2023**

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

- **Signpost at the bottom of Barn Hill** – 3 plastic posts installed, **MS** to speak to **DH** about sign.
- **LorryWatch** – Signs collected – JG & MS to distribute and clip to sign posts.
- **KCC 7.5t limit map** is wrong – Simon Webb progressing with KCC Councillor, **MS** confirmed that lorry access through adjacent 7.5t restricted areas is allowed (eg. over Chainhurst bridge).
- **Salt Bins** – HPC will fund 2 more (MS had located positions at bottom of Hunton Hill and next to noticeboard by Grafton, but no space at East St. corner; a new KCC bin at top of Hunton Hill).
- **Redwall Lane** – mud on road improved but recent wet weather unhelpful; signs are out!
- **Clearing open ditches** – landowner still to be contacted re ditch above Bull Inn corner (heavy stones to be cleared), but one stretch is unknown owner. KCC contacted re blocked culvert across bottom end of George Street, and inspected during February – see also below
- **Prepare plan of proposed changes (IS)** – see below.
- **Keep reporting issues to KCC (All)** – see below.

**2. KCC Highways Issues, Speed Limits and Signage**

Greg McNicol happy to cover cost of sensor to record lorry traffic at top of Hunton Hill and gauge need for “no left turn” HGV sign at top of hill. He is also (i) happy to support a new slow sign on the road at the bottom of the hill (although they have yet to receive the police accident report from about two years ago) (ii) open to putting new Slow sign on East Street (where it should have been put first time) and (iii) reinstalling chevrons on the sharp bend towards Yalding following demolition by a recent accident – Parish Council had funded KCC survey work.

IS has produced the outline of a project proposal designed to lead to a fully worked up plan focussed on speed limits and other safety measures on village roads, predominantly West Street. An all village drop in event on the day of the plant and produce event at the Club, to elicit/provide resident views on local priorities.

IS presented his document which was welcomed. Some minor changes were proposed:

Steering Group: (i) the Alms Houses should not be considered a different category to residents, (ii) whilst businesses such as Clock House Farm, Hunton Engineering and Amsbury Farm should not be included on the Steering Group every effort should be made to keep them informed and obtain their thoughts on the project as it unfolds.

Background: MS confirmed that Amsbury Road was no longer in Hunton Parish, but Hilltop, Foremans Barn Road and North Folly Road are.

IS highlighted the Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy which should be helpful. IS also noted the needs addressed by the recent East Farleigh approved change in speed limit – all of which apply equally to us.

**3. KCC Drainage / Culvert Work on West Street / East Street**

The culverts and drains that have been cleared are now working better and this was welcomed. Some are under-sized for dealing with heavy rainstorm run-off. MS had reported two more defects

MS has raised three blockages in East Street, Redwall Lane and George Street repeatedly with KCC – a visit was made in February by the ‘new’ KCC Drainage technician, but no report back yet given.

#### **4. SpeedWatch**

There are now 5 SpeedWatch volunteers (down from 7). Report on first six months had been printed in Herald, but there had been few further sessions since Christmas, given the colder weather. Donna Hollingworth has agreed to act as another co-ordinator alongside MS.

#### **5. Traffic Calming on West Street Plus School Drop Off Issues**

KCC continue to look for a lollipop person but no progress on this and nothing further to report from the School discussions, although parking aspects were mentioned in termly newsletters.

#### **6. Monitoring of 7.5t West & East Street Weight Restrictions**

There have only been five lorries reported since November, four of which have been foreign and all were travelling north along East Street.

#### **7. Highway Maintenance issues**

There are a number of areas where the road surface has degraded (on East Street, West Street and Redwall Lane) or where drain covers have been lifted (East Street and West Street) – all reported. Some of the worst areas of recent deterioration in the road surface are being caused by natural springs caused by groundwater coming off the fields (Hunton Hill, East Street, West Street).

#### **8. Any other business and/or New Safety issues**

It was noted that the rubbish in the first council house's garden in Redwall Lane has been cleared and that the road in that vicinity is clearer after being reported as fly-tipping by JF to MBC.

#### **9. Date of next meeting**

To be arranged; will be after the Council AGM, as may be different/new Councillors.