

Minutes of the Highways Committee Meeting 22 May 2018, 7.00pm

Held in the Community Centre, King Georges Avenue, Leiston

Present: Cllr Lesley Hill (Chairman)
Cllr John Last
Cllr Chris Nichols
Cllr David Bailey
Cllr David Morsley
Cllr Colin Ginger
Ms Denise Mortimer – Suffolk Highways
Mrs Caroline Rinder (Deputy Town Clerk)

Mrs Rinder welcomed and introduced Ms Denise Mortimer, Community Liaison Engineer to the meeting.

Action

1. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Nichols and agreed to appoint Cllr Hill as Chairman.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public were in attendance.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Harle and County Cllr Rainger.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 21 NOVEMBER 2017

It was agreed that the minutes are a true record.

5. MATTERS ARISING

High Street Drain Cover and Resurfacing – Ms Mortimer advised there is no physical defect on this cover so no further action will be taken at the moment. Mrs Rinder confirmed David Keeble, Surface Treatments Engineer had inspected the resurfacing works and he agreed there appeared to be ‘open’ joints between the new ramp and the road surface. He had suggested these would be sealed when Cross Street resurfacing was done, but unfortunately it wasn’t. Councillors asked for the drain to be checked again when the sealing work on the speed ramps is done and requested the remedial work be done on a Sunday. Ms Mortimer will speak to David Keeble.

Highways

Safety Zone in Waterloo Avenue – Ms Mortimer confirmed no replacement sign is required as the school no longer exists.

Kemps Hill to Lover’s Lane Road – Cllr Ginger had reported 2 potholes some time ago but it was deemed the road was not used enough for them to be repaired. Cllr Ginger felt the potholes are worse and need urgent repair. Cllr

Bailey felt the bank is encroaching into the road and needs cutting back. Ms Mortimer will investigate both these issues.

Action
Highways

Cross Street Resurfacing – An excellent job has been made of the resurfacing with positive feedback from residents.

Paxton Chadwick Waiting Restrictions – This proposal was discussed at Council in December but was not carried.

Carr Avenue Highways Issues – The trees/bushes obscuring the view belonged to a private tenant. The resident who reported the problem was notified and it was suggested she contact her neighbour to cut it back.

Lorry Signage on Theberton Road – Ms Mortimer confirmed Trading Standards had not been in contact so no further action would be taken.

Traffic Light Issues – Ms Mortimer confirmed the design is currently being finalised and construction programmed for September/October 2018. Councillors requested an Engineer check the timings of the lights again from Cross Street across to Sizewell Road as the allowance is still very short. Ms Mortimer will action.

Highways

Centre Highway Road Markings – Ms Mortimer confirmed road studs (cats eyes) are now only on principle roads due to a change in regulations.

Red House Lane/Aldeburgh Road Junction – Cllr Bailey felt there was still a safety/visibility issue for pedestrians crossing Red House Lane junction due to the hedging. Councillors felt that with 2 housing developments and major refurbishment works at the Leisure Centre taking place, all these issues needed looking at together not individually. After further discussion it was agreed to write to Highways requesting early intervention on road layout in conjunction with the planning authority. Ms Mortimer will give Mrs Rinder a contact name to write to.

Highways/CR

Lover's Lane Vegetation Clearance and Signage – Work completed - a great improvement.

Deer Signs – Ms Mortimer confirmed the signs had been ordered and would be installed in August.

Haylings Road Pedestrian Crossing – Councillors were pleased that the re-lining of the pedestrian crossing had been done.

6. FIXED SPEED SIGN UPDATE

Cllr Morsley had investigated this further but unfortunately Highways do not support fixed speed signs unless under exceptional circumstances, so no further action taken.

7. DROPPED KERBS AT SIZEWELL CROSSING

Cllr Ginger felt the kerb was too high at the start of the cycle path. Ms Mortimer will take a look but advised the Council would have to pay for it (approx £3,000).

Highways

Action

8. DROPPED KERB ON JUNCTION OF CROWN STREET/SIZEWELL ROAD

Mrs Rinder reported there is no dropped kerb on one side of the junction with Crown Street and Sizewell Road. Ms Mortimer had checked this and suggested it was feasible but it would cost approximately £3,000. County Cllr Rainger had previously mentioned using some of his locality budget for this work so Mrs Rinder will check if he is willing to fund it.

CR

9. SEAWARD AVENUE PARKING ISSUES

Councillors noted the report from the site visit in January and acknowledged the improvement in parking since letters had been sent out.

10. PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IN ALDEBURGH ROAD UPDATE

Mrs Rinder confirmed a request had been put forward to the District Council to include this in consideration for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) spend. This will go to Cabinet later in the year and we will be notified in due course if we are successful or not.

11. STATION ROAD CROSSING REPORT

Feasibility report previously circulated. After considerable discussion over the various points and improvement proposals in the report, councillors felt something should be done. It was agreed some clarity was required on whether Highways considered this a safety issue and if all the suggested areas of improvement needed to be done. Ms Mortimer will speak to the Design Team and feedback. It also mentioned in the report that Network Rail were aware of the sinking level crossing and had works planned in April, but nothing has been done. Ms Mortimer will contact Network Rail for an update.

Highways

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12. SIZEWELL HALL ROAD UPDATE

Ms Mortimer confirmed the road drainage scheme is programmed to be done in February 2019 and will clarify the details of the proposed works being done.

Highways

13. ABBEY ROAD ROAD SURFACE

Cllr Nichols raised concerns on the dreadful surface of the road, especially near the Lover's Lane junction and provided photos. This road is in the resurfacing programme for 2019/20 but councillors felt this needs to be done this year. Ms Mortimer confirmed it is due for inspection within the next week and will feed this information back to the inspection team.

Highways

14. PARK HILL ROAD SURFACE

Cllr Nichols raised concerns on the road surface where part of the road has sunk and loose chippings from a large pothole are scattered along the edge of the road. Ms Mortimer confirmed this road is due to be inspected shortly and will feed this information back to the inspection team.

Highways

Action

15. KINGS ROAD ROAD SURFACE

Cllr Harle had asked for his concerns to be raised on the condition of this road. Ms Mortimer will check the resurfacing programme and report back when this road is due to be done.

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16. WHITE LINING

Mrs Rinder asked when the white lining was due to be done in the town, especially Ashfield Drive and the doctors surgery 'keep clear'. A survey had been completed by Cllr Morsley 2 years ago detailing all the areas where white and yellow lining needed refreshing but so far only the pedestrian crossing in Haylings Road had been done. Ms Mortimer will check when this work is scheduled.

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17. ADOPTION OF ROADS/VERGES ON NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Cllr Last queried when a new housing development was completed and adopted by Highways, how the process worked to ensure that the grass verges were cut. Ms Mortimer confirmed it should go on the work schedule but investigate why it hasn't been done.

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18. FUTURE PLANNED HIGHWAYS WORKS

No further works scheduled at the moment. Ms Mortimer will send Mrs Rinder a link for the resurfacing programme.

Highways

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Gulley Surveys

Cllr Bailey asked if surveys were carried out on gulleys at the edges of the road. He mentioned there was a deep gulley near Highbury Cottages. Ms Mortimer confirmed only if they have been reported on the website but she will ask for this one to be checked.

Pedestrian Crossings

Cllr Nichols reiterated the earlier discussion regarding refreshing the white lining and asked for the crossings in Waterloo Avenue and King Georges Avenue to be done. Ms Mortimer will check the schedule.

Visit to Highways Hub

Mrs Rinder asked if it was possible for a visit to be arranged to the Highways Hub in Halesworth for those on the Highways Committee who were interested. Ms Mortimer will speak to her Manager and will report back.

Highways

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next meeting is Tuesday 14 August 2018, 7.00pm in the Community Centre.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm