

# STAPLEHURST PARISH COUNCIL

**Committee, Group or Sub Group :** Road Safety Group

**Meeting Date & Venue:** 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 7pm via Zoom

**Report Author:** Adele Sharp - Chairman

**Report**

**Present were:**

Councillors Joan Buller (JB), Sue Forward (SF) Adele Sharp (AS) and Colin Bowden (CB) with Speed Watch Rep Malcolm Buller (MB).

**Apologies:** cllr addy Riordan (PR).

The report of 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020 was accepted.

**SPC Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) priorities:** -

2.1 Church Hill Gateway works – **SF** to clerk to ask Jenni Watson for an update as residents have spotted activity SF will follow up with clerk and see what's happening

2.2 20mph pilot scheme Covid shut down. There are big projects happening Maidstone & Tonbridge instead. May be worth keeping an eye on that to advise us further about it in the future AS suggested residents' signs in their gardens would be a good reminder. Seemed quite well received. Follow up with a photo on FB.

2.3 Gybbon Rise parking issues - School! Ask clerk to ask Jenni Watson for an update – is it still shut down due to COVID? In fact can clerk ask for update for all issues.

2.4 (9) Marden Road - roundabout – plus extension of speed limit area. We know people from KCC have been out inspecting and photographing it. Ask Jenni Watson about speed limit area – other side of Clapper Lane?

2.5 (10) Headcorn Road – bridge towards Hawkenbury – Ask if anything further – traffic lights.

3. Speedwatch – Sue and Robert Forward not been possible to do recently as felt not safe enough at the moment (COVID). Potential younger volunteers have not followed it up / contacted since. Other volunteers are 70+ or vulnerable or both!

Online training is available but MB then needs to do the roadside training which he can't do currently as he is 70+. We can't borrow another team leader as our equipment is different to theirs. When Malcolm is able to resume we will have to have a training up session of younger volunteers!

4. Narrow paths –

Letter – We worked hard on this letter to ensure it is as non confrontational as possible but does ask them to cut back the hedges.

Concern was raised about the last paragraph that we “could pass their details to Kent Highways”. We had followed their advice about this as Kent Highways have to follow their process which involves their own first letter, and then follow up letter then 28 days wait! It's very long winded.

We will start with auditing the A229 as its a main route. Station Road **JB/ MB** Churchill, Cranbrook Rd **SF** Parade to Traffic lights **CB** ready for next meeting. We will keep a record so no one gets more than one letter.

**Action** : - We recommend to Full council that can we change to 'the Clerk' if they are still happy with the letter they agreed to last year, we are able to post these as required as a group.

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5. Sainsburys, Station Road - Sainsburys are breaking ground and we will keep our eye on it and their progress. Highways have made their recommendation and we will have to hope they are right.

6. Marden Road crossing (between Thatcher and North down rd)– diagram showing where it's going to go but no details. Is it road markings or more such as beacons? Similar to Lime trees one?

Action: Ask clerk to ask if Kent Highways (Clare rather than Jenni Watson or can she add that to her list?) can give us more details. (HIP update) **SF**

7. A.O.B.

Road damage –

Photo of end of Bathurst Rd nr Thatcher Rd) not Marden Rd as labelled.

Discussion but we need the public to report these to KCC – as many as possible to hassle them to do something. Community duty of care to keep reporting it.

Action: Ask clerk to use the facebook and website to remind parishioners of the number to call!

8. Date of next meeting: Thursday 1 October 7pm Zoom

The meeting ended at 8:30pm.

**Date & Venue of next meeting:**

Group membership

AS Adele Sharp cllr

JB Joan Buller cllr

PR cllr Paddy Riordan

CB Colin Bowden cllr

SF Sue Forward cllr MB

Malcolm Buller speed watch rep