Road Safety Group Notes from Thursday 29th August 2019

Present Councillors Joan Buller, Sue Forward, Adele Sharp Speed Watch Rep Malcolm Buller

Apologies CB (on PC training), SL-R (bus delays)

The **20mph zones** suggestions were discussed at length. The Clerk's data protection suggestions were agreed to be added to the draft letter with sketch map and his contact with KCC's Jenni Watson to "Put on the long list" was welcomed. The use of the PC's mapping tool was felt to be too detailed and the area covered, less-clearly indicated, especially in black and white copying. If and once a smaller area was successfully installed, there may well be resident pressure for expansion, but members felt that the proposed area was easily justified by covering the roads surrounding the school, playing field and open-space play area. *MB to ask the PC from the Resident's Forum to approve the printing and circulation of the A4 letter to all residential properties inside and bordering the proposed area.*

The **Pedestrian Crossing in Station Road** had been researched by JB from the three major development's planning details. The "Bovis" Section 106, Off-site Highway Improvements, says that before any houses are occupied the crossing should be built between Station Approach and Fishers Road. *JB to ask Ass. Clerk to ask for progress report.*

Gateway Improvements in Cranbrook Road raised two suggestions. *JB to ask the Clerk to ask KCC for an estimate for just the Dragons' teeth markings, 30mph roundel road marking and the rumble strips on approach as there is already a lot of physical street furniture in that area.* However, concern was raised that this was spending PC money on a temporary scheme as the inevitable increases of traffic from over the borders as well as our own will strengthen the case for altering the speed limits. Better value will be achieved by linking the 40mph Rock Hill to the 30mph Staplehurst threshold which should be to the south of Pinnock Lane. The present 40, 50, 40, 30 zones create excess speeds through Knoxbridge. With this area reduced, residents and motorists will be safer, especially when the large lorry manoeuvres associated with the new "Fridays" road system and other business expansions take effect. *JB to ask the Clerk to ask KCC for another meeting*.

Details of the **Speed Watch** activity since the last meeting were given. There had been a National Campaign over the last 2 weeks and 13 volunteers had been out for 9.5 hours (nearly 30 'volunteer hours'). 126 vehicles were reported to the police database which generated 12 'repeat offender' letters. 1 new volunteer was being trained.

The roads around **Hushheath** were considered not fit for the traffic expected to use them. AS to write to the owner and ask how we could help him achieve improvements. He could attend our next meeting as item 1.

A Speed Watch volunteer had asked if the PC were going to employ **Streetwise** to survey the traffic to provide comparative statistics. Members felt that this was premature as no significant changes to population or traffic measures had yet happened.

Items suggested for the **next agenda** were Narrow Paths and Overgrown Hedges.

Next meeting 7:30pm Thursday 26th September 2019