

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council

Minutes of the Highways Committee Meeting held at 6pm on Monday 15th November 2021 in The Windrush Room, The George Moore Community Centre

Those Present: Cllr A Roberts (Chairman and Minute taker), Cllrs B Hadley, M Macklin, N Randall, L Wilkins, B Wragge

Members of the Public: None

1. Apologies for absence: There were none.
2. Declarations of Interest: There were none
3. To receive and approve the minutes of the Highways Committee held on 18th October 2021.
Proposed by Cllr Hadley, seconded by Cllr Randall and unanimously APPROVED.
4. Matters Arising:
 - (a) Speedwatch. Checks had been carried out on major routes within the parish and a number of drivers had been reported for significantly exceeding the speed limits. Drivers will receive warning letters from the police and persistent offenders could ultimately face prosecution.
 - (b) Pavement Railings – Bourton Day Nursery. Still awaiting a response from GCC Highways.
 - (c) Footpath between Rye Close and Tennis Courts. Residents had come forward with their recollection that the path was installed by GCC Highways during construction of the Rye Close development in the 1980s. GCC Highways have been contacted to request that they accept responsibility for the footpath maintenance, carry out the repair work and formally adopt the footpath. A response is awaited.
 - (d) ANPR Meeting. Scheduled for 29th November at Rodmarton. Our ANPR administrator will attend and report back.
 - (e) Relocation of Library Sign: GCC Highways have been contacted to request permission to move the pointer sign to the signpost opposite the war memorial, pointing up Moore Road.
 - (f) To note receipt of GCC speed camera subsidy of £3,000.
 - (g) To note receipt of Payne’s footbridge funding by GCC of £150 (actual cost of work).
 - (h) TRO kerb stripe repainting: GCC Highways have been advised that the stripes are wearing away already and they have noted this. Other lining work and TRO snagging will be completed soon. The contractor is just waiting on some signs to be delivered.
 - (i) Finance – The Clerk has sent an email to Cllr Maunder requesting clarification that £5,000 from the tourist levy funding will be earmarked to cover parking patrol extra hours.
5. Police. - Proactive patrols by the Neighbourhood Policing Team led to a male being caught driving whilst disqualified, no insurance and driving licence not updated. A vehicle was seized and the male summoned to court.
6. Footpaths. Residents are urged to use the FixMyStreet app or website to highlight any highways problems as this can be the quickest way to get GCC Highways to conduct repairs.
7. Traffic & Highways:
 - (a) Bourton Road Runners 10k Charity Race on Sun 27th Feb: The Clerk has written to the organisers stating that the Council has no objection in principle to the event. The committee reviewed the document and event planning in more detail and had the following comments to make. Cllr Roberts will pass them on to the organisers.
 1. The organisers should note that if the Rissington Road car park work is delayed, eventers parking options may be reduced.
 2. There had been complaints in the past about litter being left. The event organisers are requested to ensure that a thorough post-event litter-pick is carried out.

(b)GCC Parking Patrol Statistics: The Committee considered the data and noted that the Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) had patrolled widely about the village and issued tickets on estate trouble spots, not just the village centre. The purchase of extra patrol hours had allowed the CEOs to cover much more of the village than in previous years, whilst still providing an active presence in the centre. Extra patrol hours would be purchased for 2022 with the intention of using the tourist levy to finance it. The GCCs Parking department had been approached and they would be sending out costings in due course. The Assistant Clerk was requested to add the statistics document to our website so that residents could see where patrolling had occurred.

8. Report on meeting with TAG Group and discuss proposals to put to full Council (Paper 3)

Cllr Roberts gave a report on the meeting with the TAG Traffic Group and summarised Paper 3. There had been some discussion about a park and ride scheme as a long-term aim, but it was felt this would be very difficult to achieve due to the number of independent car parks in the village and the problem of persuading them to close or restrict access.

The main topic of discussion was the traffic survey and the average weekly number of vehicles entering the village off the Fosse Way. Approximately 60% in via Station Road and 40% in via Lansdowne. Traffic volumes in the High Street were also considered too high. It was felt the only way to reduce traffic volumes in the village centre was firstly to encourage more use of Station Road by better signage on the Fosse Way. (This would be pursued by Cllrs Hodgkinson and Roberts). Secondly, to limit access to the High Street and control the amount of free parking in the centre. It was therefore decided that the Parish Council should formally approach GCC Highways and the GCC Parking departments with the following two proposals.

1. To investigate the feasibility of restricting entry except for access to Lansdowne, Moore Road and High Street at peak times, plus limiting visitor access to other estate roads in the village.
2. To investigate the feasibility of introducing a pay and display type charging scheme on current free spaces within the village centre (eg 45 mins free, then charge at higher rates - max 4 hours).

Proposed by Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Hadley and unanimously approved. The Clerk was requested to add these proposals to the December council meeting.

9. Correspondence:

(a) Email from resident requesting signage for road bridges (Paper 4). The Committee felt that signage would be inappropriate and probably ineffective, however, on-road markings might help and Cllr Roberts would approach GCC Highways for advice. The Clerk was requested to respond to the resident.

(b) Email from resident on house vibration beside the Fosse Way (Paper 5). The Committee sympathised with the resident but understood that Cllr Hodgkinson was already involved in the case and the matter had already been raised as a formal complaint to GCC Highways. If he had not already done so, the resident could consider writing to his MP if the matter was not resolved. The Clerk was requested to respond accordingly.

(c) A GCC Road Safety Workshop would be held at Shire Hall on Wed 15th Dec 13.00 - 1700. This would be a face-to-face workshop with the option to join in via video link. Cllrs who wished to attend should contact the Clerk.

10. Any Other Business. There was none.

11. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 13th December 2021 at 6.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 18:46 hours.