

ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Notes of a meeting of the Highways Improvement Working Group held on Tuesday 23 January 2024 in the Viewing Gallery of Ash Green Sports Centre commencing at 2.30pm.

Present: Cllr S Fishenden (Chairman)
Cllr F Cottee
Cllr P Kirtley
Cllr V Ngwenya
Cllr D Brazier – Kent County Council
Mr N Rowe - Community Engagement Officer (West), Kent Highways

In attendance A de Jager (Clerk)

1. Apologies
Cllr M Manley

2. Declaration of Interests
None

3. Notes of Previous Meeting
The notes of the meeting of 28 November were RECEIVED and NOTED.

4. Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)
Mr Rowe took members through the purpose of Highways Improvement Plans and his involvement with Parish and Town Councils. The following proposals, for inclusion in the HIP, were discussed.

- I. Pedestrian crossing on Ash Road at the Olivers Mill Bus Stop – historic evidence from the Speed Indicator Device indicates that traffic travels too fast on this stretch of road and that it is a major crossing point for children walking to and from school. Cllr S Fishenden PROPOSED that this item was added as the first priority to the HIP.
- II. Rural roads – the improvement/repair or introduction of passing points on rural roads in the Parish. It was agreed that residents would be surveyed to identify roads or pinch points which would benefit from formal passing points. It was noted that this need has resulted from the increase in delivery vehicles from online retailers and supermarkets. Once the results have been received the Parish Council will decide if these are to be added to the HIP.
- III. Staggered junction at Ash Road, North Ash Road and West Yoke – sight lines entering Ash Road from West Yoke are very poor. Mr Rowe will look at the site and advise if any improvements can be made.

The use of Heavy Goods Vehicles on South Ash Road/Ash Lane was discussed, there is an 'Unsuitable for Wide Vehicles' sign at the intersection of Ash Lane and London Road, but it was noted that this is an advisory sign.

5. Date of next meeting
The date of the next meeting will be set once information from residents has been received and the HIP submitted to KCC.

The meeting closed at 3.20pm