

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council

Minutes of the Highways Committee Meeting at 6pm on Monday 8th August 2022
in The Windrush Room, The George Moore Community Centre

Those Present: Cllr A Roberts (Chairman & minute-taker), Cllrs B Hadley, M Macklin, N Randall, L Wilkins, B Wragge.

Members of 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 11th July 2022.
Proposed by Cllr Macklin, seconded by Cllr Hadley and unanimously APPROVED.
4. Opportunity for members of the public to speak. No members of the public present.
5. Matters Arising:
 - (a) Update on proposal to move disabled spaces further towards Moore Road to allow a bus pull-in bay to be created. No update as yet from GCC Highways.
 - (b) Update on painting of yellow lines outside Willoughby Place. No update as yet from GCC Highways.
 - (c) GCC Highways Local Fund. As reported at the Parish Council meeting, Cllr Hodgkinson has allocated £10,000 this financial year to Bourton. £5,000 towards resurfacing the footpath from Mousetrap Lane to the Primary School and £5,000 to pay for a feasibility study to examine a strategy for dealing with village parking issues and traffic flow.
 - (d) Website wording for coach unloading in the High Street. Cllr Roberts will liaise with the Clerk.
 - (e) Community Speedwatch Safety Fund application. A bid has been submitted for a Mobile VAS and 100 Twenty is Plenty bin stickers. The bid process runs until 31st August. It won't be known if we have been successful until after that date.
6. Police. Nothing to report.
7. Footpaths:
 - (a) Business signage on footpaths and grass verges (Paper 1) There were concerns about pavement congestion and accessibility due to inappropriately placed 'A'-boards and advertising signs. The letter sent out to businesses in Jun 2021 would be updated by Cllr Roberts, circulated to other councillors for approval and then distributed to businesses. GCC Highways would also be contacted to clarify what enforcement action they might take, if necessary.
 - (b) Complaints re overgrown hedge at 1 Roman Way and, encroaching lavender bush at Wisteria House, High Street: It was agreed that the owners should be contacted to ask them to cut the foliage back.
8. Traffic & Highways
 - (a) GCC Road Safety Policy Consultation (Paper 2): To determine outline responses and nominate a committee member to submit. Committee members would review the paper and provide feedback to Cllr Roberts by 31st August, so that a submission can be made before the 11th September deadline.
 - (b) GCC Winter Update (Paper 3): To agree responses and follow up on grit bins for The Steeps. It was confirmed that the contact details for village snow warden and the snow plough operator remain unchanged. It was felt that we had adequate reserve bags of salt/grit. The Winter Action Plan is on the council website. Cllr Roberts will chase up GCC Highways regarding the cost and installation of grit bins for The Steeps.
 - (c) To consider the purchase of a speed-gun and associated equipment up to a cost of £250 (Paper 4) It had become increasingly difficult to sign the gun and kit out from Stow Police as it was used a lot by other parishes. It was therefore agreed that we should obtain our own using money from the speed reduction budget. Proposed by Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Randall and unanimously APPROVED.
9. Closure of Coach Park: Review of current situation and to determine any actions required. Cllr Maunder provided an update at the Parish Council meeting. CDC would be holding a meeting in September with stakeholders to discuss options and suggestions for future provision.

10. Correspondence:

- (a) Piece Hedge footpath (Paper 5) There was a complaint that the footpath had recently become overgrown. However, during bird nesting season (April to August) it is recommended that hedges are not cut where possible. A recent Browser article has reminded landowners that they have a responsibility to cut back on paths bordering their land, so it was not felt necessary to write to individual households. The path is currently on the Bibury contract for regular cutting and it has now been done. The Clerk was requested to respond to the resident accordingly.
- (b) Station Road speeding (Paper 6) An anonymous letter had been received complaining about lack of action by the Parish Council. The comments were noted by the Committee, however, there is little direct action the Council can take if drivers ignore limits and speed. It is the Police who have the power to deal with such incidents and if residents have evidence to should be reported using the 101 system by phone or email.
- (c) Cutting back of hedges, shrubs and trees (Paper 7) This relates mainly to Periwinkle Bank and the Cemetery. Some trimming had been restricted due to bird nesting season. The Cemetery hedge will be done in October. The Periwinkle Bank footpath is clear and there are no obstructions. The trees were assessed earlier in the year and some pruning work has been scheduled, however, unless there are safety concerns, the trees will be allowed to grow naturally. The Clerk was requested to respond to the resident accordingly.

11. Items to note: To receive reports for information only.

- (a) It was noted that a concrete base had been laid at the bus stop by The Furrows, in preparation for a bus shelter to be installed. (Hopefully the one from Meadow Way).
- (b) Some of the No Waiting signs around the village did not tie-in with the new TRO restriction timings. This would be investigated.
- (c) It was noted that vehicles were parking inappropriately on double yellow lines around the village centre in the evenings. It was asked whether CEO (Traffic Warden) patrols could be varied to cover evenings as well?
- (d) A long-term footpath closure in Lamberts Field was causing inconvenience to residents. GCC Highways were being asked to clarify what the situation was.
- (e) The Clerk was requested to add an agenda item to the next Highways meeting to discuss installing a solar powered street light near No75 Melville.

12. Date of Next Meeting – 6pm on Monday 12th September 2022.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 18:56 hours.