**6.1 (a)**

**Highways Engineer meeting – 4th June 2019**

**Attendees:**

Richard Bishop (RB)

David Jacklin (DJ)

**Topics Discussed:**

1. Meeting with Tom McCabe, Breckland Friday 24th May 2019 – RB give brief overview of the key Highways topics discussed in a recent meeting with Tom McCabe, Breckland. The meeting also included Cllr L Scott and Cllr E Colman:
2. A1065 cobbled crossing by the Green Parrot – it was noted the informal crossing was in need of repair again as showing signs of distress. There are two clear options available:
   1. leave the dropped kerbs but tarmac the road as normal
   2. leave the dropped kerb and relay golden gravel to highlight informal crossing.

RB agreed to ask the Council at the June meeting for their preferred option.

1. Westfields/Theatre street footpaths – in need of repair as reported in May meeting.
2. Railings at Traffic Lights – it was noted further investigation of alternative options was still required taking into account design, health & safety, conservation etc before a paper could be drawn up for proper review.

DJ advised that at his annual Gateway meeting next week – where budget and schedules for 2019/20 are agreed – he would be putting forward items ii. & iii for approval.

Should only one project be allowed then item iii. Railings would be the main focus for this year and item ii. Westfield/Theatre St moved to next year.

20/20 Vision - it was advised that Swaffham Town Council/TAFG needed to demonstrate a strong Economic Development reason to allow for potential Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) funding to be applied for which would help the case – this is a long-term proposal.

Swaffham Network Improvement Strategy / Transport & Access Focus Group – it was noted the reports had now been received and cascaded, following the meeting with Tom McCabe.

1. Yellow Lines – Beech Close – a proposal is awaited from the Transport & Action Focus Group (TAFG) for the Town Council to consider before being put forward to Highways design team. It was noted Cllr J Anscombe was also canvassing neighbours in Beech Close for possible financial support towards the estimated £5,000 cost.
2. Church Walk lighting – RB agreed to chase CJM Electrical for outstanding costing quote; it is hoped to take an amended proposal to the June Full Council meeting.
3. Town Centre Trees – this remains unresolved with Breckland.
4. War memorial – Cllrs would be asked at the June Council meeting if they wished to apply for a land transfer from Breckland to take on management of the area., including trees etc.
5. Car Parking Meters – the S50 licence had been received; there was no update on when the meters would be installed.
6. Additional queries to be investigated by DJ & the team:

* Bus Stop hard standing opposite Highfield Avenue – this topic would be raised at the June Council meeting and Cllr’s would be asked how they wished to proceed.
* Buttercross, TIC sign removal – Quinn Construction had located the missing slabs and the Council Ground Maintenance Team would now schedule these works in.
* Greyhound PH bollard - a new cast iron replacement bollard had now been fitted outside the Greyhound PH.
* Pightle No Through Road Sign – a requested had been received from a member of the public for a no through road sign as it was noted that people were being sent down the Pightle with Sat Nav’s etc.

DJ advised this was something Breckland District Council managed through adapting street signs, there was a cost involved.

RB agreed to raise the topic with the Council at their next meeting before proceeding.

* Pathway between Tesco/Waitrose – it was advised the bushes were becoming overgrown and obstructing walking. DJ agreed to investigate this.

**For Information:**

DJ provided a summary explanation of the recent works undertaken in the town, which had caused some concern, as follows:

Lynn Road - electric cable reinstatement – DJ advise that there were no ‘records of works’ requested and so unfortunately no-one to challenge for the work undertaken and disruption caused.

London Street Easter weekend – this work was undertaken by a utility company under an ‘emergency 5 day window’ – this allows 5 days for work to be completed however there is no requirement on how the works is scheduled during that time. In most instances a number of tasks are outsourced and so timing cannot always be tightly managed, this includes temporary traffic lighting and is dependent on the utility company advising the works are complete for them to be quickly removed.

Most works requested are scheduled to minimise disruption. What cannot be foreseen is the emergency works which can come at the most inopportune times and existing planned works cannot be cancelled.

An unfortunate combination of the of all of the above happened at Easter and so a difficult situation was made worse.

**Next meeting Tuesday 2nd July 2019, 9.30a.m**