

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council

Minutes of the Highways Committee Meeting held at 5pm on Monday 21st November 2022
in The Salmonsbury Room, The George Moore Community Centre

Those Present: Cllr A Roberts (Chairman & Minute taker), Cllrs A Davis, N Randall, L Wilkins.

Members of Public: There were none

The meeting commenced at 17.20 hours.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs B Hadley, M Macklin, B Wragge.
2. To note that Cllr A Davis has been co-opted to the committee by full Council on a temporary basis in Cllr Macklin's absence. The Committee welcomed her on board.
3. Declarations of Interest: There were none.
4. To receive and approve the minutes of the Highways Committee held on 10th October 2022. APPROVED.
5. Opportunity for members of the public to speak. No members of the public present.
6. Matters Arising:
 - (a) Proposal to move disabled spaces further towards Moore Road to allow a bus pull-in bay to be created. Cllr Hodgkinson has been asked to clarify what preliminary discussions have been held with the GCC parking team. The Clerk has received information from a resident with a disabled wife, who says that able bodied drivers regularly park in the disabled spaces and this doesn't seem to get picked up on by parking enforcement. Enquiries will be made with the wardens to confirm that the bays are legally enforceable, that non-blue badge parkers do get ticketed and also what the current patrol schedule is. The Clerk was requested to respond to the resident appropriately.
 - (b) Painting of yellow lines outside Willoughby Place. Cllr Roberts will contact GCC Highways again to try and ascertain if and when re-lining work has been scheduled.
 - (c) Community Speedwatch Safety Fund application. Cllr Roberts met with a GCC Highways engineer recently to discuss the process for acquiring a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS). GCC will need to approve proposed installation sites around the village and a traffic survey may need to be completed prior to a site being accepted. GCC would fund this. Cllr Roberts will coordinate. The committee requested that ownership of the equipment be properly established as it may have to be added to our asset register.
 - (d) Footpath closure in Lamberts Field. The footpath edge has been damaged by building work. The building contractor, adjacent householder and GCC Highways are in discussions about getting the path repaired and reinstated.
 - (e) Solar powered streetlight at Melville by play area. Discussions are ongoing with residents and Bromford Housing who own the nearby properties as to possible location and style of lamp. The lamp will have to comply with current street lighting policy.
 - (f) No waiting signs. The assessment of the number of old signs around the village that are not in accordance with the new TRO regulations is ongoing.
 - (g) Closure of coach park: There had been further meetings with stakeholders and Bourton Business Network, and the owners had agreed to an extension to 31st Dec 2023 to enable a solution to be sought.
 - (h) Speeding on Sherborne Street & up The Steeps: The Clerk was previously asked to write to the riding stables but they have relocated to Naunton. Safety concerns have already been raised with the Deputy Area Highway Manager. The Committee agreed that a 40mph limit on The Steeps might be beneficial on safety grounds. Cllr Roberts would make enquiries with GCC Highways as to the feasibility of installation without resorting to the expense of a TRO.
 - (i) Flood Resilience Meeting 21st Oct. Cllr Roberts did not attend as the meeting agenda was focused on the Cirencester area and the south Cotswolds. A Flood Warden meeting planned for 9th Nov has been postponed until 11th January.
 - (j) Street lighting on Rissington Road. The Deputy Area Highway Manager was written to on 20th October raising concerns about low light levels. No response to date.
 - (k) Street nameplate on Moore Road - refurbishment. CDC had been contacted but they would only replace the old sign with a modern style one. The Committee felt this was inappropriate for the village centre. A local 'DIY' solution to repaint would be investigated.
7. Police: A Section 59 notice had been issued to a motorist, which was a warning to both driver and vehicle for anti-social driving. Further transgressions could result in the vehicle being seized and crushed.

8. Footpaths: A path on Bourton Chase near Kite Close was deteriorating. Cllr Davis would report it on FixMyStreet and would continue to monitor its condition.
9. Traffic & Highways:
 - (a) Gasworks Lane street nameplate (Paper 1): To review further correspondence from CDC and agree response. On further reflection, the Committee agreed that a decision on this should not be delayed and that a sign in the style of those sited by Roman Way would be appropriate. It should read "Gasworks Lane leading to Broadlands and Meadow View." The Clerk was requested to advise CDC of the Committee's suggestion.
10. Correspondence:
 - (a) To note Freedom of Information request: A request from a resident was responded to in relation to ANPR traffic flow and speed data. Anonymised data has been provided which does show that since the ANPR cameras have been installed, they have been effective in lowering average speeds.
 - (b) Double yellow lines on Letch Lane. It has been explained to the resident that the Parish Council would not support their request to have the yellow lines removed from outside their driveway as part of any future TRO. The time to object to them was when they were originally installed some years ago, however, as the lined area was close to a bend, visitors should not be parking there anyway.
 - (c) Signage re. closure of CDC's Rissington Road car park (Paper 2). A resident has recommended that better signposting is added to the closed facility to advise drivers of alternative parking locations. They had written to CDC but felt that the response received was inadequate. The Committee agreed with this and felt that CDC should be erecting better signage on the roads further away from the car park advising motorists of the closure. Moreover, there is concern that with the works scheduled for the next four months, there will be serious traffic congestion issues in the spring unless CDC gives some thought to how the village might cope. Could the Leisure Centre carpark be signposted for overspill parking during the February half term? The Clerk was requested to write to CDC suggesting this and ask them to improve the provision of information signage on approach roads. (Copy in Cllr Maunder and Bourton Business Network and also respond to the resident appropriately.)
11. Items to note: The new Robin bus service has been generally well received, however, it was noted that it might be helpful to residents if the operator could consider adding some more stops e.g. in the Meadow Way and Bourton Link area and near Letch Lane. The Clerk was requested to write to the operator with the suggestions.
12. Meetings Schedule:
 - (a) To review frequency of monthly meetings. Other committees have agreed that in order to reduce the admin burden on the Clerk and Councillors, meetings should be scheduled at approximately 6 weekly intervals. It was proposed that the Highways Committee should do likewise. APPROVED.
 - (b) To review proposal to cancel December meeting. Other committees have agreed to cancel their December meetings and hold a January meeting. Any urgent items to be covered by the Council Meeting or Extraordinary PC meeting in December. APPROVED
13. Date of Next Meeting – 6pm on Monday 9th January 2023.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 18:43 hours.