

Meopham Parish Council

Notes from the meeting of the Parking and Traffic Working group

held on 13th January 2020

At the Windmill, Meopham Green at 10.30am

Present Cllrs J McTavish, (Chairman) S Buchanan, J A Ogden, P Luxford; C S Officer M Cason; Nick May, PCSO R Meader.

1. **Apologies for absence** None

2. **The Notes of the last meeting**

These had been circulated, and after one modification to Item 9, where “found to be legal” was changed to read “to be within the legal parameters”, were accepted unanimously.

3. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes which were not included on the agenda

4. **Update on Parking Campaign**

Refreshing the Parking campaign. It was agreed that the Campaign would be reinstated early in the New Year. In the meantime a number of preparatory actions would be undertaken.

a) Cllr Buchanan will draft a letter about the restart of the Campaign to the Heads of all the local schools to arrange a meeting with them in the New Year, this would be, among other things, to see in what ways we could encourage more considerate parking by parents, for example using currently unused parking areas like St Johns Car Park close to the Meopham Academy, and the large car park by the Culverstone Hall etc. Mandy was meeting the Heads re the ‘Walking Bus’ from St Johns and Culverstone Hall. She said she would raise our continuing concern over parents parking.

b) The clerk will be asked to renew the parking notices on the Parish noticeboards which had faded.

c) The proprietor of FashionScene on Camer Parade is to approach local shopkeepers for support for a concerted approach to GBC and KCC about the adverse effect on custom resulting from the inability of patrons to park before shopping. Cllr McTavish will oversee this action. Ogden will prepare a draft for consideration

d) Schools will be asked to look into the replacement of Lollypop Ladies where appropriate. Cllr Ogden will prepare a draft letter for consideration.

- e) The Latest PCN report from GBC was discussed and as stated earlier suitable publicity to indicate the PCNs issued was considered. Nick May who was in attendance discussed the options available.

Since the production of the latest PCNs, discussions about suitable publicity were discussed, including a separate listing for Camer Parade . These included the Meopham Review, the Parish Website, other social media outlets, school PTA publications, etc.

5. **Speeding and other traffic issues on the A227.**

At the June meeting attended by Kevin Gore of KCC , the issue was discussed with of the increasingly excessive use and speeds of HGVs on the A227 especially in the narrow sections including at Meopham Green, The George and Neville Parade. The issue of adding appropriate warnings on HGV Commercial Satnavs of numerous sections of narrow roads which are unsuitable for through heavy lorries needed still to be investigated. He still needed to be pursued.

6. **Speedwatch**

There was some discussion since the FC had approved the introduction of a Speedwatch trial in the New Year. We were in process of attempting to recruit sufficient volunteers to run the scheme on behalf of the MPC. It was believed that Councillors should not be directly involved in the administration of the Scheme. Cllr McTavish will maintain liaison with Alan Watson the County Speedwatch Co-ordinator. Sarah will be asked to check with the Clerk at Higham PC about the trial which is taking place in their parish currently.

7. At the June meeting Kevin Gore of KCC , the issue was discussed with of the increasingly excessive use and speeds of HGVs on the A227 especially in the narrow sections including at Meopham Green, The George and Neville Parade. The issue of adding appropriate warnings on HGV Commercial Satnavs of numerous sections of narrow roads which are unsuitable for through heavy lorries needed still to be investigated. His still needed to be pursued. In response to a query from a parishioner, we were unable to ascertain whether an undertaken to log accidents on the A227. Mandy Cason confirmed that she had been unable to confirm that there had been traffic warning or flashing warning signs outside the Northfleet School in the past.

8 **Highways Improvement Action Plan**

Cllr. McTavish who had had a meeting with Dave Petchey last year undertook to formulate this plan with the Clerk. Among the issues still outstanding were,

- 1 extra bollards at Ridley Turning,
- 2, numerous faulty repairs following the resurfacing of parts of the A227 affecting grids and Utility Inspection points, and Potholes to be photographed and reported on the relevant portal.
3. Maintenance of black and white reflector posts to be identified

4. Melliker Lane foliage obscuring signs, to be identified and cleared.
5. A priority plan for a low barrier at the northern end of Camer Parade on the strip of pavement alongside the road.
6. Consideration of the possibility of introducing a lower 20mph speed limit outside the three schools on the A227.

These items still needed to be resolved.

9. **Any Other Business**

1. The query from Meopham Green residents about parking at Meopham Green had been investigated by GBC and found to be legal.
2. Mandy reported that the 'headshave' by Jackie had raised £440.

10. **Date of next Meeting;**

Monday March 2nd 2020 at 10.30am in the Windmill.

The meeting closed at 11.55am