

Meopham Parish Council

Notes from the meeting of the Parking and Traffic Working group

held on 4th November 2019

At the Windmill, Meopham Green at 2.30pm

Present Cllrs J McTavish, (Chairman) S Buchanan, J A Ogden, P Luxford; C S Officer M Cason;

1. **Apologies for absence** PCSO Rob Meader.

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

These had been circulated, and 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.

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

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.

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

Cllr Luxford had attended the recent KALC Transport Group meeting and highlighted one presentation in particular which will be circulated to other Group members to illustrate how some other PCs were approaching these problems.

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. The Latest PCN report from GBC to be pursued and Nick May will be invited to our next meeting . Cllr McTavish to action.

6. Speedwatch

Full Council had approved the introduction of a Speedwatch trial in the New Year. Detailed discussion had been held By Cllr McTavish with Alan Watson the County Speedwatch Co-ordinator and a detailed list of actions was given to the group. These include sending us a selection of suitable campaign documents for recruiting volunteers, and if this was unsuccessful then advice on holding a meeting to encourage volunteers; after sufficient volunteers had been recruited, Alan Watson will hold a briefing meeting for volunteers and which will also be open to Councillors. Hopefully we will be able to appoint a Co-ordinator from among the volunteers. The Co-ordinator will be responsible for booking sessions, sorting out volunteers, agreeing which location will be used for each session and inputting data. We don't know yet whether we will be able to keep the kit after each session, Alan Watson will check with a Sergeant at the Police Station.

Higham Parish Council have been running Speedwatch for some years, Sarah will talk to the Clerk to find out Higham's experience of running the initiative.

Then two training session of about 1.5 hours will be organised, one on line and the other by the roadside. The new electronic kit is available for trial purposes from the NSW Kent Police HQ and when we begin the trial the PC will be allowed to keep it until the end of the trial. AW and possibly the Police will advise on the best sites in the village in due course.

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.

8 Highways Improvement Action Plan

Cllr. McTavish who had a meeting with Dave Petchey earlier this year and undertook to formulate this plan with the Clerk. Among the outstanding issues 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.
7. Consideration of the possibility of introducing a lower 20mph speed limit outside the three schools on the A227.

9. **Any Other Business**

The query from Pitfield Green residents about the length of the double yellow lines at the entrance to the Green had been investigated by KCC Highways after the last meeting and found to be within the legal parameters.

10. **Date of next Meeting;**

Monday January 13th 2020 at 10.30am in the Windmill.

The meeting closed at 4.04pm