

**Minutes of the Parking Issues Working Group
held at 10.30am on 17th June 2019 in Windmill Chamber**

1. **Present:** Cllrs McTavish (Chairman) Buchanan, Wade and Ogden. Mandy Cason (Community Warden), Ms Jackie Fuller, Martin Colley and Kevin Gore from KCC. There were no apologies for absence.
2. **Introductions** The Chairman introduced the representatives from KCC Traffic Dept.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting** of the 29th April 2019 were approved.
4. **Matters Arising:**

Re Weight limit on Railway Bridge: it was confirmed that the bridge owners were Network Rail and that weight limit issues should be addressed to the KCC Freight team under Annabelle Fletcher. The advice from the KCC staff present was that any attempt to reduce the weight limit, should be related specifically to the effect of the traffic was on environmental grounds. The Safety Delivery KCC Team was led by David Petcher.
5. **Update on the Parking Campaign:**

Trixie Mirror. It is now known that the land opposite Camer Parade is owned by Mr F French. He will be approached to seek permission to erect one on his land opposite the northern end of the Parade

More flyers to be distributed by Mandy Cason at the station and shops..

Publicity for Parking Campaign. The Chairman had notified the Parish Website, Meopham Review, Meopham Mercury and Social Media. Meetings with Schools will be arranged after the commencement of the Autumn Term, after meetings with the Heads of School.

After discussion it was agreed to recommend that other important traffic issues should be added to the ongoing remit of this Group
6. **GBC parking notices report.**

The report was noted and once again it would be requested for the generic heading of Wrotham Road, to be split into more recognisable areas if at all possible, such as Meopham Green, Camer, Station Areas.
7. **Discussion on Camer Parade parking.**



8. Speeding and other traffic issues on the A227.

The reports of a number of serious accidents were discussed, there having been 5 in the last 2 years, including one very recently at the bend on the A227 immediately south of Meopham Green. This one had involved the closure of the road and the attendance of the Air Ambulance. Some of those believed to be responsible had been interviewed and some were believed to be still in hospital in a serious condition. Serious damage had been done to the house involved, but happily none of the residents had been injured. We need to involve KCC again to ascertain what can actually be done to alleviate the problem of excessive speeding at numerous points on the main road, by a wide variety of vehicles from the much increased number of very heavy commercial HGVs to motor-bikes and quad bikes totally misusing the road at high speed. The varying speed limits throughout the Village made some forms of control, like Average Speed Checks very difficult to implement.

Some discussion took place about the recent road surface refurbishment of parts of the A227. The piecemeal manner of the work had been criticised by some residents, but the overall view was that there had been a marked improvement in those areas which had been treated except for one or two stretches where there are still drain cover issues as the covers were now below the new road level! The KCC representatives present undertook to look at these areas after the meeting to see what might be done.

The issue of commuter parking was also discussed, with the suggestion that the cul de sac section of Tradescant Drive north of the junction with Denesway has become a favourite spot for long-term all day parking. This is because even though Denesway itself is covered by the parking restriction, it only applies to that short stretch of road and not the section of Tradescant Drive which is actually closer to the Station!

9. Any Other Business : There were no other business items raised.

Next meeting 15th July 2019 at 10.00am in the Windmill.

Meeting closed at 11.40am