

# WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORTATION & STREETLIGHTING COMMITTEE HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020, 7.30PM VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

**Present:** Mr N Stapleton (Chairman)  
Ms G Barkham  
Mrs T Dean  
Mr D Thompson

### Also Present

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
20/249	<b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b> – none			
20/250	<b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></b> – none			
20/251	<b><u>MINUTES</u></b> of the meeting held on 17 <sup>th</sup> February were approved and are to be signed at a later date.			
20/252	<b><u>MATTERS ARISING</u></b> – none			
20/253	<b><u>STREETLIGHTING</u></b>			
	<b><u>Phased repairs 20/21</u></b> – it was confirmed that all of the phased repair work had now been undertaken with the exception of the High Street repairs.  Clerk to notify High Street shop owners of the upgrade once the shops have re-opened.	Clerk	✓	
20/254	<b><u>SPEEDWATCH</u></b>			
	It was noted that Kent Police have now authorised the re-commencement of Speedwatch sessions within the County. There will be some changes in practice due to social distancing etc. WMPC are awaiting the PPE pack from Kent Police which is required before sessions can re-start.  Sites - It was agreed to ask Kent Police to look at potential new sites from the junction with Swan Street to the High Street. It was further agreed to ask for clarification of the Town Hill site, the position of which is currently unclear / unworkable.	Clerk / NS		
20/255	<b><u>SPEEDING WITHIN WEST MALLING</u></b>			
	It was noted that an online petition had been launched by a West Malling resident highlighting the issue of speeding within the town and requesting action be taken perhaps in the form of speed cameras or road humps. The petition currently has 371 signatures – <i>correct at the time of this meeting</i> .			

	<p>It was agreed that WMPC on receipt of the petition would put forward the suggestions to KCC and request their advice on any action that can be taken to slow drivers down. It was also agreed that if possible, a public Zoom meeting be arranged at which a representative from KCC Highways would also be present.</p> <p>Mr Stapleton was pleased to report that as a result of this petition a few residents had indicated that they would be happy to become Speedwatch volunteers.</p>			
<b>20/256</b>	<b><u>WMPC HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN</u></b>			
	<p>A draft Highways Improvement Plan had been written by Mr Stapleton and Ms Barkham. The plan is a 'wishlist' of areas within the town which the Parish Council feel could be improved upon and includes extending the 20mph zone. The plan is to be submitted to KCC who will cost the suggested works; KCC are under no obligation to agree to the works being undertaken.</p> <p><i>Subsequent to the meeting the plan was circulated to all members for comment and submitted to KCC. <b>See below.</b></i></p>			
<b>20/257</b>	<b><u>PARKING - CHURCHFIELDS / SCARED CROW</u></b>			
	<p>There have been complaints from residents regarding cars parking on the path or grass near the Scared Crow public house in Churchfields. General discussion regarding the possibility of parking bays / double yellow lines. It was noted that a resident has approached T&amp;MBC asking that Churchfields having their own parking scheme or are able to buy permits for other schemes within the town – this was reported at the Joint Transportation Board.</p> <p>It was agreed that a questionnaire be distributed to all houses in Churchfields asking if residents have any issues with parking in that area and did they have any preferred solutions to the problem.</p>			
<b>20/258</b>	<b><u>HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE RISK ASSESSMENT</u></b>			
	<p>Members considered the draft risk assessment – to be agreed at Full Council.</p> <p>Clerk to note agenda</p>	Clerk	✓	
<b>20/259</b>	<b><u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC &amp; COUNCILLORS –</u></b>			
	<p>Mrs Dean noted that the zebra crossing paint is starting to flake. Mrs Dean to discuss with KCC</p> <p>Ms Barkham noted that road markings within the town are fading – this is to form part of the Highways Improvement Plan – see below.</p> <p>Mr Thompson noted that the original road markings on the M20 have not been removed since the new line markings have been added, it was agreed that this was confusing and dangerous for drivers.</p> <p><i>Subsequent to the meeting, Mrs Dean confirmed that the original road markings were to be removed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June</i></p>			
	<b>Next meeting of this committee – TBC</b>			
	<p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.35pm</p>			

	Signed.....  Date.....			
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Appendix 1

**West Malling Parish Council - Highway Improvement Plan / Action Plan**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Problem &amp; potential solution</b>
1	This issue covers all of the following roads - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Norman Road</li> <li>● Offham Road</li> <li>● St Leonard's Street near to Brome House to the junction with Teston Road</li> <li>● Swan Street from the junction with Lavenders Road to the A228 Ashton Way bridge</li> </ul>	Problem: <i>Persistent speeding issues. This can be backed up with Speedwatch data.</i>  Solution: <i>Extend the West Malling 20mph zone to include these roads. Local KCC member is supportive. Perhaps this could be reinforced with 20 painted on the road at the entrances to the zone.</i>
2	St Leonard's Street - footpath crossing near to St Leonard's Tower	Problem: <i>Drivers can be unaware that there is a crossing place. Can be incredibly dangerous when crossing the road due to speeding vehicles.</i>  Solution: <i>Signage to alert drivers that pedestrians could be crossing ahead.</i>
3	High Street - footpath on the opposite side of the road from 134	Problem: <i>There are car parking bays outside of 134 High Street. Cars travelling southwards frequently get impatient waiting for oncoming traffic, and mount the pavement to continue movement. There are a number of gates to properties, and should a resident step out, it could be fatal. N.B. There is a dropped kerb which we want to retain as the disabled and parents with pushchairs benefit</i>

		<p><i>from it. This is an issue which is frequently mentioned by residents.</i></p> <p><i>Solution: Bollards could be added along the section of pavement opposite 134, to stop cars from driving along the pavement, but retaining enough space for pedestrians to use the footpath.</i></p>
4	Two 90 degree bends in the road near St Mary's Church, High Street	<p><i>Problem: As there are two sharp bends in the road, drivers are frequently cutting across and driving partially on the other side of the road.</i></p> <p><i>Solution: Paint white dashed lines on the road around this section of road, to encourage drivers to stay to their own side. There are currently no road markings.</i></p>
5	High Street - parking bays outside of Tesco	<p><i>Problem: Buses have clipped the ends of cars because of diagonal parking. It can also be difficult to see when reversing out of the spaces. Additionally, this isn't too far from the zebra crossing.</i></p> <p><i>Solution: Parking spaces to be changed to parallel with the kerb, allowing for better lines of sight for drivers who have parked there. Also allows for vehicles to park neater, and not be jutting out into the road. This would simply be returning to what the position was a number of years ago.</i></p>
6	Alma Road junction with Norman Road	<p><i>Problem: When travelling northwards along Alma Road, the junction with Norman Road isn't very obvious. The road markings are incredibly faint and there is no signage.</i></p> <p><i>Solution: Repaint the road markings and add a 'Give Way' road sign. This is supported by residents neighbouring the junction.</i></p>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Junction of West Street &amp; High Street</li> <li>● Junction of Frog Lane &amp; Swan Street</li> <li>● Junction of Offham Road &amp; Norman Road/West Street</li> <li>● Junction of Fartherwell Road &amp; Offham Road</li> <li>● Junction of Police Station Road and Swan Street</li> </ul>	<p><i>Problem: The road markings on all of the roads that have been listed are very faint. If drivers aren't used to the area, it could be incredibly dangerous.</i></p> <p><i>Solution: Repaint all of the road markings.</i></p>

8	Nevill Court	<p>Problem: <i>Lorries often use Nevill Court to turn around when they realise that the railway bridge on High Street/Town Hill has a weight limit. Nevill Court is a small residential road with parked cars on both sides.</i></p> <p>Solution: <i>Further signage to try to alert lorry drivers to the weak bridge when travelling southwards on Town Hill. Ideally this signage should be located on the A20 and roundabout at the bottom of Town Hill. Once lorries are on Town Hill, it is too late.</i></p>
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Highways and Transportation Committee					
		Budget 2020-21	YTD	Budget 2019-20	End of Year
<b>Income</b>					
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Energy		7489.00		7489.00	4701.97
Maintenance		5000.00	1160.48	5000.00	3480.96
Painting & numbering of columns		1408.00	352.00	1408.00	1056.00
Phased repair programme		7530.00	385.00	10190.00	9025.00
Additional Swan Street Streetlight		5993.00			
Town Hill					4599.00
One off repairs		2000.00	203.75	2000.00	684.00
Seasonal (Salt, Floodsax)		300.00		300.00	
Speedwatch materials (safeguarded)		100.00		100.00	155.48 (128.70 postage)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>29820.00</b>	<b>2101.23</b>	<b>26487.00</b>	<b>23702.41</b>
<b>Surplus/-deficit</b>		<b>-29820.00</b>	<b>-2101.23</b>	<b>-26487.00</b>	<b>-23702.41</b>