

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORTATION & STREETLIGHTING COMMITTEE HELD ON 3RD APRIL 2024 7.30PM AT 9 HIGH STREET WEST MALLING

Present: Ms Gwyneth Barkham
Mrs Trudy Dean
Mr Keith Mann
Ms Sara Margetts (Chair)
Mr Peter Stevens

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
24/209	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Mrs Bridgeland [LGA 1972 s85(1)]			
24/210	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – none [LA 2011 s31]			
24/211	MINUTES – to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 th February. Resolved: the minutes were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting held on 19 th February. [LA 1972 Sch 12. Para 41(1)]			
24/212	MATTERS ARISING 24/104 – parking consultation – it was confirmed that a letter was sent to TMBC regarding the white markings on both High Street and Swan Street and a response was received from Matt Boughton and Parking Services. 24/107 – litter bins – the Clerk reported that she is waiting for a response from TMBC waste services 24/112 – A boards: The KCC Highways steward has advised that the remaining A boards that are causing an obstruction on the High Street will be removed by KCC; these boards are not sited directly outside of the premises that they are advertising and therefore breach KCC guidelines. Pavement clutter causing obstruction: On the advice of KCC this has been reported to TMBC waste services.			
24/213	PUBLIC SESSION – there were no members of the public present.			
24/214	STREETLIGHTING			
214.1	Column 53 King Hill – it was noted that Crest Nicholson have agreed to pay WMPC £350 as reimbursement for the loss of the column; this sum will cover the cost of the lantern which could have been re-used by WMPC at a future date. Members of the committee thanked the			

	Clerk for her perseverance in this matter.			
214.2	<p>Column 59 Police Station Road – this column was hit by a truck taking materials to a house under construction in Police Station Road, the column was subsequently removed by KCC out of hours. The Clerk reported that contact has been made with the construction company and that they admit that the column was hit by a truck taking supplies to their site; they have advised that they will reimburse WMPC for the cost of replacement.</p> <p>The Clerk is awaiting quotes for replacement column costs and KCC call out fees which will be forwarded to the construction company for payment.</p>			
214.3	Swan Street additional light – Ms Margetts advised members that she had considered the draft application with the Clerk and that advice has been sought from KCC.			
214.4	Column 23 King Street – the Clerk reported that this column (attached to number 20 King Street) had been hit by a vehicle and had become displaced. Clerk awaits replacement costs and options.			
24/215	HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN			
215.1	Installation of a handrail by the steps on the raised footpath in Ryarsh Lane – it was noted that KCC has agreed that this work can be undertaken – awaiting quote from KCC.			
215.2	<p>Junction of Offham Road/Norman Road/West Street – following discussions with KCC and concerns raised regarding safety at this junction, in particular in relation to school drop off and collection, KCC have agreed that the road markings at this junction will be refreshed. KCC will not undertake any other upgrades to this junction.</p> <p>It was noted that the KCC officer had attended the junction at morning drop off to observe pedestrian and vehicle movements. The officer suggested that one way to address safety concerns is to educate parents and pupils via information provided by the school, the officer provided contact details for the Safe Road users Team which the school can access.</p> <p>Resolved: it was agreed that a letter be drafted to the Headteacher of West Malling Primary School advising him of the steps taken by WMPC and the contact details for the Safer Road Users Team</p>	SM / Clerk	√	√
215.3	Bollards – larger reflector discs are to be put onto both sets of bollards in the High Street.			
215.4	<p>Two 90 degree bends in the road near St Marys Church and St Leonards Street – possibility of adding white dashed lines to encourage drivers to stay to their own side.</p> <p>Resolved: it was agreed that this be kept under review, noting that KCC have stated that lines could in fact have a negative impact on driver speed as they become more confident that they will not meet a vehicle head on. Ms Margetts to advise KCC</p>	SM	√	√
24/216	REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER ON THE A20			
	<p>The Clerk reported that Ryarsh Parish Council does not object to WMPC applying for a TRO to prohibit parking as you turn left out of Brickfields – this technically being in the parish of Ryarsh.</p> <p>Resolved: it was agreed to apply for a TRO at the junction of Brickfields/London Road.</p> <p>Clerk to speak with KCC/TMBC</p>	Clerk	√	
24/217	TMBC PARKING CONSULTATIONS			
	<p>Mrs Dean reported on the Cabinet meeting held on 2nd April</p> <p>It has been agreed that the first hour of parking will be free of charge.</p> <p>TMBC have agreed to meet with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss Ryarsh Lane car park.</p>			

	A review of both the locations of and type of ticket machine has been requested, both the High Street and Swan Street are within the Conservation Area. The machines will accept cash. Details on enforcement are not yet known.			
24/218	<u>BUS SERVICES</u>			
218.1	It was noted that a Community Transport Fund Grant in the sum of £10,000 has been awarded to the Parish Alliance.			
218.2	<p>Complaints received from Nu Venture regarding difficulties turning right from the High Street into Swan Street due to cars parked on the double yellow lines were noted. A more recent complaint relates to buses being unable to pass when deliveries are being undertaken in Swan Street.</p> <p>It was further noted that both TMBC and KCC (KCC Highways and TMBC Parking) have responded to Nu Venture, as the relevant authorities, and that no further progress could be made by WMPC at this point.</p>			
24/219	<u>SPEEDWATCH</u>			
	<p>Email received from Kent Police was noted. The officer advised WMPC that active groups may now be able to receive police speed enforcement from time to time and that inactive groups may lose speed camera van locations; the officer requesting confirmation that the WMPC group is to continue.</p> <p>Resolved: it was agreed to respond by asking if the lighter speed guns were now being rolled out for general use, clarification on police speed enforcement (as WMPC Speedwatch had only received police enforcement once) and clarification as to why police vans might be removed on the basis of not having a Speedwatch group rather than ensuring vans are in place where there is a speeding issue.</p>	SM Clerk	√	√
24/220	<u>HIGHWAYS / PAVEMENTS / DRAINAGE / SALT BINS</u>			
	<p>Ms Margetts updated members on repairs undertaken since the last meeting and the large number of blocked gullies on the KCC portal. Ms Margetts updated members on the flooding in Frog Lane.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that she has been advised that some potholes on King Hill will be repaired in the coming months.</p> <p>Other issues reported included flooding in Fartherwell Road and near Brickfields being impassable due to flooding outside of Callis Court, potholes on Water Lane, damaged kerb bricks on the new dropped kerb in Offham Road, drainage issue near 25 West Street and road work bollards still in Lavenders Road following completion of works.</p> <p>Ms Margetts to check status of the above issues on the KCC portal.</p>	SM	√	
24/221	<u>FINANCE</u>			
	Receipt was noted of year to date budget statement – see below			
24/222	<u>QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS</u>			
	<p>Mrs Dean reported on the latest draft of the KCC 20mph scheme for West Malling. This scheme has been costed at a sum of £60,000 and cannot therefore be funded through her Members Grant.</p> <p>This approved scheme can now be held in readiness for when it can be funded by Section 106 monies.</p>			
	<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> – 17 th June			

	<p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.40</p> <p>Signed.....</p> <p>Date.....</p>		
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Highways, Transportation &

Code Title	Receipts			Payments			Net Position
	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
50 Energy				10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	100%
51 Maintenance				4,874.92	4,874.92	4,874.92	100%
52 Painting & Numbering of Colum				1,540.00	1,540.00	1,540.00	100%
53 Repairs & Upgrades				5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	100%
54 Light Swan Street							(N/A)
55 One Off Repairs							(N/A)
56 Seasonal				200.00	200.00	200.00	100%
57 Speedwatch Materials							(N/A)
124 planning application Finger post							(N/A)
127 Advertising							(N/A)
148 Additional Streetlights							(N/A)
166 Speedwatch							(N/A)
167 Signage - TMBC							(N/A)
168 Highways signage							(N/A)
169 Light on Vets							(N/A)
171 Village Gateway							(N/A)
177 Buses				1,311.49	1,311.49	1,311.49	100%
SUB TOTAL				22,926.41	22,926.41	22,926.41	100%