

Burwash Parish Council

Minutes of the **Virtual Burwash Parish Traffic & Transport Working Party** meeting held at 19.00 on Monday 5th October 2020.

The meeting was conducted using Zoom Meeting Space and was recorded.

Members Present: Cllr. R. Franklin, Cllr. Newman, Cllr. A. Newson, Cllr. F. Hosein, Cllr. B, Wraight. Cllr. J. Kenny, Cllr. D. Stemp, Declan O'Neill, Lindsay Green, Helga Castle, Halina Keep, Hilary Stewart, George McAllister, David Cowell, Ken McLeod, Yuti Chernajovsky and Celia Caulkin

Apologies: Lesley Moore.

Meeting opened: 19.02

1. Apologies for Absence.

Lesley Moore sent apologies and a note on items to be discussed which will be minuted below.

2. Disclosure of Interest.

None.

3. Accuracy of the minutes of the previous meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that the requested amendments were made to the minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the working party meeting held on 01-09-20 were agreed by members of the group as an accurate record of the meeting.

Action: Clerk to place as document for Full Council on 13-10-20.

4. Burwash Weald & Common Feasibility Study.

Clerk confirmed that the study had been sent to ESCC highways.

Cllr. Franklin requested that it be recalled as certain inaccuracies needed to be corrected.

Cllr. Franklin noted that the cost of the study had been agreed by Full Council but that the Council do not have the finance of any outcome in the budget for this year.

Action: Clerk to recall the study and send to Cllr. Franklin for amendment and final sign off. **Completed.**

Action: Clerk to ensure that this is included as an agenda item at the next SLR meeting scheduled for 02-12-20.

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5. Parish Highway Maintenance Report.

Clerk reported that Cllr. Barnes had emailed with a suggested contact at the democratic office at East Sussex.

Mr. Green noted that he would contact Cllr. Barnes again to request assistance in getting the report on the next Scrutiny Committee agenda.

Mr. Chernajovsky noted that he would forward another contact to Mr. Green received when asking about transparency on costings from ESCC.

Action: Clerk to email Martin Jenks at ESCC to request the date of the next Scrutiny Committee and to add an agenda item. **Completed.**

Action: Cllr. Franklin to email Cllr. Barnes to express concern.

6. Access on Willingford Lane.

Working party welcomed Mrs. Celia Caulkin to receive an update on access issues and traffic problems concerning Willingford Lane.

Mrs. Caulkin thanked Cllr. Kenny and Cllr. Newson for their help and support in getting this project to this point.

Mrs. Caulkin reported that the wild verges were now back to where they were before being eroded by heavy lorries and trucks and the wildflowers were now all replanted. Traffic is now slower through the lane and emergency vehicles are less likely to get blocked.

Still problems with the open gardens on Perch Hill but are working with Sarah Raven on diverting traffic. Still problems with deliveries and sat nav guidance using it as a cut through.

Mrs. Caulkin requested additional signage stating that it was a single track.

Action: Clerk to discuss signage with Brightling Parish Council Clerk and action request for signage from ESCC.

Clerk reported that this request has been sent to ESCC several times and their response was that the signage in place (3 Ton Max) is sufficient.

7. 20mph Update.

Mr. O'Neill presented the previously circulated business case report for the Community Match Funding. The following points were made by members of the working party for inclusion / amendment in the report:

- a) Cllr. Franklin noted that the proposed build outs should be removed from the business plan report. Focus should be on getting the 20mph project completed. The Parish Council have costs aligned only with this and not the proposed build outs.
- b) Cllr. Franklin noted that mention in the report of the 3-year time scale needed to be revised to 7 years.
- c) Cllr. Franklin noted that the appearance of the village gates could be adapted to a floral display with signage and that all choices on gateways should be considered.

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Mr. Green requested guidance from the Parish Council on what the ceiling was on finances for projects moving forward. Outline on what is affordable this year and in subsequent years.

Cllr. Franklin reported that the Parish Council currently have £25k in the budget and would see the same amount being budgeted for next year.

Cllr. Newson stated that Council could not support a business plan that had that level of spending outlined for a layby to replace 6 parking spaces.

Mr. O'Neill outlined the extra layby costing outlined in the report was to make up for the shortfall of parking if the build outs were approved. Figure was not accurate and can be removed from the report.

Cllr. Kenny requested clarity on whether the amounts being set aside for this project was the total funds budgeted for all traffic and transport projects. Stated that other projects should not be put on hold to give this priority funding.

Ms. McAllister thanked Mr. O'Neill and Mrs. Moore on the work put in to creating the business plan. Supported the 3-year time frame and the inclusion of the consultation on the build outs at the pinch point.

Mr. Chernajovsky also supported the 3-year time frame included in the report and requested clarity on what the finances would be over 7 years from Cllr. Franklin.

Cllr. Franklin stated that there was a ceiling to the amount the Parish Council could raise the precept to. Already raised in previous years by 30%. Currently have £25k budgeted and would plan for an additional £30k next year.

Cllr. Newman noted that the wishes of the parishioners needs to be explored.

Cllr. Franklin noted that no negative comments have been received to the funding being allocated from the Parish Letter sent to all residences in September. Further consultation would follow once real costings were known.

Mr. Green stated that the build out could be explored using signage alone which should reduce the costs.

Mr. O'Neill noted that this working party was a select group and that other viewpoints from parishioners who would be affected by the build outs would need to be sought.

Clerk noted that once the level of match funding has been received and the project can go ahead, further consultation would be conducted.

Action: The following points to be amended / included in the business plan report:

- i. Alternative to village gates.
- ii. Include pictures of build outs.
- iii. Removal of £25k for additional parking layby.
- iv. Loosen timeframe, remove inclusion of 3-year timeframe.

Mr. O'Neil requested that Cllr. Franklin to actively pursue a Chair from the main Council.

Action: Clerk to include in the agenda for the next Full Council meeting. **Completed.**

Ms. McAllister and Cllr. Franklin volunteered to assist in editing the document for Full Council.

Action: Amended report to be forwarded to the Clerk by Friday 9th October.

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8. Build Outs.

Covered in item 7 above.

9. Car Park.

Cllr. Franklin updated members of the working party on the recent meeting with Rother, Cllr. Kirby-Green and Cllr. Prochak. Referred to the minutes of that meeting and the update report provided by Mr. Steve Moore and previously circulated to this group. Outlined the proposed community toilet scheme to replace the current toilet block creating additional parking spaces and the introduction of electric vehicle charging points.

Council are waiting on the final figures to be sent back from Rother and will update everyone when the information comes through.

10. Footpath Between Burwash and the Weald.

Cllr. Franklin reminded group members that the feasibility study has been submitted. An answer was expected in September but to date no response has been received.

11. Additional Item included – Speed Watch Update.

Action: Clerk to place Speed Watch on the agenda as a standing item.

Mr. Ken McLeod reported that the Speed Watch programme resumed on 15th September. 14 letters were sent by the police in September.

13 sessions are planned for October.

Clerk confirmed that the email address for residents to report crime has been circulated by e-bulletin, is in the next Parish Matters and is available on the website.

12. Items for noting or including on the future agenda.

- Speed Watch Update.
- Car Park Update.
- Match Funding Business Case – next steps.

13. Date of next meeting.

Monday 2nd November – 19.00.

Meeting Ends 20.37

X

Cllr. Robert Franklin
Chair of Burwash Parish Council