

BURWASH PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Traffic and Transport Working Party held virtually by Zoom on Thursday 10th March 2022 at 7pm.

Attended by: Cllr. Bob Franklin (Chair), Helga Castle, David Cowell, Stephen Dixon, Halina Keep, Greg Meares and Les Moore.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Apologies were received from Lindsay Green, Steve Moore & Ken Macleod.
2. **Disclosures of Interest.**
There were none.
3. **Minutes from the previous meeting held on 7th February 2021.**
The minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2022 had been agreed at Full Council on 8th March 2022.
4. **Burwash Common and Weald Speed Limit.**
It was understood that the plan had been produced and partly circulated, but it was held up in the Commercial Dept.
5. **Implementing 20mph in Burwash Village.**
A meeting had been held with Ian Tingley and Christine Knox where the outline plan had been offered. This design included build outs which were considered a bonus. It is anticipated that the plans should be completed and sent to the Council within 3 months, with outline costings.
6. **Highways Maintenance Contract.**
A comprehensive response to our letter had been received from Cllr. Claire Dowling, but it was felt there were still issues to be resolved. The Clerk, Chair and Cty Cllr. Eleanor Kirby-Green are meeting with representatives from Highways on Monday 14th March.
7. **Village Gates Design.**
The Village Gates had not been included in the plan, but Highways had agreed to consider design/locations for the gates.
Action Point: Clerk to seek advice from Christine & Ian Tingley about the design, size, material and location of the gates & under what circumstances they could display the speed sign.
8. **Shrub Lane Repairs**
It is understood that patch repairs are being carried out on 14th and 15th March.
9. **Speedwatch.**
David Cowell reported that arranging sessions with two volunteers has proved difficult and there is a requirement for more volunteers.
Please see attached appendix for February statistics. Ken Macleod reports:
 1. Feb numbers are pretty poor as we only fulfilled 6 Of 15 Sessions. We lost 5 to the Storm and another 4 to Vol cancellations.

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2. I am very grateful for everyone's input to the 'recruiting' document which was circulated on Thursday's Burwash E-Bulletin and has also been sent to St Philips Mag for their next issue.

Action Point: *The Chair to ask Cllr. Newman to include a request for volunteers in the next Parish Matters.*

10. Quiet Lanes.

County is still resisting this policy.

11. Bridleways and Footpaths Update.

Nothing has been received from Sustrans about the proposed conversion of footpaths to cycleways between Burwash and Etchingham Station.

A proposal has been received to upgrade the surface of the bridleways between Lower Bough Farm and Spring Lane to form a cycle link between the Weald/Common and Burwash Village, and ultimately to Stonegate Station (see attached appendix).

Action Point: *Cllr. Kenny to discuss the proposed plan with the owner of Franchise Farm.*

Resolution: *Council is asked to resolve to accept this as an ongoing project and to start to apply for funding.*

12. HIP (Highways Improvement Plan) and Contractual Issues.

Cllr. Franklin presented the initial draft of the Plan using Microsoft 365 Planner.

13. Verge Protection, Ownership and Licences.

A meeting had been held with representatives of Highways at Willingford Lane (see attached appendix) who declared that verges were there to be driven on and they had no responsibility to protect them. They also stated that where Highways claim to own the verge any protective verge posts will need to be 500mm from the road edge and will require a licence. This is being disputed as some residents claim to hold deeds that confirm their ownership of the land up to the road edge. Lesley Moore stated that this was part of the misinformation that was being received from ESCC and that advice should be sought from other traffic organisations. Highways had different values of safety.

Action Point: *Working Party members to research legal background setting out the safety responsibilities of Highways particularly their dual responsibility on ownership. It is understood from a resident at Spring Lane that they are still awaiting the repairs to the verges agreed by Network Rail last year. They also now have a problem of fly-tipping.*

14. Information for noting or including on a future Agenda.

- a. Black Cat radar device.

Signature of Chair

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b. SLR Meeting held on 9th February 2022.

15. Date of next meeting. Thursday 14th April 2022 at 7pm. This meeting will still be conducted by Zoom.

DRAFT

Signature of Chair

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