

CUMNOR PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Highways Committee
held at Fogwell Pavilion, Fogwell Road, Dean Court
on Tuesday 17 October 2017**

Present: Tom Christophers, Chairman, John Griffin, Fiona Newton, Steve Viner (Council Vice-chairman) and Tina Brock, Clerk.

39/17 Apologies for Absence. Gerald Frost (Council Chairman), Alison Jenner (prior commitment), Paul Taylor (prior commitment) and Tina Brock (traffic issues). These apologies were approved.

40/17 Variation of Order of Business. None.

41/17 Declarations of Interest. None.

42/17 Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 18 July 2017. The Committee RESOLVED to approve the minutes which were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

43/17 Update on Matters Raised at Previous Meetings. See Annex 1

44/17 Public Participation. No.

45/17 Current Costs 2017/18. Noted.

46/17 Expenditure. The Committee RESOLVED to approve the quote from Smart Signs and Graphics of £180.79 exc VAT to produce a new John Hanson map for the new map case at High Street, Cumnor.

47/17 Estimates 2018/2019.

- i. Bus shelter cleaning budget had reduced as the Committee had agreed to discontinue using Bus Shelters Ltd as the annual clean and check for any maintenance issues had been changed to a deep clean only. It was agreed that The Bin Man offered a better service and he now cleans the bus shelters quarterly. (Minute 47/16).
- ii. Clearing of footpaths budget had reduced as footpath 19 (Nobles Close/Eynsham Road) had been included in the Councils maintenance contract. No reports of footpaths needing clearing had been received during the past 2 years.
- iii. Minor capital budget had increased to include expected expense of Parish nameplates in the next financial year.

The Committee RESOLVED to approve the estimates 2018/2019.

48/17 Committees 3 Year Action Plan. Committee RESOLVED to approve the 3 year action plan with the additional action of reprinting the John Hanson map for the Orchard Road map case.

49/17 Traffic Issues.

- i. Speed survey requests. Committee RESOLVED to approve expenditure of £100 to carry out a speed survey but defer a HGV count until the results of the speed survey were known.. The Committee noted that the high number of obstacles may naturally reduce speeding at this point but given its proximity to the school and the need for the After School clubs to cross at this point, it would be sensible to collect the data.
- ii. Parking issues at Farmoor. The request from Farmoor Village Hall Committee to install yellow lines would be considered at the next public meeting in November. John Griffin suggested that monies from the Cumnor Public Purposes Charity could be used to fund the works to alter the mini roundabout to slow traffic but this could set a precedent around the parish. *(Clerk's Note; PCSO Harry Cornforth would be carrying out further speed checks and the results would be available in time for the public meeting in November.)*
- iii. Road safety issues. A request for a VAS to be installed at the High Street Cumnor had been received from a resident. The Committee agreed to defer this request until the speed survey results were known.
- iv. Any other current matters. None.

50/17 Street Lights.

- i. 5 streetlights are out on Cumnor Hill. The Clerk would make enquiries.
- ii. Foliage around the streetlight outside 15 Oxford Road, Farmoor is on the maintenance schedule to be cut back.

51/17 Infrastructure Issues.

- i. Any other requests for repairs/upgrades. None.
- ii. Any other current matters. None.

52/17 Bus Services / Stops / Shelters.

- i. Modification to brick bus shelter at Farmoor. The Clerk had been unable to obtain quotes as the contractors approached did not have enough public liability (£10,000.000 is need to work on or near the highway). No complaints had been received from residents but in the future the option to knock the brick shelter down and replace it with a new one could be considered.
- ii. Bus Shelter request policy deferred.
- iii. Any other current matters. The X30 bus service between Cumnor and Botley between 7am and 8.30am would cease on 22 October 2017.

53/17 Road/Street Signs.

- i. Parish nameplates. Deferred.
- ii. Any other current matters. None.

54/17 Footpaths/Footways/ROW.

- i. Footpaths that cross the A420. Deferred until consultation are carried out as per minute 35/17ii.
- ii. Walking Footpath Programme update. None.
- iii. Any other current matters. Steve Viner and Gerald Frost would be meeting with the site manager of 12 - 14 Cumnor Hill to discuss the enforcement of the Construction Management Plan.

55/17 Reports From Around the Parish.

- i. Cumnor. Fiona Newton reported that there is a 1.5m pothole near a blind bend at Tumbledown which has been reported 13 times via fixmystreet.com going back to July. An accident occurred due to cars swerving to avoid the pothole and driving into oncoming traffic. Police attended. The Clerk to investigate why the repair is still ongoing. *(Clerk's Note: the pothole is scheduled to be fixed. Update received from www.fixmystreet 24/10/2017.)*

56/17 Botley Traffic Advisory Committee (BTAC). No matters to be raised.

57/17 Parish Transport Representatives' Meeting. No matters to be raised.

58/17 Topics for Discussion at the next Committee Meeting.

- i. All of the above.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

59/17 The next meeting of the **Highways Committee** will take place at **7.30pm** on **Tuesday 13 March 2018** in **The Fogwell Road Pavilion, Dean Court, Oxford.**

Further meetings to be advised.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed..... Date.....2017

Annex 1

Minute 47/15 Replacement of Horse Chestnut Tree felled at footpath 19 (Eynsham Road to Nobles Close, Dean Court) to allow for the installation of a streetlight. Cumnor C of E School were asked if they would be interested in planting a tree in the school grounds, purchased by Council and the have requested a Horse Chestnut. This type of tree is vulnerable to disease and tend to drop boughs, the Councils grounds maintenance contractor suggested a Prunus (cherry) tree. The Royal Horticultural Society website recommends the following trees for schools:

British Trees

Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*)
Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*)* can get tall as a tree but is good for hedging
Downy birch (*Betula pubescens*)
Elder (*Sambucus nigra*)
Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*)
Sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*)
Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*)
Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)
Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*)*
Silver birch (*Betula pendula*)
Hazel (*Corylus avellana*)*
Field maple (*Acer campestre*)*
English or Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*)
Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)*
Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) *

Minute 26/17 Cutting Grass Verges in Parish. Council approved the Committees recommendation on 7 August 2017 ‘Council RESOLVED to approve the recommendation from the Highways Committee that any requests received for cutting of grass verges within the parish which are the responsibility of OCC, would be considered on an ad hoc basis after first reporting to OCC via www.fixmystreet. Expenditure would be monitored.’

Minute 28/17 Traffic Issues

i Farmoor speed reduction from 30mph to 40mph request. Anthony Kirkwood, Traffic and Road Safety Team, OCC replied 12/9/2017:

For information the limit here was last reviewed as part of a comprehensive review of speed limits on the County's A and B class roads completed in 2011 but no change was then recommended. While not ruling out a further review, I'm afraid that we have no funding for a scheme here at present, and given the very severe financial pressures we are facing, this is very unlikely to change in the foreseeable future. There are though precedents of parish councils funding speed limits; a first step would be to assess the requested change applying the Department for Transport (DfT) guidelines on setting speed limits - see

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/63975/circular-01-2013.pdf . Speed surveys would be required - these are currently charged at £100+ VAT per site, and it is likely that two or three surveys would be needed here.

If it is then mutually agreed to progress this further, the fee for the legal / administrative work is £2600 for the required traffic regulation order, and added to this is the cost of any calming or other measures that may be required to support the limit, together with the costs of the new speed limit signing.

I should also stress that irrespective of the source of funding, we are required to consult widely on speed limit changes and that a decision on whether to proceed would be taken after considering the responses.

During the first week of October TVP carried out spot speeding checks over several day and at different time, which I have been informed informally that there were no concerns of speeding. I am waiting for the findings to be emailed to me.

ii Road Safety Issues. Following a meeting in August with Judy Roberts, Charles Harper, local resident, Clerk, Geoff Barrell, Highways, OCC to confirm the exact location for a pedestrian island at the top of Cumnor Hill near to Kimmeridge Road. It was agreed that the only possible location would be south west of Kimmeridge Road junction where the splay for the right turn lane provided sufficient carriageway width (by lamp column 54A). The scheme would be passed to Lee Turner Principal Officer (Traffic Schemes) OCC and the work was expected to be carried out by February 2018.

Minute 30/17 Infrastructure Issues.

i & ii noticeboards at Kimmeridge Road and Hansom Way awaiting permission to install.

iii Asset maintenance checks. New manmade noticeboards are on order for Norreys Road, Cumnor and Mayfield Road, Farmoor and work to benches and noticeboards around the parish will be carried out in the next month. Expenditure approved at the Council meeting on 2 October.

Minute 31/17 Bus Services/Stops/Shelters

ii bus shelter installed 16 August 2017 at the Mayfield Road bus stop, Farmoor.