

Church Fenton Parish Council Minutes of the Highways Committee

Minutes of the Highways of Church Fenton Parish Council held on Wednesday 03 March 2021 as a Virtual remote meeting (due to Covid19 govt lockdown restrictions).

In attendance: Cllr Andrew Mason (Chair), Cllr Michelle Seguss. Cathie Gall, Matt Gibson, Andy Hale, Jenny West. Georgina Ashton, Clerk. In addition 6 members of the public. Cllr Higham (*Chair of the committee, provided his apologies as was late to the meeting*)

Meeting started at 7.34pm.

1. To note Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence
Ben Botham (stepped down from the group). Cllr Higham has provided his apologies as he will be late to join the meeting.
2. To note any Declarations of Interest and to approve any Dispensation Requests
None.
3. Public Participation Period
No comments raised.
4. To internally approve the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday 21st January 2021.

Resolution: To approve the minutes of the 21 January 2021 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

5. Policy & Strategy
 - a) Highways Strategy Document
Round table discussion on the strategy document. Committee members took away allocation of tasks to cover both the short and long term strategy of the Highways Committee.
Cllr Higham joined the meeting at 7.54pm. Cllr Mason continued to chair the meeting.
 - b) 3 month review to NY Police Bureau on grant spend – Cllr Higham to lead on this and circulate to the committee by 1 April for discussion.
 - c) Education Leaflet – went into the Fenton in Focus spring edition 2021. Cost of £50 for double page spread. Well received in the public domain, clear and informative. Next deadline for Fenton in Focus is 5th May 2021.
6. Actions from previous meeting
 - a) Highways Site visit to Church Fenton – Cllr Mason to follow this up with Tessa Nielson, Project Engineer for the area.
 - b) 95 Alive Campaign update – 4 forms currently with NY Police Bureau. The first form completed in Summer of 2020 for Busk Lane has been deemed as “appropriate for Enforcement”. No details yet of when this will take place. The other 3 forms completed have been processed and a traffic survey will take place in the coming weeks; at Common Lane/Rose Lane junction, Main Street (at school/pub) and Main Street 2 (play park to Northfield Lane junction).
 - c) 20mph signage – waiting update from District Cllr Musgrave for signage outside primary school. However, as part of the strategy document it was discussed about a possible competition for primary school aged children to come up with their own design on a 20 is Plenty campaign poster. Feasibility of tying in with National Road Safety week (15-21 November 2021).
 - d) Tripod Mounted Speed sign - AH agreed can borrow from his workplace for a period of 2 weeks. It displays cars coming into the village and can be positioned adhoc with permission of private landowners. Has the potential to provide some data capture as well as slowing cars down.
 - e) Potential sponsorship on Busk Lane from LEA – Cllr Higham to carry forward this action from the previous meeting regarding possible sponsorship of road safety measures on Busk Lane (namely new road chicane circa. £8,000).
 - f) Woodland Trust saplings – delivery cancelled for April/May. Clerk to re-apply in August for late Autumn delivery (hopefully no Covid restrictions and better climate for tree planting).

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- g) Sandwath Lane – Complaints received to Council during January. Clerk written to Network Rail. Discussion taking place between Murphy’s contracting company and NYCC Highways Engineers regarding resurfacing of road on Sandwath Lane. Work is set to commence imminently.
AH – to speak to Operations Director at Murphy’s (on-site at LEA) with regard a polite reminder of some Murphy’s employees driving at speed through the village. MOPs can send reg number to Clerk or time of day and/or registration number so that Murphy’s can speak to the driver directly.
- h) Main Street Bridge repairs – Raw Lane, Ulleskelf will be closed for 3 weeks from 8th March 2021. Following this, commencement of Main Street bridge repairs will take place (probably immediately after the Easter bank holiday weekend). Clerk has written to Area 7 requesting a copy of the diversionary routes for both of these closures to protect and highlight the “unofficial” diversion that some drivers may use eg Oxmoor Lane, Nanny Lane, Biggin Lane in Little Fenton. A pedestrian bridge will be in place so that east and west Church Fenton are not completely cut off. Works anticipated to take 4-6 weeks.
- i) Car Park at Station – Work took place last year by Cllr Charlston and Cllr Seguss to investigate the feasibility of re-designing the car park area for Network Rail in order to increase the number of parking spaces and to take vehicles away from roadside parking on Station Road/Sandwath Lane. Clerk to circulate presentation to committee in order to re-visit this.
- j) No waiting signage/road markings – Traffic Order Consultation Period is currently taking place for proposed double yellow lines and signage; opposite Bridge Close and the junction of Oakwood Close/Station Road. Clerk to forward to committee members. This is a public consultation so residents are welcome to email the Clerk for a copy of the paperwork.

7. Future discussions / points raised from the floor

JW – raised concerns over the state of the wooden fencing at the top of the railway bridge (either side on the Sandwath Lane / Station Road entrance to the village), adjacent to the brick part of the bridge on entry to the village from Common Lane. Clerk to provide copy of powerpoint presentation from Summer 2020 to show the research undertaken in terms of embankment ownership in this area.

Cllr Seguss – suggested a site visit of Cllrs/Committee members to familiarise themselves with the three key entry points to the village. Cllr Mason raised the suggestion of a cycle path and potential funding streams through SDC. Clerk to investigate with SDC.

Cllr Higham – read out some of the letter provided from Cllr Charlston with regard to the developer and on-site works at LEA. The developer has invested in a mobile crusher unit to aid demolition of the site and reduce vehicular movements. There will be some recycling of materials on site.

8. Items for the next meeting

Strategy document, 3 month review report for NYCC Police, 95 Alive Survey results, Site visit feedback/Advice report from Highways Engineer, Cycle Paths.

9. To confirm Date and time of next meeting – Thursday 27 May 2021 at 7:30pm, venue TBC

Meeting closed at 8.56pm.