

Minutes of the Highways Committee – 4th September 2006
Held at The Brokeridge Centre, Woodend Road, Frampton Cotterell

Present: Mr G Hayter (Chairman), Mr D Broome, Mr G Filer, Mr D Hockey, Mr R King and Mr D Manfield.

Also present: Mr Walton and Mrs Collins of the Severnside Community Rail Partnership
Mr and Mrs Gunton of 1 Robel Avenue and Mr Knowlton of 35 Robel Avenue

Apologies: Mr N Hodges and Mr C North

417 Declarations of Interest under the Local Government Act 1972

None was made

418 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes the Highways Committee Meeting of 3rd July 2006 be confirmed and signed subject to the following amendment:

Min 412 Bullet point 1 should state “from Mill Lane to Black Rocks

419 Presentation by Severnside Community Rail Partnership

The Chairman welcomed Mr Walton and Mrs Collins to the meeting. They explained that the group is aiming to make “small scale, quick wins” to improve particularly unmanned stations in the area. They invited the Parish Council to nominate a representative to join the newly set up development working group and have some input into this.

Cllrs made the following observations:

- When telephoning to enquire about trains and their availability, you have to state the station you are travelling from rather than being able to enquire which is the best station to travel from.
- The station at Abbeywood is very difficult to negotiate for those with limited mobility.
- Are taxi telephone numbers displayed at stations?
- Could there be information giving details of buses linking to train arrivals?
- The Brokeridge Centre would be happy to display literature.
- Buses to and from Parkway Station do not tie in with the train times; in particular to meet the 6:30am train.

Mrs Collins agreed to get back to the Parish Council with responses to the above points.

The Chairman thanked Mr Walton and Mrs Collins for an interesting presentation and they left the meeting.

420 Min 412 Disabled Access to the River Frome

This had been referred back by the Parish Council for further consideration

RESOLVED to recommend:

- That the Parish Council should investigate if disabled access to the Frome Valley Walkway could be provided from Mill Lane to Black Rocks (see attached plan), appreciating that the nature of any surface needs to be carefully chosen to complement the nature of the Frome Valley Walkway.
- The Clerk to check with SGC Public Rights of Way (PROW) if this would be feasible.

421 Min 415 To Review the Outcome of the Resurfacing of Woodend Road

This had recently been undertaken and completed except for some of the white lining.

RESOLVED to recommend:

- To write and thank SGC for the work and express the Parish Council's delight that it has been done.
- To note that the white lines are not yet completely in place and that the Parish Council looks forward to their completion.
- To check with SGC that the communication lessons have been learned from the lack of communication to the businesses when the road was due to be closed.

422 Footway at Robel Avenue

Mr and Mrs Gunton and Mr Knowlton raised concerns of the condition of Robel Avenue outside no 1 Robel Avenue and had brought photographs to support this. Mr Gunton had fallen and been injured because of the uneven state of the footway. It was further reported that the footway along the Bristol Road from its junction with Church Road to its junction with Court Road was in a poor state of repair.

- The Clerk was asked to draw this to SGC's attention urgently (*copying Mr and Mrs Gunton and Mr Knowlton into the letter*)

423 Overgrowth of Vegetation at 18 Robel Avenue

Mr Knowlton raised concerns that overgrowth of vegetation was obscuring the footway at 18 Robel Avenue.

- The Clerk was asked to ask the Householder to arrange to have this cut back

Mr and Mrs Gunton and Mr Knowlton left the meeting

424 Current Problems with Roads, Footpaths and Bridleways

a Overgrowth Obstructing the Footpath

The Clerk was asked to request that the owners cut this back at the following locations:

- 41 Woodend Road (*conifer hedge alongside road and footway*)
- 22 Heather Avenue (*hedge growing across the footway*)
- The Windmill, Ryecroft Road (*silver birch branches across the roadway*)
- 16 St Saviours Rise (*shrubs across the footway*)
- 22 St Saviours Rise (*shrubs across the footway*)
- 476 Church Road (*vegetation across the footway*)
- 388 Church Road (*vegetation across the footway*)

b Park Farm Estate

The whole length of the hedge bordering Park Farm Estate was reported to be growing across Heather Avenue.

- The Clerk was asked to request that SGC cuts this back.

c The Footpath between Newlands Avenue and the former Garage Area

This was reported to be badly littered.

- The Clerk was asked request that SGC gives this a one-off clean.

d Entrances to 17 and 19 Woodend Road

White lines had been requested here to stop vehicles parking across the double access and obstructing them.

- The Clerk was asked to draw this to SGC's attention.

e Perrinpit Road

The double bend sign near Challacombe House and the 30mph sign on the opposite side of the road were reported to be obscured by overgrowth.

- The Clerk was asked to draw this to SGC's attention.

f Footpaths at Park Farm

A raised manhole cover was reported near St Saviours Rise where it joins the circular footpath around the village green. The path had also been damaged here by motorcycles and this damage was being compounded by the recent rain.

- The Clerk was asked to draw this to SGC's attention.

g Church Road

It was reported that when travelling from Bristol Road traffic light into Church Road the 30mph sign as you enter Church Road is virtually obscured by overgrowth.

- The Clerk was asked to draw this to SGC's attention.

h Outside the Dentist in Park Lane

Concerns were raised that the new "keep clear" markings may not be placed so as to ensure a free passage for vehicles.

- The Clerk was asked to draw this to SGC's attention.

i Park Lane from Heather Avenue to the Railway Bridge

It was reported that SGC were in the process of installing soakaways here to help ease the flooding problems which have been experienced here.

- This was welcomed.

j Flooding at Lower Chapel Lane/Beesmoor Road

Cllr D Hockey was awaiting an update of the situation here. This was noted.

425 N50 Night Bus

There had been a meeting of the Joint Parishes Consultative Committee and Cllrs Hayter and D Hockey had attended. (*Minutes attached*)

Cllrs Hayter and D Hockey reported that a survey was to be undertaken at the end of September/beginning of October to establish more precisely who is using the bus. This information could then be taken into account when considering the amount of any donation the Parish Council may like to make.

RESOLVED to recommend:

- That the Parish Council should continue to budget £1,000 as a donation towards the N50 night Bus for 2007/08.

426 Risk Assessments for Duties Undertaken by Parish Path Wardens

The information kindly supplied by SGC had seemed too detailed to be relevant to what our Path Wardens would actually be doing. Their role would be solely to walk the paths and report and problems, not to undertake any works.

RESOLVED to recommend:

- That the Clerk should ask SGC if there was more specific advice available to cover what the path wardens would actually be doing.

427 Trees at the Old Piggeries

It was reported that the trees growing here had grown so high that they were obscuring the light at 35 The Land.

Following a proposal from Cllr Manfield, seconded by Cllr Broome it was:

RESOLVED to recommend:

- To seek quotations from Tree Surgeons and have the necessary works carried out.

428 Parking Problems in Lower Chapel Lane

Mr Din had written of his concerns about parking by parents taking children to Brockeridge Infants School in the mornings. He was concerned that they were parking dangerously on the corner at the junction of Woodend Road/Lower Chapel Lane

- The Clerk was asked to report this to PC Barraclough and the Governors and Head Teacher at Brockeridge Infants School.

429 Footpath at Harris Barton

It was reported that the recent heavy rain had washed away the hardcore leaving the path in a dangerous condition.

RESOLVED to recommend:

- The Clerk to report this to SGC urgently, also pointing out that there is a ditch on the other side of the wall which may be useable to assist drainage.
- The Clerk was asked to invite Mrs Chidley from PROW to visit the site with Cllr Hayter

430 Bristol Road Bus Shelters

The block built bus shelter nearest to Court Road was reported to be in need of painting on the internal walls now that the roof had been sealed and the leaks stopped.

RESOLVED to recommend:

- That the internal walls are painted with anti-graffiti paint.
- The Clerk was asked to obtains costs for this.

The two metal shelters in the vicinity of Bristol Road/Church Road were reported to need painting.

RESOLVED to recommend:

- That bus shelters are painted with anti-graffiti paint.
- The Clerk was asked to obtains costs for this.
- The Clerk to investigate if any funding is available to replace these shelters.

431 Footway – Park Lane

SGC had responded that consideration would be given to adding this to the Task Register in 2007/08. This was noted.

432 Grass Verges – Nos 71/87 Park Lane

SGC had responded noting that there appeared to be ample off street parking available, suggesting the provision of wooden posts as a preventative measure and seeking the Parish council's view on this.

RESOLVED to recommend:

- That no further action be taken at this time.

433 Traffic Speeds – Old Gloucester Road

SGC had responded that “to introduce a speed limit in Old Gloucester Road would require the making of a Traffic Regulation Order which entails a lengthy and resource intensive statutory procedure ... however ... will continue to monitor the road and if the number of recorded injury accidents increases then a scheme could be considered for inclusion in a future works programme.” This was noted.

434 Parking – Beaufort Road/Rectory Road

SGC has noted the Parish Council's concerns and forwarded the Parish Council's letter and photographs to the School Travel Plan Officer for her information. This was noted.

435 Footpaths from the Definitive Map

- It was agreed to place SGC's response on the next Highways Agenda.

436 Date of Next Meeting

MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2006 AT 7:00 PM AT THE BROCKERIDGE CENTRE