

## FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ROADS & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE 2020 AT 4PM By Zoom Video Conference

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PRESENT: Cllr Bromley, Chair; Cllr Cundy, Vice Chair.  
Cllrs Bowers, Mrs Margetts, Marshallsay and Weeks.

Mrs Dagnall, Clerk.

#### **213/2020 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All members were present.

#### **214/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were received.

#### **215/2020 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2020 were agreed and will be signed as soon as circumstances allow this.

#### **216/2020 MATTERS ARISING**

##### **67/2020 Street Lights**

Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) has declined the offer to take over the remaining 6 columns owned by the Parish Council. The Clerk to Twyford Parish Council is now progressing this and will be putting a collective bid to WBC on behalf of several Local Councils who wish to transfer their columns.

##### **67/2020 Nine Mile Ride bus shelters**

The new bus shelters installed on Nine Mile Ride in August 2018 are still not illuminated. When the electricity connections are in place the shelters are due to become the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Clerk has referred this to the new Localities Officer.

The new bus shelter on the Finchampstead Road (southbound) opposite the California Ratepayers Hall is due to be installed on 25 August 2020.

##### **67/2020 War Memorial Junction / relocation**

The Finchampstead Park Management Committee had undertaken to identify potential locations for the Memorial within the Memorial Park but this has not progressed.

It was agreed that the Clerk would approach a landscape professional for a fee proposal to undertake a study of the park and identify potential locations for the Memorial. Subject to cost the work will be commissioned and the outcome discussed with the Park Management Committee.

##### **71/2020 Community Payback**

This is currently on hold due to the coronavirus outbreak.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

No members of the public were present.

#### **217/2020 INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2020/21**

Expenditure to date has been minimal.

## **218/2020 SPEED WATCH**

### **Speed Watch**

- It was noted that Thames Valley Police is currently running a 'Slow Down Save Lives' campaign in an effort to address the increase in speeding despite there being less traffic on the roads. There have been a significant number of prosecutions during the campaign.
- Thames Valley Police has approved the use of permanent speed watch signs for the entrances to Barkham and Finchampstead Parishes. An image of the proposed design was circulated. Barkham Parish Council is leading on this with the intention that the signs are used in both Parishes. WBC is looking in to costs to supply and install the signs.

It was agreed that the signs should be used at entrances to the Parish, but not within the Parish, and that 10 signs should be ordered to allow some spares to be kept in case of loss or damage to the signs.

- Cllr Bromley was due to give a presentation on speed watch to the Wokingham Clerks Forum on 1 April but this has been deferred due to current circumstances.

### **Speed Detection Radar Recorders (SDR)**

- The last SDR session was on Nine Mile Ride in March 2020. The units will be put into use again from the coming weekend, initially on Nine Mile Ride and Reading Road, and then on Longwater Road and the Finchampstead Road.

### **Speed indicator device (SID)**

- SID sessions are on hold at present due to current circumstances, with the last session held on 12 March 2020.

It was agreed that Cllrs Bromley and Weeks would discuss how the sessions could be started again while observing social distancing and other safety measures, with a view to putting a schedule in place to restart sessions as soon as possible.

### **Pole mounted SID's**

- The units were recently moved to Longwater Road.
- When all PSID locations have been finalised a list will be forwarded to WBC.
- The potential purchase of additional units was considered. It was agreed Cllr Bromley would look in to the options available for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

### **Equipment and risk assessments**

- A case is needed for the SID - the supplier does not provide these. Cllrs Bromley and Cundy will progress this.
- Risk assessments are in place for speed watch activities. Cllrs Bromley and the Clerk are reviewing these to ensure that all potential risks are covered.

## **219/2020 ROAD SAFETY ISSUES**

Cllr Bromley and the Clerk met the WBC Traffic Management, Parking and Road Safety Team Manager on 5 May to discuss the lack of progress on items raised with and / or agreed by WBC. WBC has now drafted an action plan including the items listed below. A further meeting with WBC is being planned for late July / early August to review progress.

- Lower Wokingham Road potential pedestrian/cycle crossing near the junction with Wellingtonia Avenue
- Reading Road / Park Lane junction road safety study
- White Horse Lane / Church Lane crossroads sign
- Gateway – Wellingtonia Avenue
- Gateway – Nine Mile Ride near the Kingsmere roundabouts
- Gateway – Park Lane near the Football Ground

- Gateway – Nine Mile Ride extension
- Gateway – Eversley border nr Tally Ho

A resident has contacted Cllr May regarding the potential closure of Church Lane and White Horse Lane to through traffic. It was noted that the roads are currently closed due to the South East Water works on Nine Mile Ride, but will be reopened when the works are complete.

WBC commissioned a Traffic Assessment Study of White Horse Lane in 2014 which recommended a number of measures to address traffic issues on the Lane, while not recommending its closure to through traffic.

It was agreed that the closure of the roads to through traffic could not be supported but that the implementation of the measures identified in the 2014 study should be followed up with WBC.

### **Road and footway condition issues**

There has been little improvement in the condition of roadsides and footways despite the report accepted by WBC in 2018 and the action agreed by WBC. This continues to be raised with WBC officers and councillors at every opportunity.

The Clerk has recently raised this with the Interim Assistant Director, Customer and Localities, who has requested information on a specific problem area which could be used as an example of how to deal with the problem. It was agreed that the area around the Barkham Ride roundabout and Barkham Ride should be put forward as there are many issues in this area. This has been on hold due to circumstances but the Clerk will see if this can now be progressed.

Cllr Bowers advised that a plastic utility cover on Gorse Ride South is causing accessibility issues. Cllr Bromley will identify which company is responsible so that this can be followed up.

### **220/2020 ROAD CONDITION ISSUES**

WBC has recently circulated information on its £8m investment in road improvements in 2020/21. Work has recently been completed on the Finchampstead Road (Russley Green to Think Ford), and works have started on Tickenor Drive, with Challenor Close, Radical Ride and McCarthy Way to follow.

The Clerk has queried the planned improvements to Nine Mile Ride in Finchampstead / Wokingham Without Parishes as it is unclear what is proposed.

Cllr Cundy advised of the poor condition of Longwater Road at the Eversley Bridge and will report this to WBC.

Cllr Weeks will report a number of signage issues at The Ridges, Dell Road and the War Memorial junction.

### **221/2020 LARGE PROJECT UPDATES**

Information was circulated including the WBC Core Strategy Highway Infrastructure Summary.

**Arborfield Relief Road:** A newsletter has been circulated. Work is ongoing, the Green Bridge was installed recently and work is due to be completed in August 2020. A fly through video is available at <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/roadworks-and-outdoor-maintenance/major-new-roads/arborfield-relief-road/>

**Barkham Bridge:** Work is ongoing and is due to be completed in January 2021.

**California crossroads:** The improvement scheme is due to be implemented from July to December 2021. WBC is currently undertaking survey work and the preparation of detailed designs will follow this.

The Co-op has been approached (by the Parish Council) regarding the possibility of creating additional parking on adjacent land. This is being followed up.

CLlr Weeks advised that the current situation has had a significant impact on WBC finances and its capital programme is likely to be reviewed, with some projects delayed.

**Nine Mile Ride / South East Water:** The project is ahead of schedule and due to be completed this summer. A full update was circulated recently.

**Nine Mile Ride / Southern Gas Networks:** Works were due to start at the Nine Mile Ride / Manor Park Drive junction on 1 June.

#### 222/2020 INCIDENT REPORTS

- No incidents were reported.

#### 223/2020 CORRESPONDENCE

- Information advising that WBC is re introducing Civil Parking Enforcement was noted.

#### 224/2020 FORUM

- No matters were raised.

#### 225/2020 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 28 October 2020.

*These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the Committee.*

### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

MINUTE REFERENCE	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)
216/2020	Liaise with Twyford PC over potential lamp column transfer	Clerk
216/2020	War Memorial relocation – consult landscape professional	Clerk
216/2020	New bus shelters on Nine Mile Ride – continue to follow up lighting issue	Clerk
218/2020	Speed watch signage for Parish boundaries	SPB
218/2020	Consider how SID sessions can be started with appropriate safety measures	SPB/SW
218/2020	Notify WBC of the locations used for PSIDs – when all locations finalised	SPB/Clerk
218/2020	Consider options for purchasing additional PSIDS	SPB
218/2020	Secure a case for Simple SID	SPB/RC
218/2020	Review the Speed Watch risk assessment	SPB/Clerk
219/2020	Arrange further meeting with WBC regarding the WBC action plan for Finchampstead	Clerk
219/2020	Respond to resident ref Church Lane/White Horse Lane. Add White Horse Lane to WBC action plan for Finchampstead	Clerk/SPB Clerk
219/2020	Continue to press WBC to address the roadside condition. Provide example area to WBC.	Clerk
219/2020	Plastic utility cover on Gorse Ride South	SPB
221/2020	California Crossroads – continue to seek regular updates Contact Co-op Head Office	Clerk Clerk/SPB