

Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council
Minutes of a meeting of the Roads & Transport Sub Committee held at
Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh on the 30th August, 2016

Present: Mrs.J.Bignell, Mr.P.Kendall.

1. Apologies Miss.V.Barker (illness)

2. Election of Chairman It was agreed that Mr.Kendall should chair the meeting.

3. Declarations of interest No interests were declared.

4. The Committee's Function It was agreed that the subcommittee has no delegated powers such as spending, but has an advisory function. Its role is to consider in detail individual issues relating to roads and transport raised by the Parish Council, to carry out research where necessary and make recommendations for action to the Council. It was also agreed that the committee should be increased from three to four members.

5. To Agree and Approve the Minutes of a Committee held on the 25th September, 2015 and matters arising The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record. There were no matters arising.

6. Matters arising from the Council Meeting held on the 11th July, 2016

6.1 Half Moon Lane David Brown, 36 Half Moon Lane Emailed the Clerk on the 4th July to which the Clerk replied on the 19th July after the July Council Meeting. Mr.Brown was advised to use the County Council's reporting tool to complain about overgrown trees at the lower end of Half Moon Lane and posts installed by the owners of Laneside on the Half Moon Lane side of their property.

6.2 Village Green Bridge Replacement The bridge works have been delayed from the initial start date in June. However, Suffolk Highways are now planning to start the reconstruction of the bridge on the 19th September. The work is planned to last for 6 weeks. A letter drop will be carried out within the immediate vicinity of the bridge to inform the public of the upcoming works.

It is anticipated that the plans will be the same as was planned for the initial start date.

The access through the Western ford will be closed. Stoney Road, as before, will be closed at the bridge and a suitable diversion route will be put in place with numerous local alternatives for pedestrians.

The ford to the East is not accessible for traffic coming from Woodbridge (as it has NO ENTRY signs with the junction with Woodbridge Road).

The works will have no effect on the Footpaths that criss cross the Green or over the Footbridge by the western ford, so access to the Church & shop on foot will still be possible.

SLOW- Vehicles/Pedestrians emerging from left' will be erected to slow and warn traffic driving west to east past the Church.

Extra signs will be placed at the end of Meeting Lane- saying- 'Not suitable diversion route'

Arrangements will be made with the Rev Clare Sanders & Churchwarden Robert Fletcher re services, christening, weddings and funerals.

6.3 Elm Tree Farm Lane & Wood Farm Lane Road Signs Mr. Dunnett made a request for street name signs to be installed for Elm Tree Farm Lane & Gull Lane and that the Parish Council should pay for these if the District Council cannot. The District Council web site quotes the cost of providing a set of two name plates as £405. Elm Tree Farm Lane was previously known as Wood Farm Lane in the Electoral Register which now starts from the beginning of Gull Lane. It was pointed out that there are other roads in Grundisburgh which do not have street name signs e.g. Woodbridge Road, The Green, The Street, Otley Road, Charity Lane and Gull Corner. A village survey was suggested as there could be more.

6.4 Road north side of the Village Green Several complaints have been made about the potholes at this location. The following response was received from the East Area Highway Manager.

The dimensions of these potholes are less than those which would require urgent intervention under the criteria set down within our Highways Management Operational Plan (HMOP). Whilst it is possible for individuals to trip on potholes which fall below our intervention criteria for urgent repair we are not able to commit to attending to every minor defect which appears on our roads and footways and so it is appropriate that we apply our intervention standards. The standards are based on national guidance contained in the current version of the Code of Practice for Highway Highways Maintenance Management.

These are the criteria which apply to roads in Grundisburgh.

Bus Routes are 3b (1' x 1' x 4" repaired in 48 hours) (2' x 2' x 2" repaired in 5 days)

Side Roads are 4b (1' x 1' x 4" repaired in 5 days) (2' x 2' x 2" repaired in 2 weeks)

These criteria do not take into account that the area is primarily used by walkers and is unlit. It is to be expected that more damage will be caused during the Village Green Bridge Replacement especially the bed of the fords.

It was agreed that County Council Robin Vickery should be asked to see whether the criteria for pot hole repairs can be changed to speed repairs in unlit mainly pedestrian areas.

6.5 Gull Lane passing places It was agreed that a passing place is needed on the Lane between the entrance to Brook Farm and Stoney Road but it could have the effect of encouraging more people to use the lane. Village people may be inhibited from using the lane because of the fear of meeting oncoming vehicles and having to reverse long distances. Nevertheless the Clerk will write to County Council Highways.

6.6 SAVID Mr.Kendall will attend the next group meeting in early October.

7. Other Roads & Transport Issues

7.1 Meeting Lane Verge The Clerk will forward the latest correspondence with the Highways Department to County Councillor Vickery to see whether progress can be made in installing kerbs on the worn stretch of the verge.

7.2 Fallen Tree, Ipswich Road Traffic lights have been deployed at this location in place of the priority system. This is due to the fact that a permanent repair to the location will not be undertaken for around 14 weeks, dependant on budget constraints.

7.3 Woodbridge Road speeding complaint An Email was received from Mrs.Neall, Hill House, Ipswich Road on the 24th July asking for a vehicle activated speed sign to be installed between Lower Road and Hill House. Over the two years the traffic has got faster and faster along the B1079 and she considers it a major risk getting out of her driveway. She now has children that are driving and believes that at some point there will be a fatality along the road. She estimates that 95% of drivers travel over the 30mph speed limit with most travelling well over 45mph with many more over 60mph. It is such a worry to her family every single day. Mr & Mrs.Neall are considering purchasing a speed monitor.

The Clerk asked the police for a speed census to be carried out. In past years two surveys in Grundisburgh were carried out very discreetly 24/7 with small speed apparatus placed on existing posts. The information they provided was invaluable. The police replied that 40 villages who complained about speeding were in a queue for a speed census and he was advised to contact SAVID.

The Clerk Emailed County Councillor Robin Vickery explaining the position and asked for his help. Peter Kendall has done a considerable amount of work researching speed warning and census signs. Please look at the attachments.

The Committee felt that a Speed Indication Display (SID) which also collects data and produce reports on traffic volumes, speeds, time of day etc was ideal as the public's perception of speeding needed to be backed up by hard evidence if changes to speed limits and traffic management are requested.

The total cost of battery operated SID would be approximately £3,370. A solar powered version would cost an additional £650.

7.3 Woodbridge Road speeding complaint cont...

The Committee recommends that SAVID should be encouraged to purchase a SID funded by contributions from its 6 member villages and that applications should be made for grants from our County & District Councillors Locality budgets.

7.4 Recent road closures The closure of Ipswich Road and Post Mill Gardens for sewer works was scheduled to be completed on the 29th August. Work was completed and the roads re-opened on the 26th August.

7.5 Overgrown hedges Notices have been placed in the Parish Notice Boards asking residents to "Please keep your hedges and trees trimmed" A complaint was registered on the 25th August with the Highways Authority Ref: 00148700 concerning the overgrown hedge narrowing the carriageway at Yew Tree Cottage, Chapel Road.

7.6 C323 A section of the C323 (Ipswich Road) was resurfaced today, 30th August, but no prior notice of the road closure was given to the Parish Council or to the public. The Clerk will write to the Highway Authority.

8. Village Bus Services Scheduled services will not be affected by the Village Green Bridge Reconstruction.

9. Future Meetings It was agreed that the committee should meet annually and that other meetings could be held if found to be necessary.