

## **JWAAC Highways and Transport Sub Group Notes**

25<sup>th</sup> September 2018, Conference Room 1, Durban House @ 6pm- 7.15pm

Present

WSCC: Chairman Ashvin Patel (AP), Dawn Hall (DH), David X Edwards (DE) & Jacky Pendleton (JP)

ADC: Paul English (PE)

Towns: Bognor Regis Town Council – Steve Goodheart (SG)

Parishes: Middleton PC – David Darling (DD), Aldwick – Alan Smith (AS), Pagham - Peter Atkins (PA)

In attendance: Benjamin Whiffin (BW) – WSCC  
Jack Bacon (JB) – WSCC  
Nick Burrell (NB) – WSCC

### **Chairman's welcome and apologies for absence**

WSCC member Derek Whittington and ADC councillor John Charles sent their apologies for absence. Clymping Parish Council gave apologies on behalf of all councillors due to a meeting of CPC. ADC officer Caroline Gosford also sent apologies for non-attendance.

The following outstanding action was answered in advance of the meeting;

- JP confirmed Yapton PC do not want to join the sub group or pay for the privilege. She stated their preference is to return to the three local committee structure.

### **1. Notes from last meeting**

The notes from the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were accepted by all in attendance.

The following outstanding actions were responded to;

- JP confirmed Yapton PC do not want to join the sub group or pay for the privilege. She stated their preference is to return to the three local committee structure.

### **2. Update on financial cost of the sub group's administration – Nick Burrell, Senior Advisor**

- 2.1 NB tabled the proposed sub group administration contributions required of town and parish councils in the forthcoming 2019/20 financial year. Six local authorities chose to continue their group

membership (Bognor TC, Felpham PC, Middleton PC, Clymping PC, Pagham PC and Aldwick PC). Meanwhile, six parish councils declined their invitation to join and a further three are yet to respond.

The cost to join the sub group stands at £130 per town/parish council during the 2018/19 financial year. For the 2019/20 financial year, the total cost would be £763 - to be divided evenly between the town and parish councils. This equates to 48 hours a year working with the committee at £15.89 per hour, covering staffing costs. The remaining £27 will be used to cover resources.

Full details of the proposal are available to read in the covering letter dated 25 September.

- 2.2 JP questioned why the current figure of £130 was rounded up from £127 and asked how the difference would be spent.
- 2.3 NB clarified that the £18 difference would be used to cover resources, such as printing costs.
- 2.4 DE sought assurances that members ensure they attend every meeting and that entry is not permitted to non-members.
- 2.5 The group agreed to the proposal in principal, taking effect from March 2019. An item will be added to agenda for the next sub group meeting to confirm this approach. This is subject to members gaining agreement from their respective town/parish councils and adding this to their spending plans for 2019/20).

### **3. General update from Area Highways Manager, Benjamin Whiffin**

BW updated the group regarding his actions and questions raised at the previous meeting:

3.1 BW made group members aware that the shared space legislation is being reviewed by the Department for Transport due to some recent incidents involving serious injuries and fatalities. The DFT has written to all local authorities and requested research into further shared space schemes is put on hold until the official guidance has been issued.

3.2 BW confirmed that a decision regarding the Grundon waste site will be taken at the next Planning Committee on 6 November.

3.3 BW offered update on a TRO proposal concerning Chalcraft Lane. DE told the committee that a resident had raised concerns over a nearby commercial garage's roadside parking causing access issues. The resident has requested for yellow lines painted to be painted along part of the road

in order for parking to be prohibited near to the mouth of the junction. BW reminded DE that the resident should demonstrate evidence of community support before submitting an application.

**Action: BW to check the system.**

3.4 BW addressed SG's question regarding incomplete surfacing dressing on Aldwick Road. BW reasoned that it is not a suitable treatment for traffic signal junctions and parking bay areas due to regular stress put on the road, meaning that the dressing is unable to bed in.

3.5 BW responded to JP's request regarding bollards installation at Yapton Primary School. BW has asked the school travel advisor to see if it can be included in the school's safety zone works scheme.

**Action: BW to update JP on progress.**

#### **4. Summerley Lane mini roundabout objections**

4.1 BW re-affirmed that the works will not be publicly funded in response to objections opposing for this reason.

4.2 PE clarified that Summerley Lane falls under his and DE's ward, yet neither provided the comment by an Arun District Ward Member, as featured on page 1.

**Action: Officer Peter Bradley to correct spokesperson's title.**

4.3 BW summarised that there no significant objections in summary. Popular themes included concerns over public spending and that it is no longer needed due to reduced traffic.

4.4 PE said that exiting Summerley Lane remains gridlocked at peak times but recognised that the traffic flow has improved at other times, some group members agreed. Summerley estate residents expressed how they have been waiting five years for work to be carried out and questioned the delay.

4.5 PE raised concerns over the potential for a major accident on the single carriageway, without stopping measures in, due to frequent speeding.

4.6 The sub group considered the report and recommendation from the Director of Highways. The group supported the recommendation included and requested it be put forward to the Joint Western Arun Area Committee for consideration. It was therefore

RECOMMENDED that the County Council Members of Joint Western Arun Area Committee, having considered the responses to the formal consultation, authorise the Director of Law and Assurance to make the order as advertised and the Director of Highways and Transport to install the scheme.

## **5. Traffic Regulation Orders**

5.1 BW tabled a list of assessed TRO requests, of which will form a report at the Joint Western Arun Area County Local Committee meeting on 30 October.

5.2 BW highlighted that speed data is outstanding for applications concerning Dukes Road, Aldingbourne and Sea Lane, Middleton-on-Sea.

5.3 In address to JP, BW clarified that the mean average speed of measured data must be 24mph or below in order for the application to proceed as this is a policy requirement.

5.4 BW gave an update on the Dukes Road application, which is currently awaiting speed data to be collected. This will be reviewed against policy before any speed reduction can be considered.

5.5 BW reminded the group that three applications achieved a score of eight, yet only two are able to be progressed. In response, JP claimed that an additional number of applications could be progressed in surplus. BW clarified that the Cabinet Member must give their consent following the initial process.

5.6 NB confirmed that last year five additional TROs were approved over and above those prioritised by CLCs.

5.7 BW re-affirmed that the committee are allowed to approve two applications, usually the highest scoring, unless there is satisfactory justification given for not approving these.

5.8 The group considered the latest Traffic Regulation Order applications it was

RECOMMENDED that the County Council Members of the Joint Western Arun Area Committee agree that Nyewood Lane, Bognor Regis and Elmer Road, Middle-on-Sea, should be completed as a priority.

5.9 JP reiterated her wish to progress both Sea Lane and Dukes Road applications as a surplus. BW recommended JP to raise this at the CLC meeting.

5.10 BW added that further junction protection is being looked into on Nyewood Lane and proposed that works would be carried out as part of the same TRO.

## **6. Community Highways Schemes**

6.1 BW confirmed that junction improvement works at Rowan Way, Bersted are due to be started at the end of this financial year or beginning of next financial year.

**Action: BW to feedback the sub group's preference for it to be completed ASAP.**

6.2 BW shared the scheme design for Frith Road, Bognor Regis with the group. Junction improvement and traffic calming works to begin start of financial year 2019/20.

**Action: BW to feedback and review current signage when carrying out works.**

6.3 DH asked for update on resurfacing works in Tesco car park, Nyetimber. BW confirmed works were approved at a cost of £20,000 and will be completed overnight.

**Action: BW to provide DH with estimated completion date.**

## **7. AOB**

7.1 DE asked BW for an update in follow up to a letter received from a Willows Edge resident, in August, raising the issue of inconsiderate parking before junctions and roundabouts.

7.2 BW clarified that the site has not yet been adopted. Highways have asked the developer to apply for a TRO to cover the roundabouts and junctions leading up to those roundabouts with double yellow lines. The developer has not requested these works as of yet. BW said that Highways can insist that the works are completed before it is adopted.

7.3 JP questioned if it is the developer's responsibility to apply for the TRO in this case.

7.4 BW confirmed that the developed must submit an application and it would be treated as a 'developer TRO' in conjunction with Highways' system.

7.5 DE recalled a Newbarn Lane, North Bersted, resident's eye witness account of a lorry mounting the curb and damaging pavements when passing through.

7.6 BW confirmed that the developer is aware of the issue and has agreed to carry out repairs as and when required with the County Council's permission.

BW added that further permission can also be given to harden verges where necessary.

7.7 DE followed up letter received from a new Felpham Parish Councillor raising several issues.

**Action: BW to correspond directly with the councillor, copying in DE & PE, and familiarise them with Highways' reporting process.**

7.8 PE reminded the group that he was still awaiting a response to a letter received from a Flansham resident. Letter was handed to a WSCC officer within the last two or three meetings.

**Action: NB to trace letter and provide to BW.**

7.9 SG announced he was looking into introducing speed reduction aids on London Road in an area inclusive of Edward Bryant School, the police station and library. These safety measures would include bollards and sleeping policeman. SG added that two primary schools in the area are also affected and stressed an urgency to put forward his proposal.

**Action: BW to send SG a web link to community highways scheme application process.**

7.10 BW outlined that the process would require; an application submitted by SG, a member of the public or Bognor Regis Town Council and evidence of community support. BW reminded SG that the application is reviewed before being scored – the highest scoring proposals are delivered downwards. Community highways schemes allocated £2 million annual budget.

7.11 SG presented petition calling for signage to be erected on London Road warning that cyclists using the precinct will be issued with an instant fine.

7.12 BW reminded the group that current signage in place allows the police to stop and issue a penalty notice to an offending cyclist. Two no entry signs already exist at the southern end of the precinct, while pedestrian zones signage states no vehicles are permitted (including bicycles) at the northern end.

BW was of the opinion that it is an issue of law enforcement and re-affirmed his position that the signs are not required. BW advised SG that people with legitimate concerns should raise them with Sussex Police and appeal for added enforcement in the area. BW recommended that Bognor Regis Town Council rep to raise the issue with police inspector at the next JWAAC CLC meeting.

7.13 SG made the group aware that Bognor Regis Town Council has enquired into the possibility of introducing bicycle racks by the shops on Aldwick Road.

7.14 BW reminded SG that most of the shop frontages are privately owned and that the Highways status only extends to the footway. BW agreed to provide bicycle racks if an arrangement can be made with the private owner and Town Force carry out the installation.

7.15 JP asked BW for update on her Community highways scheme applications.

7.16 BW confirmed that a request for traffic calming measures at Rollaston Park was not approved due to the accident data not supporting the outlay.

7.17 BW agreed to licence Middleton-on-Sea Parish Council to install gateways at Yapton Road. Further to this, it was suggested that the PC meet with the police to discuss community speedwatch over speeding concerns.

7.18 BW revealed it's not been possible to identify a suitable location to install crossing points between on Middleton Road between Sea Lane and the roundabout. The bank was deemed too steep and non-compliant for wheelchair users. BW added that the northern side has a continuous dropped curb meaning there is nowhere to feasible to situate a crossing point. The option of a signalised crossing was also ruled out due to required zig zags interfering with on-street parking.

7.19 JP stressed a need for a pedestrian crossing and highlighted the safety issue considering the elderly community following an accident involving a mobility scooter. JP seeks solution to the risk problem.

7.20 JP questioned whether it can be reviewed by an external individual in order to determine a feasible way for residents to safely cross the road.

7.21 BW accepts there is a need and demand for the crossing point but re-affirmed that it currently does not fit within the site constraints.

7.22 DH explained re-occurring issue of bad parking on the road and pavement at Mill Park, following a visit to a Nyetimber Mill resident. It has limited elderly people's pavement access using mobility vehicles. No parking restrictions are currently in place. DH added that any Community highways scheme is unlikely to be supported by Nyetimber Mill residents as it would reduce visitor parking space.

7.23 BW suggested reviewing the issue after works to provide additional parking spaces on nearby Felpham Road is complete.

7.24 AS raised the issue of a 'keep clear' road marking failing to be re-marked following re-surfacing works at Rose Green traffic lights. This has since caused re-occurrences of a blocked road, while road users have been unable to access entrance to the Co-op and Barclays Bank.

**Action: BW to note and follow-up.**

7.25 PE commented that the road entrance to Westmorland Drive (backing on to new site 6) was designed to incorporate raised and lowered bollards for bus route and emergency services access only. Westmorland Drive residents want it to be closed off after emergency services and bus operators said they don't intend on using it. The road is currently being misused by motorcyclists. To prevent entry, PE suggested that large planters are put in place and then moved aside if/when road needs to be re-opened.

7.26 BW said that the bus route issue is in the hands of developer and the planning condition has not yet been removed. BW advised PE to take up with Arun District Council as the planning authority.

## **8. Date of next meeting**

8.1 The group consider two options and agree for the next meeting to take place on Tuesday 15 January 2019.

8.2 AP appointed DE as Chairman for the next meeting in advance of this sub group meeting.

Close of meeting.