

## HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT FAGNALL COTTAGE 11 APR 07

Present: Cllrs M.J.Bayley (Chairman)  
C.J.White  
Clerk M.S.Green  
In attendance: C.Pointon-Taylor  
Apologies: M.A.Morley, D.A.Swinhoe-Standen,

#### **1. Footpaths, Bridleways & tracks**

**Potters Cross Pumping Station** – We await a quote for wooden posts. In view of the annual problem with fallen leaves blocking the gullies, it would be best if CDC would confirm a regular programme of gully sweeping. *Chase quote and programme.*

**County Rights of Way improvement Plan** - We sent our proposals on 21 July 04, and Peter Hale commented on them for the Penn Estate. Mike Walker has recently confirmed that the draft 10 year strategic plan is still very much in play and consultation will take place fairly soon, with annual detailed action plans thereafter.

**Potters Cross Pond FP** – Cllr White remains reasonably optimistic that Mr Clancy will eventually move his wire fence back to allow a verge footpath to the Common Wood entrance. *Cllr C.White to continue chasing.*

**Footpath signs** – The signpost on Church Road near the Gatemoor entrance is missing. The signpost on Common Wood Lane near Beechwood Cottage needs replacement. *Report these signs to Highways. Report any action needed through the Clerk.*

#### **2. Highway safety and traffic matters**

**Highway complaints** - All complaints should be channelled through the Clerk.

**Potholes** - Cllr Bayley and the Clerk took Colin Jenkins, our new Local Area technician, on a tour of the worst troublespots. More resources are to be put into repairs.

**'Please drive carefully sign'** outside Gatemoor has been damaged by impact and removed – *Check on replacement.*

**Pond Close, W/Hill** - Paradigm Housing's plans for a grasscrete parking area have been agreed and work will start at the end of this month.

#### **3. Local Area Committee**

##### **Parish Highway projects 2006/07**

- 1) **Pavements on Seeleys Estate** - Total cost estimate was £12,000 and Highways allocated £5,000 with further money made available in subsequent years. The project is completed, *but we need to ask for a note of what has been done.*
- 2) **Potters Cross drainage works** - £4,000 allocated and project completed.

##### **Parish Highway projects 2007/08**

Our proposals were:

- 1) **Whielden Lane traffic calming and footway** - The County has recommended £30,000 to be confirmed at next week's meeting. Together with £5,000 promised by the RHT, this should be enough to cover the cost of the project.
- 2) **Penn Road pavement** - between Drews Park and Knotty Green Garage. Total cost £12,000 - for consideration in 2008/09
- 3) **Saucy Corner road lay out** – for consideration in 2008/09

#### **4. Neighbourhood Action Group**

The new NAGs have been concentrating initially on traffic speeding and SID was used on 24 March - *Request data.*

There is to be a speed enforcement day on 17 April.

Fly-tipping will be the next issue to be dealt with. CDC are to make a map of hotspots and Penn is the worst affected.

#### **5. Traffic signs, road markings, gullies, highway furniture, finger posts and bus shelters**

***Cleaning and clearing road signs*** - There is no programme as yet and so requests are needed to Highways. *Notify the Clerk of any problems.*

***Signpost outside former Penn Surgery*** – Peter Freeman is painting it. *Encourage completion.*

***Penn Street triangle signpost*** - Ken Moloughney is pricing a modern and traditional replacement. We would have to pay extra for the traditional kind. *Chase his quote.*

***Oil traps & gullies*** - There is a programme for known trouble spots, but it is mainly a reactive response so *we need to complain e.g. for Potters Cross pond and Widmer Pond.*

The black mud and reeds need removing from Potters Cross. *Task Peter Freeman.*

***Penn Street pond gullies*** need to be cleared – *Chase.*

***W/Hill two bus shelters*** - A regular litter clearance is required. *Task Peter Freeman.*

#### **5. Highway hedges and verges**

##### ***Penn Street hedge***

A twice-yearly cut of the top and outside of the hedge, has been included in the grass-cutting contract (£120 per cut)). The County has agreed that they are responsible under the terms of the lease for cutting the inside of the hedge but we have agreed with the school that we cut the inside and charge the school. Chris Schwier has agreed to add a twice-yearly cut of the verge to his programme, but three times a year is the norm for rural verges. The open verge now runs down to the main road. *We need to check that all the verge is now on a regular schedule.*

***Stumpwell Lane verge*** - The recommendations made in the report of a site meeting with the owner of Thatchers field on 9 October 05 were agreed. Native wild flowers will be planted along one stretch and cut twice a year. Bluebells and other woodland plants will be planted along another stretch and we will contribute to the cost. *Check on progress.*

#### **6. Highway litter, fly tipping and abandoned vehicles**

***Fagnall Lane common land*** - There have been renewed complaints about dumping garden rubbish on this Penn Estate-owned common verge and Cllr Bayley has spoken several times to Mike Newth-West, but to no avail. E-mails have been sent to the Penn Estate recommending clearance and a notice forbidding dumping. *Chase Penn Estate yet again.*

***Fly tipping and litter*** - NAG are considering this as their next issue. Until a new co-ordinator is appointed by CDC we should deal directly with Peter Woodburn via the Clerk. .

***Common Wood main entrance*** – The CCTV sign put up at the Common Wood entrance by CDC to prevent dumping has been vandalised. It has been effective. *Check if sign is to be replaced.*

***Whielden lane picnic site*** - Cllr Bayley has been reporting litter directly to Julia Carey the County Council person responsible for the site.

## 7. Street & Footway lighting

**Affordable Housing Winchmore Hill** – The Rural Housing Trust have asked PPC to adopt 3 street lights and we have proposed 11 watt SL, the same as in Chacombe Place. These lights are now in place and one will light one end of the traffic calming. A fourth light will be needed at the other end near the bus stop. We will have to adopt them after the year's maintenance period has expired in Oct 07.

**Hazlemere Road lights** - These are apparently ex-motorway lights and are hopelessly light-polluting. It was agreed that we should investigate whether there has been sufficient change in government policy to either get them removed or replaced by more efficient lights. *Investigate.*

## 8. Street and Road naming and signs

**Unnamed lanes** – No objections to our proposals have been received. *Get names agreed by Highways and CDC and get road name signs in place.*

**Village Road, Penn Street** - CDC's new computer planning system has to have a road name for Penn Street houses and so 'Village Road' is now appearing in applicants' addresses. *A final decision is awaited from Penn Street..*

**Church Road (Penn)** - It was agreed some years ago with CWPC that confusion between the three Church Roads would be lessened if the road name signs for the section from Penn Church to Rayners had Church Road (Penn). *Follow this up.*

## 9. Future meetings

**Highways Committee** - It was agreed to meet a week before the Local Area committee. Our Committee meetings will therefore be at 10.30 on Wednesday, on:

| <b>2007</b> | <b>2008</b> |
|-------------|-------------|
| 11 Jul      | 16 Jan      |
| 17 Oct      | 16 Apr      |
|             | 9 Jul       |
|             | 15 Oct      |