

**Report of the Rights of Way, Highways and Lighting Committee meeting held on
Monday 9th January 2012 at 10 Riverside at 7.30pm**

1. Apologies:

None.

Present:

Ms S Bennell, Mr K Coe (Chair), Mr M Ellison-Taylor, Mr D Gray, Mr R Parlone and Mrs C Youngs

In Attendance:

Mrs E Coe (Town Clerk)

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Rights of Way

Cllr Parlone reported that the Annual Walk held on Sunday 8th January was reasonably well attended, 10 people and 2 dogs, very good weather. Many thanks to Cllr Steve Lovett for attending and to Cllr Carolyn Youngs for her help with the refreshments. The only footpath problem noted was a post that had fallen down completely north of the Castle, south east of Ash Grove. The post and signs were still intact.

4. Highways

The problems regarding the bottle bank in the Elms car park was raised at the last Full Council meeting. Although SCS Ltd has worked hard to alleviate the problems by fitting a liner into the bins in an attempt to reduce the noise and to ensure emptying does not take place before 8am, there still appear to be some concerns. It was noted that the SCDC Environmental Health Officer has also investigated extensively and the evidence does not support there being a statutory noise nuisance. This matter was raised again at the SNT meeting and Sgt Daye Goddard has contacted the Town Clerk to ask for help. However, it appears that DCllr Walker believes that the solution lies in moving the bottle bank elsewhere. Fore Street car park has been suggested and this is being looked into by SCDC, however, this does not seem a practical solution as there is less space for the service vehicle which may be more hazardous trying to get in and out of the restricted space on a busy road, also properties close by would be affected by a new noise problem. There followed some discussion and it was noted that Cllr Mr Baldwin had been copied in on the correspondence relating to this matter and Ms Bennell agreed to contact him to request that any further updates or information that he has received be passed to the Town Clerk for the committee's attention. It was felt that the new wheelie bins constitute more of a safety issue and there were concerns about anti-social behaviour. The old style bins were more stable and bottles could not be physically retrieved out of them. It was agreed for the Town Clerk to investigate the facts with SCS Ltd and report back to the next meeting for further discussion.

5. Correspondence

Mr & Mrs P Smith – 7/02

Email commenting on proposed parking charges and suggesting residents only parking in Fore Street and the top end of Fairfield Road.

The Town Clerk was requested to respond advising that the comments were noted and will be included in a review of parking in due course.

6. Lighting

No business.

7. Parking matters and TRO review

The Town Clerk reported that Suffolk County Council has advised that the total cost for the Traffic Regulation Order as approved at Full Council will be £2,650. CCllr Colin Hart has agreed to consider a contribution from either the SCC Locality or Quality of Life budget or a mixture of both. It was agreed for the Town Clerk to request a contribution of £1500.

The likely impact on the Market Hill parking area due to SCDC introducing car parking charges in the Elms and Fore Street car parks from 2013 was discussed. The Town Clerk suggested that a meeting with the FBA, Police and Co-op to get everyone's views on the best solution for Market Hill would be a good starting point. Cllr Bennell noted that not all those affected were members of the FBA. Following some discussion on this matter the Town Clerk was requested to prepare a list of businesses in the town in time for the next meeting, so that all could be contacted for their opinion directly, ensuring that everyone is represented. Cllr Ellison-Taylor agreed to draft a letter for consideration at the next meeting.

8. Matters of report or items for next agenda

Cllr Gray reported that the drain in College Road opposite The White Horse was broken – Town Clerk to report to SCC

Cllr Gray reported on concerns from residents regarding the anti-social behaviour and noise from youngsters congregating on the seat in College Road. The problem is intermittent but always on a Friday evening from 8pm until late causing distress to elderly residents in this area. Town Clerk to report to Police for next SNT meeting.

Cllr Ellison-Taylor reported on residents concerns relating to a dog barking in the night in Brook Lane. The Town Clerk advised that more detail would be needed before any action could be taken by SCS Ltd. Cllr Ellison-Taylor agreed to investigate further.

9. Next meeting:

Monday 13th February at 7.30pm