

# Framlingham Town Council



## **DRAFT Minutes of Meeting of Highways, Rights of Way and Parking (H.R.P) Committee held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7pm in the Town Council Meeting Room**

- 1. Cllr. Bennett welcomed everyone to the meeting.** There were no apologies for absence.
- 2. Present**  
Cllrs. Bennett (Chair), Culemann, Dean, Eastwood and Wraight.  
**In attendance**  
Lydia Kirk (Deputy Town Clerk)
- 3. There were no declarations of interest.**
- 4. Cllr. Eastwood proposed accepting the Minutes of the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 as an accurate record of the meeting.** This was seconded by Cllr. Dean with all in favour.  
*(Ref: HRP-2023-09-11 1).*

### **Public Forum**

A resident asked what can be done to reduce speeding on Station Road following several accidents here recently. He would particularly like to see painted 30 roundels on the road. He also asked who is responsible for the loose gravel chippings that wash down from the track leading to The Round House and on to the pavement at Station Road.

**ACTION** DTC to establish who maintains this road and ask them to remove the chippings. Also to report the issue to SCC.

### **5. Clerk's Report**

The DTC had several actions to report on. She thanked Councillors who had checked their local grit bins and reported back and asked if others could check theirs as soon as possible so that she can check the remaining ones before October.

She has contacted Flagship regarding the overgrown hedge near The Elms footpath but hasn't received a response as yet.

She has contacted other councils who own a SID machine with solar panels to see if they have had their poles upgraded. One didn't know the pole needed upgrading and one is using existing pole until the new pole is installed.

A faulty lamp at Love Lane has been reported to the lighting contractor, but he suggests that he looks at this when completing his other planned jobs in the town in case it is a fault that is not covered by the warranty, to reduce the call out charges.

The dog waste bin on the footpath near Charnwood Milling has been broken again, probably deliberately. The Town Clerk has asked the G & P contractor to fix it.

The DTC has asked both SCC and ESC who is responsible for cleaning gullies and drains and has learnt that this is a grey area and that ESC's Street Scene Officers have been tasked with ascertaining exactly which Council should do what. Currently it seems that one cleans them and the other flushes them, but she will check the legal position.

As agreed at the last meeting, she has written to SCC regarding the red road markings at Gatwick Airport and is waiting to hear from them with the traffic numbers and marking specifications.

As reported at last week's Full Council meeting, the DTC will be completing her Community Self-Help Training so that she can be a qualified volunteer. She is in the process of completing the application form for the scheme as the Council's previous license has expired.

### **6. Highways**

**6.1** As agreed at the Full Council Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September, one 89mm diameter pole will be purchased using EMR 338 to allow the new SID to be positioned on Station Road. Unfortunately,

the order won't be processed until October and our order is behind several other parish councils. It was agreed to ask the Speed & Safety Team or Councillor Burroughes if we are permitted to use our existing pole until the replacement is installed, in order to for the new SID to be in use far sooner.

Cllr. Bennett reported that he has not been able to source any cheaper replacement SID or solar panel brackets as yet.

**6.2** Cllr. Burroughes has considered the proposals for the dropped kerb near the bridge at Station Road and discussed this with Highways. However, he has verbally confirmed that they would not support the scheme as it would encourage pedestrians to step on to the road near a blind bend, when it is not necessary as there is a pavement along Station Road that can be used.

**ACTION** DTC to seek this response in writing for further consideration.

Councillors noted that the path along Station Road is difficult to pass due to hedge overgrowth and encroachment. Since the last meeting the DTC has asked for volunteers who might be interested in carrying out maintenance projects such as skirting pavements through the Community Self-Help Scheme, but no responses have been received to date.

**ACTION** DTC to write to Station Road residents asking them to cut their hedges back.

**6.3 The Town Council purchased a speed gun in March 2020 at a cost of £1,000 but it is not used due to insufficient volunteer numbers.** Cllr. Bennett proposed selling the speed camera at a recommended minimum price of £500. This was seconded by Cllr. Culemann and carried unanimously. (**Ref: HRP-2023-09-11 2**). **ACTION** DTC to contact local councils in this regard.

## 7. Lighting

7.1 Cllr. Eastwood has not been able to find any other suitable covers for the lights at Pigs Meadow. After some discussion, it was agreed to leave the lights as they are and monitor the situation, with Cllr. Eastwood agreeing to wipe debris from the lights weekly. **ACTION** DTC to contact Framlingham College asking them to also monitor lights and see if their contractor can clear them whilst working there.

7.2 Regarding the Fens dark spot, the agreed local company carried out a visit on 6<sup>th</sup> September to check that the site is suitable for a solar light but we have not received a response as yet, despite the DTC chasing this.

7.3 The quotation for replacing the damaged streetlamp at junction of Brook Lane and Vyces Road at the same time as the agreed church light and faulty Danforth Drive lamp was approved at the Full Town Council Meeting on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September. **ACTION** DTC to investigate whether a faculty from the Diocese is required for the lighting works in the churchyard.

**8. Cllr. Bennett suggested that the Committee considered changing meetings to being bi-monthly rather than monthly.** Cllr. Culemann advised that the Committee should think very carefully before reducing the frequency of meetings and noted that several emergency payments have been required recently for other Committees due to the infrequency of their meetings. Cllr. Eastwood added that he tended to agree with these points. The DTC advised that urgent matters could also be considered at the monthly Full Council meetings.

Cllr. Wraight thought moving to bi-monthly meetings was a good idea as the same items are on the agenda most months and many of the issues are the responsibility of ESC or SCC rather than the Town Council. Cllr. Dean suggested reserving the usual meeting dates in the alternative months in case an extra meeting was required. Cllr. Bennett proposed trialling bi-monthly meetings for six months on the proviso that extra meetings could be called if required. This was seconded by Cllr. Wraight and carried with one Councillor voting against the motion. (**Ref: HRP-2023-09-11 3**). The DTC asked that this could commence from October due to the spread of her other meetings and this was agreed.

**ACTION** DTC to change the meeting dates on website and diarise 6<sup>th</sup> monthly review.

## 9. Correspondence received was considered.

An official complaint has been made to SCC Highways regarding the noisy grate at Pembroke Road. However, SCC still does not intend to fix the issue. Cllr. Burroughes has agreed to co-fund the re-setting of the grate with the Town Council due to the exceptional circumstances of

this case. Cllr. Bennett proposed contributing up to £500 for the resetting, in principle, if there are sufficient funds in one of the budgets. This was seconded by Cllr. Eastwood and carried. **(Ref: HRP-2023-09-11 4).**

**ACTION** DTC and/or Cllr. Eastwood to speak to RFO regarding funding this.

An email from a resident expressing concerns about speeding vehicles and recent crashes along Station Road, as discussed in the public session, was considered. **ACTION** DTC to ask Cllr. Burroughes if he would be able to fund painted roundels from his Highways Budget.

There was some discussion on a 20's Plenty campaign that seeks to reduce speed limits to 20mph in areas where pedestrians and cars mix. Cllr. Eastwood reminded the Committee that the TC has tried to get 20mph in the town centre before but was unsuccessful. The general consensus was that this would not be successful and likely should not be pursued again at this point, but it was agreed to send the email to all Councillors for their consideration.

A request for additional yellow lines near Andrew Burt's close was considered. It was noted that the draft proposals for the next TROs are currently with ESC and that these are normally done every five years.

**ACTION** Cllr. Eastwood will visit the resident to discuss this further, explain the lengthy process for getting additional yellow lines.

The resident at Fairfield Crescent whose recent request for additional streetlighting was turned down has written again to the Council. Cllr Wraight has visited the site in the dark and agreed with the comments raised in his response. **ACTION** Cllr. Eastwood will offer to meet the resident to discuss this issue further.

**10. Items to be raised at the next meeting:**

Replacing damaged dog waste bin at Fore Street

Right of Way Walk on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Update on revenue received from ESC for the Market Hill car parking

**11. Items for meeting notes:**

Selling the speed gun

Moving the meetings to bi-monthly

Request for 30mph roundels along Station Road

**12. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October.** There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.20pm.