



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON 20th MAY 2024

1. **Present:** Councillors: R. Davies (Chairman); A. Barton;
D. Dorey; N. Ingledew; I. Johnston; H. Parker; D. Wright
2. **Apologies:** Councillors R. Bean; T. Walton
3. **Absent:** Nil
4. **Public Question Time:** There were 16 members of the public present

Mr Mark Davies spoke about the situation opposite the garage on the A4 and showed photographs of lorries etc parked on the pavement causing visibility issues. The pavement and the drain have been squashed down by the heavy vehicles causing the drain to block and mud to be washed into it. He also reported on an accident at this location last week.

There were thirteen people concerned about the Market Place Car Park and it was asked why the status quo needed to be changed. Some of the residents in Market Place had not received copies of the survey.

The rationale behind the survey was explained and it was agreed to put hard copies of the survey into the Post Office.

Three people were concerned about the parking of cars on Hazelbury Hill. Mr Smith spoke about the evidence based assessment from the Ambulance Survey which had been shown at the last meeting and asked for the Minutes to be amended. Mr Heyes commented that the residents had been asked to move the parked cars on 6th January and this had taken about 5-10 minutes

5. **Declaration of interests:** Nil

6. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th March 2024 were taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed

7. **Matters Arising:**

- a. **B3109 Bradford Road by the School:** The 40 mph had been installed on 22nd April. The flashing 20 mph signs by the school will not be put up until the Autumn Term
- b. **New footway from toucan crossing to Park Place:** The substantive bid had been successful and the work was planned for November 2024
- c. **Future installation of SID on B3109:** Notification from Wiltshire Council that the rules concerning the installation of a new SID have changed. A metro count has to be carried out to show that the criteria for a SID has been met – this could not be done until six months after the creation of a new speed limit. The Committee agreed to look into this further and to see if there was an alternative deterrent

Cllr Johnston reported that at the recent Corsham Area Board an employee of the Crime Commission had offered to come out and visit the school to look at the safety of the area.

It was **recommended** that this offer be accepted and to ask him to come out after half term

It was reported that the trees by the footpath signs need cutting back. It was agreed to report this to Corsham Town Council to ask if the Parish Steward could cut them back. There had recently been an accident where a pedestrian had been knocked down.

d. **Maintenance issues:**

Update from LHFIG

- **Maintenance and signage at Kingsdown/Box A4 boundary signs:** Sarah Dearden will visit the site to look at additional highway safety and possible signage.
- **Pavement opposite the garage A4 Ashley:** An Issue Sheet raising the issue of the flooding and the safety of pedestrians having to walk in the road to get past parked lorries had been submitted. Cllr Davies reported that he and Cllr Ingledew had met with David Arnup from Wiltshire Council and raised concerns about the damaged drains but were told that the Health & Safety risk was low but he would come up with a plan in about two years time. Mr Davies was asked to supply copies of the photographs he had shown at the beginning of the meeting which could support the Issue Sheet at LHFIG
- **Bus stop markings on road** – Issue sheet submitted. Photographs had been taken of the bus stop on the Devizes Road and by the Chemist showing cars obstructing the bus stop. Faresaver had been asked to write reporting the issue but nothing had been received.
- **Dropped kerbs:** Issue Sheet had been submitted and was on the LHFIG agenda. Cost estimate 25% contribution of **£1062**
- **Extension of double yellow lines at junction of Chapel Lane and Devizes Road** – an Issue Sheet had been submitted
- **Works to A365 Devizes Road/Tunnel Inn/Mill Lane/Lycetts Orchard**
A365 – Additional sign to be installed in the near future
Tunnel Inn – work completed
Mill Lane/Lycetts Orchard – There are roadworks scheduled for July so the road markings will not be installed until these are completed
- **Top of Valens Terrace:** An Issue Sheet has been submitted to Wiltshire Council

8. Update on items discussed previously:

- a. **Parking of cars at Hazelbury Hill:** This issue has been discussed at length several time.

It is **recommended** that an Issue Sheet is submitted to ask Wiltshire Council to look at whether the cars parked at the bottom of Hazelbury Hill are causing problems with access for emergency vehicles and refuse collection lorries

b. **Car Parks:**

Update on Survey: As discussed above several residents of Market Place attended. They had not received a copy of the survey and did not know how to access this. Copies to be put in the Post Office and at the Revels. It was agreed to put the Options Paper on the website to give more information about the survey.

Lighting Options in Recreation Ground Car Park: The meeting with the Selwyn Hall Management Committee had been deferred. It has been rescheduled for Thursday 23rd May at 7 pm. Cllrs Davies and H. Parker to attend

Unauthorised vehicles parked on the Recreation Ground Car Park

It was agreed to look at the regulations regarding clamping. Cllr Barton to pursue this.

It was suggested that perhaps a locked height barrier at the entrance, which could be unlocked to allow permitted large vehicles through, could be installed.

- c. **Bath to Box Cycleway and creation of Quiet Lane at Wormcliffe Lane**
Bathford Parish Council had been approached and asked to suggest dates for a meet
- d. **Solar panel unit for SID:** This had been ordered. Waiting receipt

9. Further items for discussion:

- a. **Entrance to Wadswick Country Store B3109:** There have been two bad accidents at this location caused by overtaking.

It was **recommended** that an Issue Sheet be submitted to Wiltshire Council to ask what could be done to improve the safety on this stretch of road

- b. **Further metro count on brow of hill at Wadswick B3109:** It was agreed to ask for a further metro count, in the same location as last time, to see if the signage has made any difference to the speed of vehicles
- c. **Potholes in Valens Terrace:** There are two potholes in Valens Terrace and one at the entrance to the Car Park. Clerk to ask the Groundsmen to repair these.
- d. **Footpath 2 by railway line:** Repairs are need to restore some of the batten boards which were put down by the Cotswold Wardens. Cllr Wright reported that the Cotswold Wardens had carried out a huge amount of work to restore this path and would not be able to do any more. Clerk to write to Network Rail, as the landowners, and ask them to look at the repairs
- e. **Flooding update – Adopt a drain:** Cllr Bolton was thanked for all his work with the flooding. He was pursuing the “Adopt a drain” scheme.

10. Correspondence:

- a. **Letter re speed at Ditteridge:** Following the recent metro count the results showed that no further action could be taken. A local resident has requested that a notice be put up advising that there are pedestrians etc using the road.

It was **recommended** that an Issue Sheet be submitted for a sign warning that there are children/pedestrians on the road. This could be sited where the road veers to the left by Ardgay House just before the junction to Jamies Farm.

11. Rights of Way – update on work carried out by Cotswold Wardens and any issues:

A grant of £5000 for additional 17 kissing gates had been requested with £2500 received from the Cotswold Conservation Board and a further £2500 requested from the Area Board. The grant had been received from the Cotswold Conservation Board by Cllr Wright felt that the bid to Area Board may not be successful.

The Cotswold Wardens have purchased 54 kissing gates at a total cost of £27000. In total over the past few years, including work to the Common, the Cotswold Wardens have received total grant funding of £64,000

Cllr Wright reported that the Cotswold Wardens were involved with the Corsham Walking Festival

Thanks were given to Cllr Wright for all his exceptional work in obtaining these grants and for all the work that he has carried out with the Cotswold Wardens. It is greatly appreciated

12. items of report and future agenda items

There were no issues

Meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Chairman