

## Report of the Highways and Amenities Committee

The Committee met at 8.00 pm on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016** in Committee Room 1 at the Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Councillor K Liley chaired the meeting.

Present: Councillors K Liley, A Sosin, Mrs C Shaw, Mrs J Sosin, Mrs M Miller, T Miller, Mrs V Chiswell

In attendance: The Clerk of the Council

### **713/15 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **714/15 Declarations of Interests**

There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Pecuniary Interests or Registered Non Pecuniary Interests

### **715/15 Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were proposed by Cllr K Liley and seconded by Cllr A Sosin.

### **716/15 Public Question Time**

There were no members of the public present.

### **717/15 Clerk's Report**

#### **1. Baddow Hospital Signage**

It was noted that the matter of the signage for the Baddow Hospital had not been discussed at the Local Highways Panel meeting, despite Cllr A Sosin and the Clerk receiving assurances from the Chairman of the Panel that it would be. The Clerk was asked to contact the Chairman, Cllr D Madden and to copy the correspondence to Cllr Jenny Chandler.

#### **2. Parish Council Membership of the CLHP**

The Clerk told the meeting that a letter had not yet been sent but that in view of the reply that Danbury Parish Council had received from the panel, the suggestion that the Panel contacts the District Association should be made.

#### **3. Cycle Route**

The Clerk confirmed that a letter about the cycle route money had not yet been written. It was agreed that this letter should now be written and that the Clerk should also ask Essex County Council to clarify the route that the cycle way will be taking in relation to the new bridge. There was much discussion about this matter and it was agreed that clarification is required.

### **718/15 Update Reports on outstanding issues:**

#### **1. Street Lighting in Park View Crescent and Sawkins Avenue**

This matter has not been progressed.

#### **2. PROW Clarification**

This matter has not yet been progressed but it will be treated as a priority.

#### **3. Land O/S The White Horse PH**

This matter has not yet been progressed but it will be treated as a priority. It was confirmed by the Clerk that the Essex County Council has confirmed that the land is Historical Highway.

#### **4. Litter Picking Routes**

The Clerk told the meeting that following a meeting with the litter pickers, the routes have now been written up and will be circulated for checking.

The Clerk also told the meeting that it had been fortuitous that this action had been taken in view of the fact that one of the litter pickers has recently announced his intention to retire. Cllr A Sosin put forward the suggestion that a new litter picker should be appointed and this was supported by the committee.

**5. Dog Waste Bin in Goodwin Close**

The Clerk told the meeting that the installation of a dog waste bin on the footway leading from opposite 20 Goodwin Close to Baddow Road had been put forward by the City Council in January/February 2015. A request that the Parish Council should fund this bin had been made but since then nothing further had been heard. The Clerk had been in correspondence with Cllr L Ahmed from the City Council about this and other bins in June 2015 but had been told that the matter was being referred to Cllr J Potter. Since then, nothing further has been heard.

The Clerk has recently spoken to two other Clerks from the Chelmsford area who will be having dog waste bins installed in the near future. During that conversation, the Clerk understood that there may be some kind of limit that has been imposed by the City Council about the number of bins that can be installed. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the City Council to clarify these matters.

The Clerk also raised the issue of the emptying of dog waste bins. It has recently come to the Clerk's attention that there are some parish councils in the south of Essex who pay a private contractor to collect from dog waste bins. Whilst this would not be a first port of call, it would be something to bear in mind that is possible to do.

**6. Litter in the Noakes Avenue area**

This area was litter picked by the Council's staff and they were asked to keep an eye on the area and communicate any larger problems to the City Council. The Clerk has had some correspondence with the City Council about the installation of a bin but nothing has been heard from the City for several months. This will be chased.

**7. Speeding in the Noakes Avenue/Rothmans Avenue/Hampton Road area**

This matter was to be reported to the NAP but the police no longer attend the meetings. It was agreed that the Clerk should e.mail the Essex Police direct.

**8. Tabors Hill Bus Shelter**

Shortly after the last meeting in October 2015, the office was contacted by Essex County Council to say that funding had been found to replace the bus shelter in Tabors Hill. This was done shortly before Christmas 2015. The new shelter has a seat in it.

The Clerk did raise concerns about the overhanging tree from a neighbouring garden. This had contributed to the roof of the previous shelter rotting but the branches have not been cut back and are still overhanging the new shelter.

**9. Bus Stop Signage**

Cllr K Liley reported that the font size of the characters on the bus stop signs has been increased and that the signs themselves appear to be brighter. Cllr Mrs J Sosin asked about the installation of audible bus passenger information and asked if Cllr K Liley could raise the matter when he attends the Passenger Transport meeting. Cllr K Liley confirmed that he would.

**719/15 Highways Issues raised by residents for consideration**

1. Chelmsford City Council had raised the matter of the dog waste bin situated at the main entrance to the Recreation Ground with the Clerk and had made

- a request that the bin should be re-sited. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council was not in favour of re-siting the bin.
2. Mrs Mullender had written requesting a litter bin at the main entrance to the Recreation Ground. This is connected to the ongoing correspondence with the residents of 442 Baddow Road regarding the fence. After discussion, it was agreed that as there is a litter bin near the Grounds Office, the Council is not minded to install another one so close. The Clerk said that she would also mention to Mrs Mullender in the reply that correspondence with the residents about the situation is on-going.
  3. Mrs Moore had written regarding the grass verges and the road surface in Jeffrey Road. Cllr A Sosin told the meeting that he has had correspondence with Cllr Jenny Chandler about this matter. Cllr Chandler has recently informed him that a reply received from officers was not satisfactory and so she is raising it with the Cabinet Member. The Clerk was asked to reply in those terms. The Clerk told the meeting that the letter would make clear that whilst the Parish Council supports residents in their complaints, it has no responsibility for the Highways.

#### **720/15 Chelmsford Local Highways Panel**

The minutes of a meeting of the Panel held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016 had been circulated previously by e.mail and were circulated in hard copy. The matter of the Baddow Hospital signage had already been dealt with. Scheme LCHE155019 was noted.

Cllr Mrs V Chiswell asked whether the matter of the parking at Baddow High School and the Baddow Hall Schools could be raised with Cllr Jenny Chandler under the School Parking Initiative. This was agreed.

#### **721/15 Highways Schemes Priorities**

The Clerk had circulated the information about how to submit a request. It was agreed that the provision of a safe refuge at the junction of Galleywood Road and Pertwee Drive should be pursued. Cllr A Sosin said that he would try and gather evidence for this need and asked if the office could prepare a letter for distribution. The Clerk said this could be done if he can draft the wording. It was also agreed that the support of Cllr Jenny Chandler should be requested.

#### **722/15 Matters for Information**

- Cllr A Sosin told the meeting that it had been reported at the NAP meeting that a new interactive website has been set up by Essex Police.
- Cllr Mrs V Chiswell reported that a number of residents have spoken to her about the very poor surface of the Vineyards car park.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed.....Chairman..... Date