

Report of the Highways and Amenities Committee

The Committee met at 8.00 pm on **Monday 20th October 2014** in Committee Room 1 at the Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Councillor A Sosin chaired the meeting.

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

In attendance: Three members of the public
 The Clerk of the Council

411/14 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr T Hatcher.

412/14 Declarations of Interests

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

413/14 Public Question Time

There were three members of the public present.

Mr Christian Cooper, the CEO of Baddow Hospital told the meeting that the hospital is independent and is offering specialist health services. The patient base is 50% private and 50% NHS. He explained that there is a problem about the lack of signage to the hospital and also with the postcode. This is causing problems for ambulances being able to find the hospital and he requested the Council's support for the installation of signage. Cllr A Sosin spoke about the Chelmsford Local Highways Panel and the hospital's willingness to contribute financially to the signage. It was agreed that the committee is supportive of the request and that this will be made to Essex County Council Highways. It was also agreed that Mr Cooper should speak to the Great Baddow Times Editor, John Emery about an article and advertisement in the magazine.

Mr Richard Shepherd addressed the meeting about his concerns about the speed of the traffic turning from Lambourne Chase into Ruby Link and the problems encountered by HGVs that cannot negotiate the turn without mounting the pavement in a dangerous manner. He also expressed his concerns about the children who use the route to get to and from school.

With the consent of the meeting it was agreed to bring forward agenda item 7.3. Cllr A Sosin suggested that this matter is one of safety and should be referred to the officers through County Councillor Jenny Chandler. Cllr A Sosin also suggested that Mr Shepherd should try and get the support of his neighbours on this matter. Cllr Mrs C Shaw said that the matter will be raised with the police at one of the new weekly meetings.

Mr Roger North addressed the meeting about the deterioration of the bus services in Great Baddow over the last few years and suggested that this was partly to do with the building of the bus lane on the bypass and the re-routing of buses. Many of the services have been re-routed and are more infrequent than they used to be. Although Mr North was not personally

aware of the reliability of the services, some of those present said that many residents had complained to them about buses being cancelled and turning up late.

With the consent of the meeting it was agreed to bring forward agenda item 7.4. It was agreed that these issues will be raised by Cllr Mrs J Sosin at the Passenger Transport meeting on 21st October 2014 and that Mr North would supply her with the details of the re-routed buses.

414/14 **Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 16th June 2014 were proposed by Cllr A Sosin and seconded by Cllr K Liley with the following amendment: Item number 142/14, second line, a comma to be inserted after 'Cllr K Ronaldson'.

415/14 **Clerk's Report**

There was no written report but the following items were updated:

1. **Crescent and Jeffrey Road** – There has been no further information from the County Councillor.
2. **Loftin Way/Gloucester Avenue** – Cllr A Sosin reported that some work has been undertaken in Gloucester Avenue but no further work is scheduled.
3. **Passenger Transport Meeting** – Cllr A Sosin reported that he had been going to attend this meeting tomorrow but he is now unable to do and Cllr Mrs J Sosin will take his place.
4. **Potholes in Baddow Hall Crescent** - Cllr A Sosin told the meeting that no work has been undertaken and that he will chase the matter.
5. **Dorset Avenue** – Cllr A Sosin reported that Cllr Mrs S Young had told him that resurfacing work has taken place in Dorset Avenue.
6. **Cycle Route** – Work is currently taking place at the Army and Navy. A complaint about crossing the Baddow Road during this work had been copied to the Parish Council and a reply had been received from Essex Highways.
7. **Chelmsford Local Highways Panel** – It was confirmed that the proposed crossing in Maldon Road had been part of the S106 Agreement for the re-development of Marrable House. It was not contained in the previously approved plans or in the current application. The possibility of it being included in a further S106 Agreement still existed.
8. **Galleywood Road** – Cllr K Liley reported that Galleywood Road has been re-surfaced.

416/14 **Update Reports on the following issues:**

1. **MASC Development Beehive Lane including the bus shelters in Beehive Lane and Duffield Road**
Nothing further has been heard from County Councillor Jenny Chandler and this will be followed up.
2. **Essex County Council - Street Lighting Night Time Switch Off**
Cllr K Liley reported that he had been round to check the lights and had found that on The Bringey footpath, the area from the High Street to the school is not lit but from the school to Molrams Lane is. This will be reported to Essex County Council. He also reported that lights are not really required from Tusser Court to Meadgate Terrace because the light from the bypass is sufficient. Cllr K Liley was thanked for inspecting these areas.
3. **Street Lighting in Park View Crescent**

The Clerk still has to obtain quotes for these lights.

4. PROW Clarification

The Clerk informed the meeting that the contacts at Essex County Council Highways have been lost following the movement of officers to Essex Highways. It was confirmed that a letter should be written to Cllr David Finch and Joanne Killian at Essex County Council.

5. Installation of Street Furniture

Cllr A Sosin informed the meeting that there has been no contact from City Councillor Jeanette Potter about the dog waste bin policy and that he will chase the matter.

The seat at Plumtree Avenue can now be installed following the release of monies after the financial review.

- 6. Land O/S The White Horse PH** – The Clerk told the meeting that an e.mail had been received from Chelmsford City Council, which confirmed that the land does not belong to the authority. The Clerk has e.mailed Essex County Council about taking this matter forward and a reply is awaited.

417/14 Highways Issues raised by residents for consideration

1. M Madle – Cllr A Sosin reported that he had met with Mr Madle on 29th August 2014 and he had circulated a short report of that meeting. On the issue of speeding, it was agreed to refer the matter to the Local Highways Panel. It was also reported that the police have not attended any of the recent NAP meetings and so the matter cannot be reported there. Cllr Mrs C Shaw told the meeting that a few years ago, there had been an attempt to establish a Community Watch scheme but that there had not been enough people. With regard to the matter of the parking restrictions, it was confirmed that the Parish Council supports these restrictions in Galleywood Road and does not support the extension of the restrictions to the other side of the road. The Clerk will reply to Mr Madle and will copy the communication to the City Council.
2. Litter Bins and Dog Waste Bins – various requests have been made for additional bins in the Recreation Ground. The Clerk said that there is a dog waste bin at every entrance and it was considered that this is sufficient. With regard to litter bins, it was agreed that the Grounds Staff will be asked if there are any hot spots for litter and if there are, the matter can be referred back to an appropriate meeting.
3. R Shepherd – This matter had been brought forward and dealt with under item 413/14.
4. Deterioration of bus services in Great Baddow - This matter had been brought forward and dealt with under item 413/14.

418/14 Bus Shelters

Following requests to replace the bus shelter at Tabors Hill, it was agreed that quotes should be obtained for a metal and Perspex shelter, with sides and perch seats.

The shelter in Dorset Avenue, near Gardeners is being repaired and so does not need to be replaced at the current time.

Requests had been received for a new bus shelter to be installed at Bells Chase. It was agreed to put money into the budget for 2015/2016.

419/14 Budget

1. Review of Budget Spending for 2014/2015 – A report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted

2. To consider the first draft budget for 2015/2016 – A report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was discussed. The following changes were made to the draft budget:

It was agreed to add £540.00 to budget 5151 for litter bins and £5000.00 to budget 5153 for a new bus shelter.

It was agreed that the budget, with the proposed amendments, should be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee. Proposed by Cllr A Sosin and seconded by Cllr K Liley.

420/14 Matters for Information

- Cllr Mrs J Sosin reported that she had attended a recent meeting of the Larger Local Councils Forum and had been made aware of the introduction of the new Local Councils Award Scheme. A pilot scheme is being run, which will be submitting very shortly. There are new criteria and there will be three levels in the new scheme. The Clerk confirmed that she will be attending a briefing about the new scheme on 23rd October 2014 and that the matter is due to be referred to the Council meeting on 10th November 2014.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.37 pm.

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