

Strengthening Local Relationships
Hadlow Down Parish Council Liaison Meeting
5th February 2018
Hadlow Down Village Hall

Minutes

1. Present: Bob Standley (BS), Karl Taylor (KT), James Kelly (JK), Ian Johnson (IJ), Dominic Ward (DW), Damon Wellman (DW1) and Sandra Richards (SR)
2. Previous minutes were approved.
3. Action points from the last meeting were discussed covering;
 - a. Dog Kennel Lane –
 - a. SR asked if the contractors carrying out the ditching work were also responsible for clearing the blocked pipes at the end of the ditch. KT explained that this was the responsibility of the drainage team and if they went out with the ditching team, they would only be able to do half the number due to double costs. SR reported that the pipes on the ditches at DKL needed clearing and reported this as an issue. DW will check this when it is raining so that he can confirm the situation. **DW**
 - b. SR also stated that there were insufficient grips cut into the high banks of soil and therefore the water from the road could not run into the ditches. Again, DW will check this when it is raining. **DW**
 - c. KT explained that landowners also had a responsibility to clear their own ditches. SR explained that in this case, the landowner who has recently died, had offered to pay for the work as he could not get a private contractor to do it due to traffic safety issues. In future, if a landowner or Council were prepared to pay for the work, then to contact ESCC.
 - b. Flooding on Main Road opposite Tinkers Lane – DW1 reported that after the work had been done on the drains, they had again flooded over the road. DW had cleared surplus mud from the tops of the drains and the water had

run away. After discussion, it was agreed that during the winter months, DW would check these two drains on a regular (monthly) basis to ensure that they were clear to avoid further drainage in future. **DW**

- c. Riverside (738011, 11482) –DW reported that this work was potentially in the schedule for the following year 18/19 but no date yet and believed that some of Riverside was in the Heathfield/Waldron area and not HD. SR requested that DW check the ditches at the far end of Riverside when it was raining as pipes were blocked at that end. **DW**
- d. School Lane jetpatching and resurfacing of Pound Green Lane – SR/DW1 explained that Pound Green Lane had been jetpatched in Nov/Dec and then three weeks later had been resurfaced whereas School Lane had not been able to be jet-patched and this appeared to be a waste of time and money. KT said that this should not have happened as there is a clear list of the work that is to be carried out and he will investigate and report back on how this happened. **KT**
- e. Double yellow line request for School Lane – IJ/DW1 had had a meeting and agreed that, at this stage, there was nothing further to be done. **CLOSE**
- f. Wilderness Lane, ditching near Gillhope Farm –
 - a. SR explained that in Feb 17, contractors had closed the road and repaired patches of tarmac but had left others untouched and showed photos of the same area now one year later which had deteriorated further. KT explained that within the budget constraints that they had, they could only repair the potholes, gullies, etc that met the guidelines. If they chose to repair others as would seem sensible as the road was closed, workmen there, etc – the budget would be spent and further essential work would not be done. He appreciated that this would seem strange to taxpayers, however, it was the only way to keep the repair work within budget.
 - b. SR requested DW to check and report the pipe that runs under the road as blocked as a resident had tried to clear it, but it was blocked again. **DW**
- g. Brick Kiln Lane – Believed that this work had now been done, SR to check with Helen Johnson but thought that this item could be closed. **CLOSE?**

- h. Directional sign by Pippins Nursery –The order has been placed for this and DW will get a date by when it will be fitted. **DW**
- i. Drain cover on A272 heading east at The Toll &
- j. Drain cover heading west from Five Chimneys Lane heading west to School Lane & 4 a. Overall quality of work & 4. c Sunken manhole covers heading east on A272 past Wheelers Lane (163804) & most recent report of poor work in Wheelers Lane

DW1 gave examples and showed photos of the general level of repair work for ALL drain covers & potholes and the fact that he had reported on the original fault and also on the fact that the repairs were still faulty and, in most cases, the repairs to the repairs had still not been carried out even though they should be at the contractors' expense. KT has taken these examples and will discuss them with the contractors and has asked DW1 to copy him on emails in the short term so that he can understand why the information is not being acted on more quickly. **KT**

KT also asked DW1 if he had time to go out with a manager from Costains to explain directly to him about the issues that he raised and DW1 said that he would be happy to do this. KT to arrange it. **KT**

- k. National speed limit sign heading north in School Lane – after meeting between IJ/DW1, it had been agreed that this could not be moved without considerable cost and could be looked at further if the new Community Centre was built.

CLOSE

- l. 50mph limit on A272 between Buxted and HD – IJ reported that this section of road was now registered in the second year as part of a 2-year programme for areas where speed limits need to be looked at. There was no guarantee that it would be done (as dependent on funding) but positive that it had been included. **IJ**
- m. Fingerpost at junction of Tinkers Lane – this is due to be delivered by end of Feb. **DW**
- n. Pavement in School Lane – SR explained that Kier had offered to pay a small sum to the PC to close the case but the PC had refused. BS said that he would try once more to see if there was anything further to be done. **BS**

4. Outstanding items
 - a. See above
 - b. Queues likely sign approaching A267 from A272 – this has been ordered. DW to find out date of when it is likely to be installed. **DW**
 - c. See above
 - d. Fingerpost with blue lines from S E Water – nothing heard from S E Water. DW1 is due to inspect finger posts shortly and said that he will fix this. **CLOSE**
 - e. Pavement in School Lane – no progress as Kier have denied responsibility (despite witness statement) and ESCC do not believe it is 'bad' enough to fix. BS said that he would look at this as part of his WDC responsibility. **BS**
5. Planned roadworks
6. Any Other Business
 - a. State of repair of Stocklands Lane – DW has raised a number of cat 3 repairs for the lane and 2 ADV's. **DW**
 - b. Extending reduced speed limit heading east out of village on A272 – IJ explained that this had not been included in their 2 year plan (unlike 3l above) and therefore was unlikely to be actioned unless there was a serious accident problem. **CLOSE**
 - c. Encroaching verges reducing pavements so unsuitable of the pavement by Wheelers Lane. SR explained that an article has been placed in the Parish Magazine asking householders to clear their pavements outside their properties.
 - d. Cost of clearing ditches as compared to cost of resurfacing roads – this was not discussed in detail, however reports on blocked ditches, pipes and grips should be reported to ESCC.
7. Next Meeting – it was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 3rd September at 9.30 am at Hadlow Down Village Hall