

cc: Helen Simpson-Wells, Parish Clerk  
Councillor Roy Galley  
Ian Johnson – Traffic & Safety Manager  
Sam Clee – Highway Steward  
Fiona Kehoe – Highway Liaison Officer



**STRENGTHENING LOCAL RELATIONSHIPS**  
**Hadlow Down Parish Council Liaison Meeting**  
**14 September 2015 at 9.30am**  
**In Meeting Room 1 Ringmer Highways Offices**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Highways: Ian Johnson (IJ), Sam Clee (SC)  
Hadlow Down Parish Councillor: Sandra Richards (SR) Chair  
East Sussex County Councillor: Roy Galley (RG)

1 Apologies: Hadlow Down Parish Councillor: Graham Terry

At the beginning of the meeting, SR expressed the Parish Council's thanks to all concerned for the work that had been carried out in Hadlow Down over the last 6 months, including: drainage work on A272, ditching work in Wilderness Lane, resurfacing work on Dog Kennel Lane/Criers Lane.

2 Minutes from the meeting on 16 March 2015 and matters arising

Action points from the last meeting:

- a. To check whether the ditch in Stonehurst Lane has been cleared. **Closed**
- b. To check whether the 30mph roundel in School Lane needs repainting.  
SC has checked this and it does not meet the criteria for repainting but has been cleaned **Closed**
- c. To update on the new entranceways at Pound Green and on Main Road. **Closed**
- e. To check whether Highways had undertaken the verge cutting at the junction of Five Chimneys and Stocklands Lanes  
Verge cutting is carried out twice per year. If further cutting is required during summer and the junction is causing a safety problem, then a work order should be raised and they will do this. **Closed**
- f. To check the visibility at the Five Chimneys Lane and A272 junction.  
Checked and, as long as grass is cut, then no problem. **Closed**
- g. Gully survey – to check situation on Stocklands Lane and Waghorns Lane and see if gully clearance can be added to 'Highways in Your area' email.  
See section below on gully clearance **Closed**
- h. Ditching of Wilderness Lane.  
Done and SR thanked everyone concerned for the very thorough ditching work that had been undertaken. She explained that the PC have written an article in the Parish Magazine asking parishioners to help to maintain the

clearance of grips and gullies to ensure that the ditches continue to flow.

**Closed**

- i. Highways stewards visit to Hadlow Down with Cllr Terry  
Done but further visit would be useful due to outstanding issues and combined with visit to see parishioner (see below) **Closed**

- j. Potholes in Stocklands & School Lanes.  
SR explained that whilst some potholes in School Lane had been completed there were still further potholes that needed to be addressed. SC explained that the pothole that had been filled was outside GT's house. However, SR explained that there were further potholes that still needed work in Stocklands Lane **SC**

- k. Pedestrian Warning signage on A272 near School Lane.  
IJ explained that he had looked at the signage at the top of School Lane and there was sufficient signage to show that there is a school and did not feel another sign would be beneficial and could even cause more problems due to too much signage. Had arranged for signs to be cleaned. **Closed**

- l. Black and yellow speed posters.  
SR explained that she was not aware of this issue and did not believe that it had been raised at a PC meeting so will carry this action forward to the next meeting. **SR**

- m. Cleaning of signs.  
SC had cleaned the signs raised by the HDPC Clerk. Although it was very laborious, since the demise of the Village Maintenance Teams, this is the only way that they can be done. **Closed**

- n. Road surface between Pound Green and Rosers Common  
– also when is it due to be resurfaced?  
This is not SC's area as strictly it is Buxted. He will pass this to James Kelly who is responsible for Buxted. RG also commented that this had been outstanding for a number of years and could not believe that a date had not yet been given. **SC**

- o. Potholes on Nursery Lane and Riverside damaged road surface  
SR confirmed that she has recently driven around these lanes and the road surface appears to have been repaired. **Closed**

- p. Blocked gully on A272 opposite the church  
This was cleared when the drainage work on the A272 had been done earlier in the summer. **Closed**

- q. Leaning give way sign on Five Chimneys Lane at junction with A272  
Done **Closed**

3. Dog Kennel Lane – to arrange site meeting between resident, Parish Council and ESCC Highways to discuss concerns.  
SR explained that a parishioner was very concerned about the drainage problems in Dog Kennel Lane and Criers Lane as a result of excess water partly draining from bridleway/footpath No 24 which had been re-surfaced. SC agreed to a site meeting and he would most probably bring Peter Pattenden (drainage) with him. Agreed that SR would contact the parishioner and give some dates in approx. 2

weeks' time so that a joint visit could be made. At the same time, a drive around with the Highways Steward would be carried out to make sure that all the potholes, etc had been identified

**SR**

4. LED speed signs – what criteria is there?

SR explained that the PC had arranged for a company to come and give a presentation about possible LED speed signs but had been told by the company that they could not come as Kier had an exclusive agreement with ESCC and they did not want to get into legal difficulties by making a presentation. IJ explained that he believed that ESCC had an exclusive agreement with Kier about static signs but this did not include LED signs. He explained that there were issues about LED signs (type approval etc) but was not sure on the details of these. Agreed that the way forward would be for HDPC to re-contact the company again and ask to have the presentation and to identify the area where they signs could be placed and then arrange a meeting with Graham Beattie to take this forward.

**SR**

RG raised a concern about why it appeared that PCs were having to identify outside suppliers for LED signs (HD not the only village doing this) due to the fact that they could get this cheaper than the ones supplied via ESCC's supplier. IJ could not comment other than to say that it would be important to ensure that the quotes were for exactly the same thing as it could be their quote included items such as traffic control for installation etc.

5. Dates for gully clearing (569562, 428941)

SC said that he would get a date for when the gullies are due to be cleared by end of week commencing 14/9/15. However, the dates may not be completely accurate as if there was an emergency it would supercede the pre-arranged date. However, it would give an indication. The actual dates nearer the time should appear on the Highways report that is issued.

**SC**

6. School Lane and Five Chimneys Lane – problems with the surface. (407766, 671595)

SR explained that Roger Williams had indicated that Five Chimneys Lane would be put forward for the resurfacing schedule in 2016/17. No date had been given for School Lane. SC said that he would check to see if there was a date yet for the resurfacing of School Lane as he agreed that it needed doing. He would come back at the end of the week commencing 14/9/15

**SC**

7. Bridlepaths 25a and 36 – resurfacing urgently required.

This is not normally covered by the SLR meeting but SR raised it as the problems with these bridlepaths has been reported for many years and no progress seems to be made. SC said that he would pass this to Andrew Le Gresley. SR said that PC would make contact in parallel as it needed to be kept as a priority.

**SC/SR**

8. Gully on the corner of Stocklands & School Lanes – problems with drainage.

SR explained again that Kier had inspected the gully at the bottom end of the ditch and had found that there was about 1 foot difference between the ditch and the gully and therefore the water would never drain away. SC had not understood this to be the problem and had fixed another one but would now re-look at this issue.

**SC**

SR explained that although not on the agenda, there had been another accident at this junction again due to the fact that a car was emerging from Stocklands Lane which is a blind exit and asked if further signage could be added to the top of Hastingford Lane, to show the danger. IJ has looked at this before but will have another look to see if there is anything that can be done and will look at the accident record for this junction.

**IJ**

9. Ongoing issues with work undertaken on gullies and manhole covers on A272 from junction with Tinkers Lane to junction with A267 (671537,458279, 671538).

SR explained that when the re-surfacing work had been undertaken, the areas around the manhole covers had not been done due to bad weather. There had been a delay in getting the re-work done, due to the fact that the PC had been told that a special (and expensive) method needed to be used to raise the levels of the road around the manhole covers. When the work had been done, the problems with 'clunking' manhole covers still existed. SR asked if the work that had been specified 'expected' there still to be movement in the manhole covers as it seemed strange to have an expensive re-work that hadn't fixed the problem. SC said that he would look at what had happened and report back.

**SC**

10. Accidents at junction of A272 and A267.

SR reported that there had been a number of recent 'large' accidents at this junction in the last two months and asked if anything further could be done. IJ explained that a route study had been undertaken recently on the stretch of the road between Mayfield Flats and Five Ashes and nothing untoward had been found. He would look at the accident record for this area but did not think there was anything that could be done.

**IJ**

11. Speeding on A272 between Buxted and Hadlow Down.

SR explained that, at a recent PC meeting, a parishioner had raised the issue of the speeding traffic between Buxted and Hadlow Down. IJ explained that the PC could request for a 50 mph zone could be added to the list but it was unlikely to be actioned as the list was extremely long.

**SR**

12. Width of the A272 by The Toll.

SR explained that two wide lorries had recently got 'stuck' in the narrow stretch of road called The Toll on the A272 and one had had to back traffic up to get 'unstuck'. Also, although it is extremely dangerous, pedestrians and cyclists are still using this part of the road and it was extremely dangerous as there is nowhere for them to go if meeting speeding traffic. SR asked if signage such as 'narrow road' or similar could be considered. IJ explained that there were restrictions on the type of signs that could be used but he would look again at this area to see if there was anything that could be done.

**IJ**

13. Apron for gully on the A272 opposite Tinkers Lane (460343)

SC confirmed that this was scheduled to be done and that actually there were two gullies that needed doing one is about 10 metres away from the one at the top of Tinkers Lane. SR asked if a date timescale could be given as this was the number one priority from the PC to be cleared before winter. SC said that he would try to get a date by the end of week commencing 14/9/15

**SC**

14. Give way sign at the top of Tinkers Lane (671456)

SC said that this has been raised with reference number 98011.

**SC**

15. Missing large directional sign east of Pippins Nursery approaching A272/A267 Junction

SC confirmed that this had been removed approx. 4 months ago due to damage caused by an accident. The replacement was now ready in the depot and was waiting to be refitted.

**SC**

16. Inspection cover near Five Chimneys Cottage (671458).

SR explained that although SC had reported that the inspection cover was within the acceptable tolerances – it was a fact that drivers who used the road regularly were

avoiding it by going into the middle of the road and, as this was on a bend, it was potentially causing a dangerous hazard. SC said that he would check this again. **SC**

17. Construction and Planned Maintenance -  
Contact: Simon Marchant, Team Manager, 0345 6080193

Road No	Location from - to	Type	Traffic Management	Start date	Duration	Finish date
U7583T	Dog Kennel Lane	C/W Reconstruction	Road Closure	14/9/15	2 days	15/9/15
U7580T	Criers Lane (Brick Kiln Lane)	C/W Reconstruction	Road Closure	16/9/15	3 days	18/9/15

18. Any other business

19. Date and time of next meeting  
The next meeting date was set for 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016 at 9.30 am.