

FINAL

Minutes of the Hunton Parish Traffic and Road Safety Working Party (TRSWP) – 3rd March 2022; Timings : 0940-1115 (JF & CK from 1000, SP until 1100)

Present : Mike Summersgill (MS), Iain Simmons (IS), Sue Pinks (SP), James Forster(JF), Liz Oliver (LO), Celia Kennedy-Sloane (CK). Meeting is Quorate (min. 3 persons, 2 PC members)

Apologies: Jonny Goddard (JG), Stephen Banks (SB) – notes sent pre-meeting.

- 1. Appointment of Chair** – MS was agreed to Chair the Group (and also write Minutes)
- 2. Terms of Reference** – The 2017 version was deemed still to be suitable, with Minutes to be made public on the website (as per clause 3.3) after approval at next PC meeting.
- 3. KCC Highways Issues and Signage** – JG had provided an update on the recent signage on East Street, noting that KCC were (in new FinYear, by end April) to move the signpost/'Slow' outside Court Lodge to near Meadowside; the T-junc sign would be removed. MS noted no signpost had been fixed on RedWall, approaching the junction.

There was continuing discussion (JG with KCC) about new signs/limits on West Street, but KCC were not persuaded about a speed limit on East Street. The PC had budgeted £10,000 for this new work (£5000 this year, £5000 next) and JG would be able to update more accurately where/when at the next TRSWP meeting.

MS commented that he and David Heaton had met 3 KCC people (Surfacing, Highways, Drainage) on West Street in October 2021, to discuss the clearance of ditches, gullies and the jetting of culverts. There was 3-year programme for maintenance, and this section was due to be done by KCC in 2022. They had re-laid full depth along West Street later in October, including drainage grips to stop ponding (SB communication).

4. Village Speed Limits + Speed/Lorry Watch

JG outlined the thoughts at the previous meeting in Jan 2021, and had progressed these, but no final work schedule/costing had been completed? (noting that the recent work on East Street was probably part of that scope, and had been funded by KCC)

As noted last year, there is a case that a speed limit on Hunton Hill is required to reduce accidents, particularly as the Greensand Way crosses this road, and PC could negotiate with KCC to fund some of those changes. SB had mentioned this in his Note to MS.

JG had costed up the various options discussed but these may need to be finalised at the next Parish Council (PC) meeting, and residents to be consulted. **ACTION: JG.**

MS noted that the Parish had SpeedWatch equipment but there had been a lack of volunteers, and that LorryWatch signage had fallen off the posts. Suggestion that something be put in Herald (also including hedges over footpaths). **ACTION: MS**

5. Traffic Calming on West Street

MS had had a request from two residents on Bensted Close (one of whom had had a significant accident) if the PC could fund two mirrors on one post at the junction with

West Street, so that residents can 'see round' cars parked on the corners (especially a problem at school drop-off/pick-up times). Discussion held about similar problem for Water/Bishops Lane exit, including the hedge height at Almshouses corner reducing visibility. IS mentioned that there was an active discussion within the School about this issue, so maybe an immediate action might be unnecessary as there were medium-term solutions possible. **ACTION: MS** to raise the Parishioners' request at PC on 21/3.

6. HGVs on East Street/ Redwall Lane

There were still instances of HGVs using RedWall Lane/East Street and also on West Street, but not as many as pre-Covid (Amsbury Farm is not seeing many vehicles). Helen Ward had been keeping records informally; a new volunteer was sought to be the main contact for residents to inform of vehicle registrations and companies, so the PC could write to hauliers. **ACTION: MS** to talk to HW and see what is involved, and advise.

MS also advised that he had held a meeting with Clockhouse Farm in February about a couple of safety issues, which had included Mud on road on RedWall Lane (see AOB), but also the 'pushing out' of verges by large tyred vehicles (most of which were thought to be from Clockhouse – SB Note confirmed that view). KCC had already marked out sections of RedWall to be repaired along the edges, and PC had written to them about the issue in 2021 – a solution that doesn't involve lots of costly kerbing wasn't put forward, albeit MS had suggested more Driver training. SP said Clockhouse drivers were always considerate of road users, including horses, which others confirmed generally.

7. Any Other Business and New Safety issues

Junctions – MS noted that there was a potential road safety issue with the new field access near Brickyard Cottages, which the PC was aware of and chasing KCC. Having two field entries opposite each other seemed unsafe, especially as RedWall had a 'fast' bend nearby – already one HGV from Wares Farm had attempted to turn round in the splays there and got stuck across the road completely. MS also reported that there had been a Planning application discussed at the 28/2 PC meeting for a new field entrance onto Hunton Hill near Wheelwrights; PC had objected to this on road safety aspects.

A parishioner had made a formal complaint to KCC Highways about **mud on the road** near the Linton Growers entrance on RedWall Lane, and KCC staff told the person they had attended on a recent Friday; it was unknown as yet what the KCC views had been.

It was noted that the **'bank' of small gravel** on East Street near the 'dip' (caused by washdown of material from Hunton Hill, over many years) was getting bigger and bigger, and effectively narrowed the road and was becoming a hazard and/or 'pinch point', especially for cyclists – **ACTION: MS** to report it on KCC website.

It was also commented that there were road gullies full of soil on West Street, outside Church Cottage and down by Grove Lane – these also needed reporting to KCC, in the way that MS reports these problems on East Street/RedWall. **ACTION: JF** to report the Church Cottage one, **MS** to look at the Grove Lane one (advised to him by Steve W).

SP commented that the surfacing at top of Barn Hill, on the North Folly side road, had not been renewed when Barn Hill was resurfaced over a decade back; it was reported as being slippery for horse-riders where the surface had deteriorated. **MS/JG** to look.

The problems with **fly-tipping** on Lughorse Lane and in the woods was raised – MS mentioned that Simon Webb, our elected Councillor, made this a matter of primary interest, and he would ask him at the PC meeting about progress with MBC team.

On **Buses**, MS noted there was Consultation county-wide on having less services. CK & LO wondered if they could use smaller mini-buses on rural routes around Hunton, or more modern non-diesel vehicles. It was thought that the operator would not be able to buy new vehicles for their fleet unless there was new funding/contracts?

Other points raised were Quad Bikes – do they have to be taxed to be on the highway (Noise is the main problem, but could be stopped if untaxed?); Road Signs hidden by vegetation – why are KCC not going round checking these (if it's their hedging?), and when was the Signpost at bottom of BarnHill going to be replaced (SP suggested it shouldn't as it would get hit again; why not put posts/rocks in?) – MS to chase DH.

8. Date of Next Meeting

To be in 3 months time, after next two PC meetings – probably early/mid-June. Unless something urgent on Safety grounds, or any new Signage proposals to go to Residents.