

# HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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**DRAFT MINUTES** of the **Highways and Transport Committee** meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.00pm, in the Library, Hungerford

**Present:** Cllrs Knight, Chicken, Downe, Fyfe, Alford, Hudson, Schlanker and Winser.

In attendance: Claire Barnes (Town Clerk), District Cllr James Cole, representative from Newbury News, three members of the public and two prospective councillors.

- HT2022001. Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Simpson and Shatford
- HT2022002. Declarations of interest** – None
- HT2022003. Agreement of minutes of meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**  
**Proposed:** Cllr Downe  
**Seconded:** Cllr Winser  
**Resolution:** Agree minutes as a true record.
- HT2022004. Update on actions from previous meetings, not on this agenda** –All are on the agenda
- HT2022005. Receive feedback from working party on purchase of a moveable Vehicle Activated Sign and 20mph speed limit consideration**  
Cllrs Knight, Hudson, Alford and Schlanker had attended a meeting with Town & Manor and District Cllr Dennis Benneyworth. In summary they agreed there is a need to identify areas in Hungerford where speed is a concern and monitor those with a SID (Speed Indicator Device) to obtain info and identify the extent of the problem which West Berks Council (WBC) could then act on. Their recommendation to H&T is to purchase three SIDs to enable the gathering of data. T&M have offered to pay for one of the SIDs to use on the Common where a new 30mph speed limit came into effect on 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021.  
Cllr Hudson has since obtained two quotations, one from Westcotec who are more expensive and one from Traffic Tech whose discounted price of £6225 plus vat was of interest. The device displays a grumpy or smiley face and is approved for parish use. The battery is said to last 10 days depending on traffic flow and a spare battery is included. For an extra £190, words can be displayed below which may be useful for the Common e.g., Beware Cows. The message can be changed as required. It was suggested one SID could be continually rotated between entry points to the town to help reduce speed and another could be placed on smaller residential roads to collect data on speed which might support a 20mph limit in places. HTC should work with Cheryl at WBC to check suitable locations. A SID at the Common could be moved to three different locations on the Common.  
Devices differ in size and cost. Weight is a consideration as they will be moved regularly and need to be fixed at a minimum height of 2.1m.  
Members of the public present expressed their concern over the data collected from the WBC device that was installed eastbound of Hungerford on the A4 for a temporary period. The figures were described as alarming with 18.29% of vehicles speeding eastbound during the weekend 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> Aug 2021. The roar can be heard in Cottrell Close. Cllr Knight is pursuing the painting of 30mph on the road as WBC will not install any more 30mph signs.

It was questioned whether a working party could be responsible for managing, uploading data, charging, and moving the SIDs or whether someone needs to be employed for the task. The extent of the role would need to be identified.

**ACTION:** HTC to consider signing up to speedwatch and using speed guns

**ACTION:** Clerk to speak to Aldermaston Parish Council for advice about licence

**ACTION:** DC Cole to report to pass on complaint to WBC about the overgrown pathways by Barr's Yard.

**Proposed:** Cllr Schlanker

**Seconded:** Cllr Knight

**Resolution:** Recommend to Full Council to buy two SIDs at a cost of £4400, advise Town & Manor and form a working party to look at the maintenance and rollout of the equipment and licence required.

The three members of public volunteered to join the working party. Mark Greenwell and Cllr Hudson volunteered to join.

**ACTION:** Invite Cheryl (WBC) to working party meeting.

- HT2022006. Update on feedback from West Berks Council (WBC) on HTC's request regarding Electric Vehicle Chargers** – Cllr Downe reported he had been in touch with Jenny Graham at WBC about the charging points due to be installed at Station Road car park. Originally the plan was for 4 x 22kw chargers to be installed. She has asked if we preferred to change this to one rapid charger and 2 fast chargers and also if we wish to contribute towards the extra cost. It was agreed that HTC would like the rapid charger in place of 2 slower chargers however as this is a WBC initiative HTC would not wish to contribute unless it was necessary. DC Cole and members of public left the meeting.
- HT2022007. Propose acceptance of LCRS Annual Risk Assessments for this committee (see attached)**  
**Proposed:** Cllr Knight  
**Seconded:** Cllr Alford  
**Resolution:** Agree the Annual Risk Assessments for H&T as submitted.  
**ACTION:** Write a risk assessment for the salt bins.
- HT2022008. Railway Station – Receive any updates from Cllr Chicken:** Cllrs Downe and Chicken are due to meet tomorrow with Mr Goose from Network Rail who are looking to improve stations along the line.  
- **Installation of a gate for access to area north of London Platform for maintenance** –  
- **Application for grant to support the above**  
There is no further progress with either of the above. NR indecision may be due to the amalgamation with GBR next year.
- HT2022009. Any progress to report from West Berks Council on Tesco junction improvement and Footpath surveys and proposed work** – Both are due to be considered for the master programme set in February 2022.
- HT20220010. Any H&S issues of concern including COVID**  
- **Update on additional bin at layby** – a request for an additional bin has been submitted along with a request for feedback on the usage of the recycling bins  
- **Note that additional work was carried out when the Christmas lights were dismantled. It was noted that:** Shield replaced multiple adaptable boxes that had become very weathered or were letting in water causing the lights to trip. 4no were replaced outside Ellie Dickens & 2no were replaced outside Roxtons. A faulty Rcbo unit was also replaced in the lamp post feeding the lights outside Roxtons

Meeting closed 8.00pm