TIPTREE PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF HIGHWAYS, STREET LIGHTING AND FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE MEETING

A meeting of the Highways, Street Lighting and Footpaths Committee took place on Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 7.00 pm in the Small Hall, Community Centre, Caxton Close

Present Cllrs:

N Mattinson (Chairman)

S Allen-Shepherd

S Redgewell

S Smithson

B Wood

Also in attendance – Cllr M Woodcraft, Mr D Evans (Footpath Warden), Mr G Whybrow (Transport Representative), one member of the public and the Deputy Clerk to the Council

001/21 Election of Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that Cllr Mattinson be elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year.

002/21 Election of Vice Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that Cllr Redgewell be elected as Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year.

003/21 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence as all Councillors were present.

004/21 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Smithson declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of item 11.2 on the agenda.

005/21 Chairman's Announcements

The election of Cllr Scott to Cabinet Member for Highways was noted. The Chairman had suggested that an invitation be extended to him to attend a Full Council Meeting in order to gain a perspective of issues faced by the Parish Council.

006/21 Public Questions

A member of the public highlighted the poor condition of the road name sign for Walnut Tree Way at the junction of Oak Road. It was noted that this had originally been reported to Colchester Borough Council in January 2020 and would be added to the list of reportable matters for monitoring purposes. The road name sign for Cedar Avenue was in a poor condition and required reporting to Colchester Borough Council (CBC).

007/21 Minutes of Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 15th March 2021 were proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed as a correct record and duly signed.

008/21 Footpath Warden Report

The Footpath Warden reported that 21 of the 34 footpaths had been inspected this year and, although some serious defects had been identified and reported, there appeared to be a significant delay in rectification of the faults by Essex Highways. He also raised the issue of lack of signage depicting the correct route for footpath 19. The Deputy Clerk was asked to verify that all current Footpath Wardens wished to continue in the role. The Chairman thanked Mr Evans for all his work to date.

009/21 Transport Representative Report

The Representative's report included details of the new bus timetable for the 75 service and problems encountered with the buses when roads were closed for maintenance. Cllr Smithson offered to ascertain the name of an operational contact in Essex Highways for such matters. Mr Whybrow mentioned potential funding that had been available for replacement bus shelters etc (Cllr Wood to check the details) and the possibility of using S106 monies for obtaining advanced displays for bus information. It was noted that the Essex-wide Bus Shelter Project is not now due to commence until Autumn 2021.

010/21 Deputy Clerk's Report

A request for a pedestrian crossing from Ransom Road to Asda had been received. It was agreed this request would be incorporated with the ongoing request for a crossing in the vicinity of Asda, as detailed on the reportable matters sheet.

011/21 Highways Matters and Reportable Issues

a) Kelvedon Road pavement from Tower Business Park to Perrywood Garden Centre

Options for a route for pedestrians were discussed. It was noted that this matter had been forwarded to Cllr Jowers for consideration by the Local Highway Panel and it was agreed to wait the outcome of this request.

b) Request for yellow lines around the 'post box' triangle in West End Road

The problems of vehicles parking around the triangle were discussed as well as issues surrounding the ownership of the triangle. Cllrs Smithson, Mattinson and Wood offered to try and acquire further information regarding the land ownership.

c) Parked cars in Anchor Road at junctions with Maldon Road and Station Road

Following complaints from residents, a discussion took place and it was agreed that information would be sought from the North Essex Parking Partnership regarding an application for double yellow lines at both ends of Anchor Road.

d) Request for speed reduction measures in Grange Road from Windmill Hill to Vine Road

Following speeding concerns raised by a resident, it was noted that this issue had been raised before with Essex Highways. Deputy Clerk to follow up on previous correspondence provided by Cllr Wood.

e) Update on reportable issues

Following circulation of the reportable matters sheet, the issues and actions taken to date were noted. A couple of additional ongoing issues were identified for inclusion in order to track the progress at subsequent meetings. Cllrs Allen-Shepherd and Mattinson to look at flooding problems in Church Road.

012/21 LED Street Light Replacement

Five further street lights were identified for replacement. Councillors requested that a sample of the plates for identification of Tiptree Parish Council street lights be obtained for consideration.

013/21 School Streets

A discussion took place regarding the operation of School Streets. Concern was expressed regarding both parking of local residents and parents during the road closures, namely around school start and finish times. Cllr Mattinson to find out further information about the operation of existing schemes. The potential existed to carry out a survey on social media to ascertain the thoughts of residents on School Streets.

014/21 Local Highway Panel (LHP)

The updates from the Chair of the Parish Council following the March LHP meeting had been included on the reportable matters sheet. Cllr Mattinson to provide information on the representation of the Panel to Cllr Allen-Shepherd.

015/21 Financial Comparison

The sheet detailing budget vs expenditure was noted.

016/21 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday 28th June 2021 in the Meeting Room of the Community Centre.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.47 pm.

Signature Date 29/6/21