

**HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE MEETING**
8.00 p.m. on Thursday 18 October 2012
Village Hall Committee Room
Minutes

Present: **Councillors** - Ken Huddart (*Chairman*), Anthony Sheppard, Nick Hayes, Geoff Herbert,
 Co-opted members- Bill Chilcott, Caroline Stevenson, David Cowie
 Parish Clerk- Freda Collins

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Jimmy Cartwright who had a previous engagement.
Cllr Kate Hallett who was unwell.
These were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda

Cllr Herbert is also a Borough Councillor.
Cllr Huddart is Acting-Chairman of the Claygate Conservation Area Committee.

3. Constitution of the Committee

No changes required

4. Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 23 August 2012 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. To report on the actioning of items from previous minutes.

AP2. Tree stump at 17 Coverts Road. Not yet removed, although Cllr Bension has had many others removed. At the recent liaison meeting he relayed officers' concerns that so many stumps needing removing, but this is of their own doing since they had a policy for a few years that stumps should be left for nature. Cllr Huddart will remind Cllr Bension of this matter.

AP3. Re-marked bays in Hare Lane service road. As minuted, Cllr Huddart informed Surrey C.C , but has had no response. He has not so far sought to move the disabled bay. It was noted that the markings do not have to conform precisely to the traffic order as long as they are generally correct. He will repeat the request and copy to Cllr Bension.

AP4. Speedwatch. When they are on Watches, Malcolm and Cllr Huddart repeatedly note the success of efforts in reducing speeds. Thanks to Malcolm for being the organiser and the person who has such excellent knowledge of the make and model of vehicle. He is now having difficulty in getting volunteer interest and support from the Police, so it will not be undertaken again for the time being. Interest may revive after some time has passed.

AP5. The Plantlocks Three Plantlocks were supplied tot the CRGT. David Cowie noted that he has seen the Plantlock in Hare Lane in use.

AP6. Signage. Cllr Huddart has reported the missing sign on A244. There has been no effective response yet, so he will repeat the report.

AP7. Maps. The Clerk asked Cllr Coomes to upload the requested maps. It was noted that there is a new OS initiative and automatic license for PC use. The Clerk will investigate this. It was agreed that we do not need a map on our website as there are good maps available such as the one on the EBC website and the i-map on the SCC website. We should just provide the links.

6. Public Transport

a. Bus shelters, Routes & Bus Stops

K3-Cllr Hallett reported that, as of today, TfL have not yet announced the successful operator for the K3 bus route - this is due to be announced any minute and the new franchise will start in 2013. It was noted that some new Dennis buses have been introduced.

During the summer, Oaken Lane has been closed and subject to signal control. It was pleasing that the K3 kept running throughout this period, diverted if necessary through The Avenue and Cavendish Drive and therefore not missing any Claygate stops.

b. Trains

The work to increase the length of the platforms will go ahead next year. They will be built and tested Apr-Dec 2013, ready for use in 2014. Claygate will get 2 longer trains per day.

c. Claygate Station

Following a request from a passenger, Claygate now has a ramp for wheelchairs on both sides -thus avoiding the previous delays when the guard had to go across and get it. The passenger has thanked Bill Brittan for arranging this.

Cllr Huddart needs to remind Bill Brittan of the need for increased cycle parking provision and to replace the UP platform bench.

AP8 Cllr Huddart to action.

12. Liaison with SCC

a. Road maintenance & footpaths,

i. The carriageway weed growth in the roads previously notified to Cllr Bennison has been successfully treated.

ii. Surrey C.C. is holding open public consultative meetings, on the basis that road maintenance is now good, so all that is needed is public information on the problems that still remain. This is SCC's way of prioritising repairs. The one for Claygate will be held in Walton on 2 Nov. Suggestions can also be emailed direct to SCC. It was agreed to email the list of outstanding matters compiled for the Liaison meeting by Cllr Huddart.

AP9 Cllr Huddart to action.

During the liaison meeting Cllr Huddart made it clear to Cllr Bennison that that road maintenance is not as good as SCC believe, to which he readily agreed, and explained his efforts to divert funding to a couple of Claygate roads that needed expensive treatment; Claremont Road, which is obvious and marked with yellow paint, and the Hare Lane service road.

It was noted that roads are getting patched faster than they used to.

iii. Contrary to the last minutes, the damaged bollard outside Champions was eventually replaced, and has immediately been damaged. Although most of the Committee recommend its removal, Cllr Hayes thought it should be retained as it protects pedestrians and the pedestrian space. It was agreed to suggest that, instead of the usual bollard, it is replaced with a bell bollard. This is more stable, and though more expensive, it will be more effective in the longer term. It works because it is not just an obstruction to stop a vehicle, but diverts the tyres and so changes the direction of the striking vehicle.

AP10 Cllr Huddart to action.

b. Highway Tree Replacement and Maintenance

i. There has been no significant identification of sites for further or replacement highway trees.

ii. SCC Officers have advised Cllr Bennison that highway trees are a nuisance to the highways and services, and created a future maintenance workload; at the liaison meeting we asked him to respond that trees in the public domain made Claygate the highly-prized place that it is.

iii. It was agreed to formally notify Cllr Bennison that we wish to replace the dead cherry tree in the Hare Lane Island. The island will be refurbished as part of an initiative by Cllr Bennison and a planting hole will need to be left.

AP11 Cllr Sheppard to action.

iii. Cllr Huddart will speak to Peter Linacre about replacing the elm in the garden of the Hare & Hounds and whether Mr Linacre will want it designated a Jubilee tree.

AP12 Cllr Huddart to action.

c. Street Lighting

i. The refurbishment programme progresses. Cllr Huddart has not taken any recent action on behalf of the Parish Council, but has applied on behalf of the CVA for continued supply to the transformer for the Christmas tree on The Green. Cllr Huddart will ask Derek Huff to check that this still works.

AP13 Cllr Huddart to action.

ii. Cllrs Huddart and Bennison have successfully ensured that the fountain light remains lit.

iii. Cllr Huddart knows of three roads (Gordon Road, Telegraph Lane and now The Avenue) where residents have sought to have heritage columns, and are in continuing negotiation with Skanska.

There are significant cost anomalies, columns that are deemed to be fit for purpose, and need not be replaced, cost the residents much more.

iv. The treatment of conservation areas is variable; in Church Road, High Street and Elm Road, the old columns have been retained and standard new luminaires fitted -now all working. At The Green two columns have been put on hold and hence still have yellow low pressure sodium luminaires.

These are the only two lights which EBC have identified as heritage. Cllr Huddart in his capacity as Acting –Chair of CAAC has been in contact with Skanska about the Claygate Conservation Areas.

v. Claremont Road has been partly replaced with standard or heritage columns which are 7m high and hence, too tall. Francis Boff has informed SCC that the replacements are wrong.

vi. Beaconsfield Road has been replaced with new columns.

vii. The leaning lamppost in Dalmore Avenue has been replaced but with a much taller post than previously. The normal arrangement is to replace like with like and the post should be consistent with those already in the street. This matter should be reported.

AP14 Cllr Huddart to action.

viii. It was noted that a swan-neck lamppost near Trystings Crescent has been replaced but the trench has not been filled in. It was barriered but the barriers have now collapsed. It is known that Skanska are slow, so this may be on a work schedule. Caroline will monitor the situation.

ix. It was noted that the new lights are generally well liked, so there is no case for the Parish Council to intervene and spend on heritage columns. The refurbishment has been slow and chaotic.

x. It was noted that Skanska are generally good at repairs, where a repair is not carried out it usually indicates a more difficult problem.

xi. The spotlight on the pedestrian crossing is not working. Cllr Huddart will report.

AP15 Cllr Huddart to action.

8. Parking

a. Off- Street

i. There has been no news from EBC on their Parking Policy. The policy document will be published in the new year.

ii. It was noted that usually only 2/3 of the station car park is used, but there is commuter parking all over Claygate. If the fees in the station car park were reduced more people may use it. Cllr Hayes offered to draft a letter and pass it to Cllr Huddart for comment. Cllr Huddart will source the relevant contact in SW trains. Our objective is to get more cars off the road, but the letter will only present the business case to SW Trains.

AP16 Cllrs Huddart & Hayes to action.

iii. It was noted that the car park at Torrington Lodge would be more useful for parking for cricket and football if the alleyway from the car park into Hare Lane were re-opened. Visiting teams could be encouraged to park in either village car park, so not to cause problems in Dalmore Avenue and Church Road. Torrington Lodge would also be more useful for school drop off if the alley way were open. CPC policy has always been that the alleyway should be open, but local residents prefer it to be closed. It was agreed to re-open this matter.

Cllr Herbert will speak to EBC officers.

AP17 Cllrs Herbert to action.

b. On- Street

i. Cllr Huddart has confirmed to SCC our list of requirements. The response is that these will be considered in the continuing review.

ii. It was noted that the Avenue has not been a problem for some time, had today there was parking right up to the junction in Hare Lane and hence cars turning into the Avenue from Hare Lane had to wait for cars exiting The Avenue.

iii. Dalmore Avenue parking problems were discussed at the Liaison meeting with Cllr Bennsion and all the details are in the notes from that meeting. Another street meeting will be held and residents asked which solutions they support. The results will be reported at the next H&T meeting.

c. Parking Policy

No report

9. Traffic Calming

9.1 Malcolm continues to organise and participate in a series of Speedwatches, which are effective in slowing traffic at the time, and provide a message to motorists. Some volunteers are dropping out, so we may have to consider whether and how to rejuvenate the programme.

9.2 A letter has been received from a resident noting how dangerous it is crossing the road at the junction of Hare Lane and Foley Road. It was agreed that some form of traffic calming would be desirable. It was noted that SCC is loath to put in traffic calming measures as they have received criticism in the past. It was noted that speed is the dominant factor in road safety. So it was agreed that a raised table at the junction of Hare Lane and The Parade including the pedestrian crossing would achieve the effect of reducing Hare Lane speeds. It will cost in the order of £40k. It was AGREED that this measure could be incorporated into the refurbishment of the Hare Lane Island, so Cllr Huddart will contact Cllr Bension.

AP18 Cllr Huddart to action.

9.3 A village-wide 20mph speed limit was suggested some time ago by Margaret Hicks, but the scheme seems to have been shelved. It is known that the Government favours lower speed limits and many areas of the county are adopting 20 mph limits. It was agreed that this limit may work in the centre of the village, but not the whole village. It was recognised that there needs to be a speed limiting feature at the beginning and end of the 20mph zone. It was agreed that these could be the old Village with the roundabouts, and the railway bridge at the bottom of Hare Lane. School children walk along Hare Lane to use the Dalmore Avenue entrance into school, so this will be a reason for a 20 mph limit on this section of Hare Lane. It was noted that traffic calming measures are not needed in Foley Road near the school as parked cars provide traffic calming.

9.4 It was noted that in the rush hours, it is difficult to cross Red Lane and St Leonards road. Unfortunately, neither road is wide enough for a centre pedestrian refuge. The commuter traffic flow in the mornings and evenings is not in the direction expected. In the morning it is out of London (from Hook) and in the evening it is into London (towards Hook). This is due to the congestion at Hook.

10. Bridleway Proposals & Rights of Way

10.1 Surrey C.C. Rights of Way has strimmed FP39 (which runs round the back of Raleigh Drive), cut back rampant vegetation and served notice on properties whose back fences are involved. This will need watching in the spring.

10.2 Surrey C.C. Rights of Way team has been working on the drainage under the A3 for BW33 (Lower Wood Road/Bridle Road to the subway under the A3). It agrees that the bridle way needs maintenance and is negotiating this with the Lower Mole Valley team. Cllr Huddart has asked, so far without success, for a financial estimate, so that we can judge a suitable contribution from the Parish Council. A few years ago for sections costing some £1,200, we have paid £400 or £1,200, depending on who reckoned the work needed doing. For Woodstock Lane South (which is only partly Surrey C.C.'s responsibility) we contributed part of the cost of the planings; the work being carried out by community service. For BW33, since Surrey C.C. has agreed the need, we may consider that it should bear most of the cost.

10.3 It was noted that the bollards to the entrance to Old Claygate Lane have been knocked over. This lane is not owned by EBC or SCC, so probably CPC would have to pay to have them re-installed. The lane cannot be used by cyclist or horses, however, as there is a tree across the path and the farmer has blocked off the other end.

10.3 SCC held a social media week where faults could be reported using Twitter. Using this method means that a photo of the problem can be taken with a mobile phone, geotagged and sent using Twitter. David asked SCC to fix the lights on the A309 underpass as an experiment to see if this new method would work. However there was a problem as SCC did not know if they were responsible for the lights. They will need to carry out a 14 day search. It was also difficult to get a case number.

11. Cycling

11.1 David Cowie has spoken to the Headteacher of Claygate Primary School who is interested in increasing the provision of cycle parking at the school. It is not known whether the existing site can be increased or whether another larger site will be required. David will look into costings and then ascertain how it can be funded. Funding may be required from outside bodies.

11.2 David will look on the website for cycle & rail to see when the station cycle parking upgrade will happen.

11.3 Cllr Bension has had a request from a resident to provide cycle lanes on Woodstock Lane South. This matter has been previously considered by this Committee and the conclusion was that the road is not wide enough. David agreed to speak to the resident. Cllr Herbert will supply contact details.

AP19 Cllr Herbert and David Cowie to action.

12. Street Signage

There are still many of the old metal signs in the village, but EBC will not replace them until they are no longer fit for purpose.

13. Budget

A discussion took place about budget items and whether funding should be included for initiatives. David Cowie would like to undertake a project into the provision of cycle parking at the school.

It was agreed to put forward the following to the budget meeting:-

- i. Footpaths £1000
- ii. Trees £500
- iii. Cycle parking £500
- iv. Bus Shelter £250

Total **£2250**

14. Website

It was agreed to include:-

- i. the purchase of the three Plantlocks for the CRGT and the repeated request for more cycle parking at the station.
- ii. the provision of another ramp at the station.
- iii. the continuing success of Speedwatch
- iv. the highway issues discussed at the liaison meeting with Cllr Mike Bension.

15. Matters for Information Only

15.1 The route for the next year's Tour of Britain cycle race is not yet known. There may be a possibility that it could come through Claygate.

15.2 The contractor undertaking the work to the new sports ground at the former Wyevalles Garden centre has gone out of business, so work on the site has stopped.

16. Date and place of the next meeting

8.00pm on 6 December 2012 in the Committee Room

Signed.....as a true and fair record of the meeting.

Date.....