

These are draft minutes and are subject to approval at the next meeting.



## HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

8.00 p.m. on Thursday 28 August 2014

Village Hall Committee Room

### *Minutes*

**Present:** Councillors - Ken Huddart (*Chairman*), Kate Hallett, Anthony Sheppard, Helen Maguire, Geoff Herbert, Mark Sugden (ex-officio)  
**Invited:** Councillor: Mary Marshall  
Co-opted members- Bill Chilcott, Caroline Stevenson  
Parish Clerk- Freda Collins  
2 members of the public

Cllr Maguire was not present at the start of the meeting. Cllr Marshall was invited to participate at the meeting as she wanted to speak on Items 6b and 10.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Maguire sent apologies that she would be late for the meeting.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda

Cllr Herbert is also a Borough Councillor.

Cllr Hallett is Secretary to the CVA and an employee of TfL.

Cllr Huddart declared that he is Chairman of the Trustees of Claygate Village Hall Association, President of the CVA and Acting-Chairman of the Claygate Conservation Areas Advisory Committee.

#### 3. Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 26 June 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### 4. To report on the actioning of items from previous minutes.

**AP28/34** *Second ticket machine.* Cllr Huddart made a site visit with members of SW Trains. They will not fund a second ticket machine as they feel that other stations have made a better case, but the case can be reviewed. This will not deter us from pursuing the matter. It was noted that there is vegetation growing in the gutters. *Post meeting note: SWT notified of the vegetation and of Councillor having to use an alternative station when the machine was faulty and office closed.*

Cllr Maguire arrived at the meeting.

**AP29** *Review of footways.* All members. The minute is wrong: Oaken Lane should be Hare Lane (between The Swan and Loseberry Road). Hare Lane, about 153, has been improved by relocation of lighting column and some cutting back vegetation.

**AP36/37/49.** *Completion of lighting refurbishment.* Cllr Sugden has contacted Skanska; see item 6c)

**AP45** *Safe routes to school, walking bus.* David Cowie and Helen Maguire to consider

**AP46** *102 Hare Lane bus stop.* Cllr Marshall checked with Elmbridge whether the Dickie Dollard memorial seat outside 104 Hare Lane is allowed to be moved nearer to the bus stop at 102 Hare Lane. They do not want to move it because of its unique construction. As they moved the original seat, EBC will provide a free replacement.

**AP52/AP3** *Parking Survey.* Courier now on circulation. The Working Party will need recalling to consider reaction, options for action, and information to Surrey C.C. *Post meeting note: likely date for WP 6 Oct*

**AP53/AP4** *Old Claygate Lane track.* No action taken, but some improvements seen: deeper supplementary drainage at wet patch; some further wood removed from large burnt tree at top.

**AP1** *Village Sign repair.* Quotations have been sought from four builders, due for return on 8 Sep. It was noted that the repair of the sign has proved to be far more complex than originally anticipated. Cllr Huddart has done a great deal of work on this; so thanks were given to him.

**AP2** *Trees in The Avenue.* Cllr Sugden to canvass local views / donations.

It was agreed to change the order of the agenda to take Item 6b.

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#### 6b. Highway Tree Replacement and Maintenance

SCC carried out an examination of trees in Foley Road, and discovered that those outside 108, 84/86 and 9 had rot weakened trunks, so they have been felled. The roots have been ground out and the footways are to be reinstated. Cllr Marshall was contacted by distressed residents as the trees appeared to be sound. Once the trees were felled it was apparent that the roots were infected. She has a sample of the root to show residents. SCC did contact residents before the felling but only a few days before. Members of CPC knew that this work was going to be carried about 4 weeks ago; and confirmed that SCC would advise frontagers.

The current consensus is to replace with Liquidambar, but residents have asked for a broad-leaved native species such as oak. This suggestion will be put to our Tree Wardens. If they agree then we will put the suggestion to SCC.

#### **AP5 Cllr Huddart to action.**

It was agreed that this will be a good article for the Courier; perhaps with a photo of the diseased tree root. Cllr Huddart will ask SCC to fund us for replanting, as was the case in Trystings Close.

Now is the time to identify the winter programme of replacing losses and planting new highway trees. Cllr Sugden agreed to canvass local views / donations for The Avenue. This would also be useful for road safety, since there is evidence that drivers drive slower if there is a good tree canopy.

It was noted that a tree pit in Claremont Road has been tarmacked over. This is due to the fact that it would be impossible to plant another tree there as there are too many roots. It was agreed to ask Carol Walker for a new tree pit to be cut into the tarmac.

It was agreed to change the order of the agenda to take Item 10.

### **10. Bridleway Proposals & Rights of Way**

10.1(i) The recent accident in Woodstock Lane South, in which a horse died and a driver was seriously injured, has produced suggestions of work on the horse ride. The horse ride has no formal status overall, although part of it is a Footpath. At present, the north end of the ride emerges into the road at the bend to Clayton Road. The reaction so far has been to clear vegetation, which will improve sightlines, thus reducing the likelihood of an identical accident, but probably increasing speeds and the likelihood of other accidents, of which there is already a history. All of the possible solutions have problems, so none can yet be recommended. Suggestions include providing a formal crossing facility (traffic lights), moving the crossing point onto the straighter section further south, and identifying a totally different route, away from the road risk. Information has been supplied as to what horse movements have to be served, including to the Waffrons and the Equestrian Centre by Caroline Stevenson. She would estimate that there would easily be over 100 horses using the horse path on a regular basis. It is the main route to access hacking at Claygate Common and beyond without using the road. It was noted that there is an alternative route from the Equestrian Centre, through Chessington estates, under the A3 and along BW32 to Lower Wood Road.

Cllr Marshall reported that the crossing reinstatement is in hand as the signage is on order. The woodwork for the crossing is too large a job for the Streetsmart team so SCC will undertake this.

(ii) It was noted that the track is already full of holes and puddles. For a proper job the aggregate needs to be foot thick and the work would probably cost about £10k. CPC previously paid for 20 tons of scalpings which were applied to the ride. SCC paid for a further 40 tons, but much of this was stolen as the scalpings were not laid promptly.

It was noted that we could fund spot repairs, so an amount for this will be included in the budget. If we provide the scalpings, there could be volunteers from the horse-riding community who will be able to help lay them. Care will have to be taken when ordering the scalpings as some repair work on bridleways has used aggregate which is the wrong size and is not liked by the horses. We can also request help from SCC who may be able to get the Mole Valley Project involved in repairs.

#### **AP6 Cllr Huddart to action.**

(iii) It was agreed that we should request CC to make this into a proper bridleway so that it can be maintained correctly. Caroline will be able to provide evidence of use from her horse-riding connections. It was noted that the process may take as long as 5 years.

#### **AP7 Cllr Huddart to action.**

(iv) It was noted that bollards have been installed along part of the road to prevent flytippers. Although more bollards would be preferred, they cannot be installed due to underground cabling and pipework.

(v) It was noted that the speed limits around that area are confusing. Caroline has already attempted to get the speed limit past the Traveller site reduced by a request to the Local Committee, but this was not taken up. It was agreed to pursue a reduction of speed in the light of the recent accident, particular past the Travellers site. Caroline will be able to produce evidence using a request to Facebook.

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10.2 It had been previously agreed that for the Old Claygate Lane track, we should put a proposal for a footway to Surrey C.C. There is apparently a consensus that horses should not be encouraged, but any examination of an application could cause some horse users to come forward and claim usage of over a substantial period. It is now agreed, however, that we should concentrate our efforts on Woodstock Lane South.

The normal order of the agenda was resumed.

## 5. Public Transport

### a. Bus shelters, Routes & Bus Stops

Seat at bus top in Hare Lane-already dealt with.

### b. Trains

It has been noticed that changes have been made to the engines of the trains and they are now noisier.

### c. Claygate Station

We continue to ask for a second ticket machine. It was noted that SW Trains managers will be attending Claygate station in October to help CIB work on the station beds.

## 6. Liaison with SCC

### a. Road Maintenance and Footpaths

#### (i). Village Sign

A letter was drafted by Cllr Huddart and this has been sent to contractors asking them to quote for the work. Cllr Huddart will chase the contractors for the quotes. It may be difficult to get many quotes as the building trade is currently buoyant. *Post meeting note: email chase done*

#### (ii). Clayton Road width restriction.

Cllr Huddart has been in touch with the Planning Officer at Kingston. The restrictor is not to be moved or removed, but is being modified to include a lockable post; this will allow the lorries dumping fill at the Equestrian Centre to leave empty along Clayton Road rather than through Claygate. We did suggest that it should be moved to the Claygate side of the Equestrian Centre, so as to avoid horse boxes through Claygate, but this was not the essence of the planning condition.

### c. Street Lighting

Cllr Sugden has been dealing direct with Skanska. Recently:

- i. The west end of Beaconsfield Road now has heritage lights as agreed for the Conservation Area.
- ii. The Parade has replacement heritage lights, as a better imitation of the Edwardian gas lights.
- iii. The alley between The Roundway and Elm Road has unchanged lights (yellow Sodium) all in lighting, but some covers remain damaged.
- iv. The Green is all in lighting, but the two columns predicted for replacement in heritage style have not been changed and remain yellow Low Pressure Sodium, whereas the neighbouring traffic roads have been refurbished to near white, probably Halide. The Green lights are due to be replaced during August.
- v. Coverts Road lighting remains a mixture of sizes and colours. Lights 1-11 are taller and orange, but 12-21 are new white lights. Skanska are aware.
- vi. Replacement of the Roundway lights will take another 12-15 weeks.

The depression Cllr Huddart reported in the footway outside 153 Hare Lane and the hole beside the nearby new lighting column were repaired within a fortnight.

It was agreed to leave the column height problems in Hare Lane until all the other problems are sorted out.

Thanks were given to Cllr Sugden for all his work on this matter.

## 7. Parking

The residents' survey has been analysed, and published in the *Courier* which is currently being distributed. It is now necessary to consider options, which can be put to SCC and EBC. The Working Party needs to meet (post meeting note: preferred date now 6 Oct) to identify the problems and devise a scheme. This will be put to the full Council and then a meeting with EBC and SCC should be set up prior to any public meeting. 23 Oct had been earmarked as a possible date for a public meeting should this be desirable. It was noted that any draft scheme will be subject to revision and further agreement at a PC meeting. It was agreed to keep Cllr Bennison informed of any decisions.

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a. Off-street parking.

The survey identified a strong wish for a free half-hour in the two Elmbridge-owned car parks. This is likely to increase usage, which is our objective, particularly for Torrington Lodge. It was agreed to research how much money EBC would lose if the first half-hour were free.

**AP8 Cllr Sugden to action.**

b. On-street issues.

The survey identified that residents from all over Claygate perceived a problem, particularly, but not exclusively, in Zone A which is near the station. This was the area where they mainly accepted there was a case for controls. There was strong preference for the controls to be limited by day and time and presumably amount of the road covered (although this was not explicitly asked). It will be a challenge to identify for SCC which sections of road should be covered.

In those roads where residents have no off-street parking, such as The Parade, Station Road and Raleigh Drive, it will be important to provide something for residents. This may be achieved by the layout and timing as currently in The Parade, or perhaps including the issue of paid-for permits. Although paid permits might be seen as a departure from the Parish Council's policy of resisting charging on-street. There may also be some special situations, such as Church Road, where a total ban on one side of the road (presumably the east) has been suggested, so that there is always a through route for motorists and the bus. Recent observation, however, showed that it did not actually ensure freedom of movement.

The data may have to be refined to show the number of houses in the street compared to the number of replies. Not all possible solutions were included in the survey so these should be investigated.

Residents should be informed that the survey is a complex issue which we are still working on.

It was noted that all hardcopy data will be collected by Cllr Hallett for storage.

A draft parking policy was agreed at the last PC meeting (version 3 dated 2.7.14) - this will be published on the website.

Local restrictions being considered by the Local Committee are:

Parking review 2014 – Annex 1

Key: DYL - double yellow lines  
SYL - single yellow line

TRO - traffic regulation order  
CPZ - controlled parking zone

Ref. no.	Street	Area	Description	Reason	Drawin no.
✓ 1	Claremont Road / Foley Road	Claygate	DYL at junction	Improve sightlines by keeping junction clear	13154
✓ 2	Hare Lane	Claygate	DYL on both sides of the bend near junction with Foley Road	Improve safe traffic flow by preventing cars parking on bend	1382
✓ 3	Hare Lane	Claygate	DYL opposite the Avenue and on both sides round corner under bridge	Improve safe traffic flow by preventing cars parking on bend	13131
✓ 4	Hare Lane (slip road)	Claygate	Put disabled bay at end of row of parking bays near Boots	Improve access for disabled drivers	1382
✓ 5	Hare Lane (slip road)	Claygate	Amend length of bays in TRO and change SYL to DYL at junction with Torrington Close, and access road alongside Co-op	Update TRO to correspond with road markings and prevent parking on junction	1382
✓ 6	The Parade	Claygate	Extend bay in front of 2	Improve parking amenity	1382
7	Anwards Road	Cobham	DYL either side of entrance to Coopers		

Cllr Marshall left the meeting.

**8. Traffic Calming**

8.1 The refurbishment of The Avenue has gone ahead and the speed cushions were removed, despite the majority of residents in the road opting for their retention. It is likely that speeds will increase, but probably not to exceed the 30mph limit, either on average or in 85 percentile (a commonly-used measure) terms, so it will be difficult to persuade the police or SCC. to do a survey. The Community Speedwatch equipment cannot be used for this purpose, since it is closely controlled by the police. Radar speed meters can be bought, and used by private individuals; but there would be some risk of road rage from suspicious drivers. It was noted that speeds are mostly being kept low due to the presence of parked cars.

8.2 The Committee still backs the plan proposed by Margaret Hicks to make Claygate pan 20mph. The Government are in favour of 20mph areas; so many more councils are implementing this limit.

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SCC has changed their guidelines and has passed a procedure where a 20mph can be requested; the cost of the implementation being funded by the Local Committee. It was noted that just signage is insufficient; traffic calming measures are required. The Committee still supports the installation of a raised junction in Hare Lane at The Parade even though Hare Lane has become safer in the last two years.

**9. Electric vehicles**

The government is encouraging the use of electric vehicles, so as to reduce fossil fuel use, although this would be less successful than might be hoped for, and there have been publicly funded charge points installed. An organisation has approached land owners, including local government, to be able to install more charging points. It has been suggested that Torrington Lodge car park might be a suitable site. Cllr Huddart has circulated the results of a substantial study of charging point behaviour by Newcastle University, and a short review he did based on the study. There are two serious technical objections. Firstly the organisers have asked for the site to be on or near a major road; this is because the use of public charging points is to extend the range of a vehicle battery, which has to be done in relation to a journey being made; otherwise the charging is done at home. Secondly, the take-up of fully electric vehicles is pitiful, despite manufacturers offering a wide variety with impressive performance; they are too expensive, even with the £5,000 grant; the good take-up is of hybrid vehicles, which have a back-up Internal Combustion Engine and fuel tank, and thus do not need a range-extending charging point as those requiring charging can mainly charge cheaply overnight.

It is already in the list of issues being considered in the Elmbridge Local Plan hearing (28 Aug). It was noted that the fast DC chargers using on street points usually take about 30 minutes. This would mean that a person using this facility would likely use Claygate shops. It would also mean that the car park would be better used and gain a degree of protection if this facility were installed. It was agreed to raise this in the next discussion with EBC.

**10. Bridleway Proposals & Rights of Way**

Already dealt with

**11. Street Signage**

Nothing to report.

**12. Website & Courier**

12.1A piece about the Foley trees will be included in the next Courier.

12.2 The draft parking policy will be added to the website.

**13. Matters for Information Only**

It was noted that the wire across the Parade which is used for hanging banners has been damaged. The CVA is dealing with this matter as they need the wire for the Christmas Lights event.

**14. Date and place of the next meeting**

**8.00pm on 11 Dec 2014 in the Committee Room**

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

Date.....