

MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 21st JULY 2025

- 1. Present:** Councillors: R. Davies (Chairman); R. Duncan, N. Ingledew; R. Leach
H. Parker; T. Walton
M. Carey (Clerk) and S Vickery (Clerk)

The Chair welcomed the 2 new councillors.

- 2. Apologies:** Cllr I. Johnston.

- 3. Absent:**

- 4. Public Question Time:** There were no members of the public present.

- 5. Declaration of interests:** Nil.

- 6. Election of Vice Chair:** Cllr N. Ingledew was unanimously elected as the Vice Chair.

- 7. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th March 2025 were taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed.

- 8. Matters arising from the Minutes including:**

- a. **B3109 Bradford Road by the School – update.** There were no further issues
- b. **Metro Count – B3109 Wadswick:** The previous metro count near the School had not proved sufficient speeding of traffic.
The count near Wadswick Farm entrance has been done and results awaited.
Action: Clerk to hasten results.

- c. **LHFIG issues – meeting held 4th June 2025 - Update**

- i. **TROs** – A365 Devizes Rd/A4 bus stop markings; A4 Valens Terrace (yellow lines); A365 Chapel Lane - The site by Budgens has been added to the TRO list (bus pull in and yellow lines) – plans being drawn up and agreed. Advert Summer 2025. PC contribution of £1,587.50 agreed. Work has been delayed due to damaged footpaths by HGVs, public consultation and value for money requires all these TROs to be done simultaneously.
- ii. **Dropped kerbs:** Dropped kerbs at Leafy Lane complete and invoiced. Middlehill to be investigated, cost and plan by next meeting. Structures advice required.
- iii. **B3109 Wadswick County Store:** Warning signs for the entrance at a cost of £675. BPC 25% contribution of £168 to be confirmed. This is an accident black spot and Wiltshire Council will erect signage.
- Recommendation:** to accept the contribution of £168
- iv. **Damage and broken drainage on A4 Ashley by Budgens:** SD and GW met on site. Design proposed to raise footway, amend drainage, provide bollards. Join scheme with LHFIG/LH/MM – Design to be completed by SD, pass to GW for drainage details then to be costed. Committee has requested the actual design;

Action Clerk to source the design.

- v. **Kingsdown Road** – horse warning sign and road markings – to be looked at by Highways Engineer when officer time allows. Plan and cost for next meeting. Ongoing issue to be monitored at LFHIG.
Action: Clerk to hasten an answer.
- iv. **Ditteridge**: Safety of pedestrian – warning signs. To be planned and costed for next meeting and put on future job list.
Action: Clerk to hasten
- vi. **B3109 Bradford Road – Deer Warning Sign**: Plan and cost for next meeting and put on future job list. Agreed awaiting costs.
- vi. **Burton Lane – nameplate**: GW to look at painting of sign with Parish Steward and Box PC. Chair will approach a local sign-writer.
Action: Chair
- viii. **Lower Wadswick Lane exiting onto A365** – consider suitable signage. Mainly maintenance issues so advised to report via MyWiltshire. Also request for new SLOW markings to be planned and costed for next meeting and put on future job list. SD has accepted this request. Continue to monitor.
- ix. **B3109 Speeding issues** – reduction in speed limit/double white lines not possible, village gates only installed at speed limit or Welcome to village/town signs is required visibility is there. This language is not accurate; the lines are feasible but Wiltshire Council are not supporting the double white line request. Chair would like to push this once again. Remain as ongoing on the agenda and Chair to approach Cllr P Wragg.
Action: Chair.
- x. **Improvements at bus shelter Hedgesparrow Lane**: Agreed to be added to the agenda (incl footpath) to be looked at when officer time allows

d. **Other issues**

- i. **Reinstatement of white lines at Leafy Lane** – southern end – Highways Improvement Request Form received from Christine Jones. Chair wished to see the white lines reinstated. The verge is also prone to over-growth. Support issues sheet to be raised with white lines and verge cutting.
Action: Clerk.
Recommendation that the Parish Council supports the Highways Improvement Request Form but to also ask for the overgrown on the bend to be cut back to prevent cars moving into the middle of the road.
- ii. **Speed Consultation and changes to speed assessment**: Report still waiting to go Wiltshire Cabinet. Former Cllr Walters produced a Report to suggest that Atkins assessments are flawed and more local input is required.
Action: Clerk to request Unitary cllrs to assist.
- iii. **Leafy Lane bus shelter** – update on electrified signs. A general update has been requested.
- iv. **Highways Improvement Request Form re 20 mph speed limits**: Clerk to re-submit improvement request for all parish residential sites to be considered for 20 mph.
Action: Clerk.
- vii. **Reinstatement of bus stop opposite Cemetery** – Chair agreed to find a location and recommend to Faresaver that appropriate signage is displayed. Cllr Parker agreed to join Cllr Davies to recommend a site. Cllr Ingledew forwarded a bus map of the ‘theoretical’ location.

9. **Car Parks**

a. **Market Place**

- i. Renewal of Lease – Heads of Terms received from Wiltshire Council. These were accepted by the Committee and now co-terminus with Rudloe licences.

- ii. Damage to front boundary wall – update re insurance claim. The Committee noted that the repair is complete at a cost of £1,050.
- iii. Clearing of vegetation from the walls – update. The OSW is keeping the wall free from vegetation.

b. Recreation Ground:

- i. Marking of disabled bays – update. Refurbishment is imminent with the OSM.
- ii. Unauthorised cars in the car park - Signs received. Untaxed vehicle can be reported and the OSM will mount the new signs.

Action: OSM to mount new signs in the car park.

c. Box Hill Common:

- i. Poor state of the passing place opposite the Car Park – further discussion. The Chair felt that re-surfacing was an option, however councillors suggested that the passing place is simply removed and definitely not re-tarmaced. It was agreed to move the issue to Boxhill and Rudloe
- ii. Open Spaces.

10. Items for Discussion

a. Lighting down Valens Terrace – to consider quotations received

Recommendation that the quotation from John Beazer Ltd in the sum of £1785 + vat be accepted subject to raising the question of how vandalproof the lights are and whether a more robust version could be fitted

Action: Clerk to check.

- b. SIDs: Current locations and issues re the siting of SID in Leafy Lane.** Cllrs were disappointed with the language of illegal siting of the Leafy Lane SID and a lack of clarity of where the SID could be placed. The Clerk had asked the Highways Engineer to check the other sites to confirm that they are acceptable. **Action Clerk to chase**

- c. Electric Charging – report by Cllr Ingledew re solar panels in Car Park.** Cllr Ingledew briefed on a EV charging proposal. He also explained that Wiltshire Council was looking at rural hubs and are aware of Box Parish interest.

- d. Vine Court: Parking of cars on pavement.** It was agreed that this was a Police matter.

- e. Lorries using Chapel Lane – especially at night: ruts in the road cause vibrations.** Work on the pot holes is expected to be imminent. It was agreed to monitor the issue.

- f. Siting of The Hermit Coffee Trailer on Car Park – use for one day a week.** Chair wished to know how many parking spaces would be required and which day was proposed; this would be on a licence basis.

Action: Clerk to seek further clarification.

- g. Potholes in Valens Terrace.** The Committee acknowledged that it remains a concern but major repairs could wait until Wessex Water complete the major By Brook project – some minor repairs can be done to the passing point near the car park.

- h. Street Lighting – Northcroft Road, Rudloe.** There was a burglary and concern about a non-working light; the light has been repaired.

- i. Proposed works on Leafy Lane by Wessex Water from September to mid October.** The Council has yet to be informed of any work. The Unitary councillors would be asked to double check.

- j. **Exit from White Ennox Lane onto B3109** – proposed issue sheet for give way markings. The Council agreed that this exit should have the lines reinstated.

Action: Clerk to submit an Issues sheet,

8. **Correspondence**

a. **Highways Improvement Request Forms**

- i. **P. Wragg for new signage at Lents Green and Lower Wadswick.** The Chair and Committee agreed to support the request form.

Recommendation that the Highways Improvement Request form be agreed by the Full Council and forwarded to LHFIG

- ii. **Ottavia Mazzoni/Alan Payne – use of short cut from A365 up to the Kingsdown Road.** Increasing traffic is using this road as a short cut, causing a concern. The Committee agreed to endorse this request for improved signage and a speed restriction.

Recommendation that the Highways Improvement Request forms be agreed by the Full Council and forwarded to LHFIG

- iii. **Richard Davies - Highways Improvement Request Form received for installation of dropped kerb in Broadwood Avenue.** It was agreed to endorse the request for a dropped kerb.

Recommendation that the Highways Improvement Request forms be agreed by the Full Council and forwarded to LHFIG

Action: Clerk to forward the Issues form for 8a i, ii, iii to Wiltshire Council LFHIG.

- b. **Bicycle parking:** Request to consider designated bicycle parking facilities in Box. The Committee agreed that a bicycle shelter would be useful and agreed to obtain quotes for a shelter (4 or 5 bikes).

Action: Clerk and Cllr T Walton to investigate.

- c. **Overhanging horse chestnut trees:** WC verge by Lion Cottage, Ashley. Chair has met the owner. The trees belong to Wiltshire Council who have agreed that no action is currently necessary.

- d. **Church Lane:** State of southern wall of St Thomas a Becket Churchyard. Wiltshire Council have agreed to refurbish the Church wall.

9. **Items for Parish Steward:**

- a. Vandalised sign in Littlemead. The sign has been cleaned.
b. The road sign at the Hedgesparrow Lane requires replacing.
c. The lower Valens Terrace wire fence and its ownership was discussed. There is a large Ash Tree in situ. The Committee agreed that there was little assistance that the Council could offer the residents and will write to this effect.

Action: Clerk to write to Valens Terrace residents.

10. **Rights of Way** – update on work carried out by Cotswold Wardens and any issues raise. The Committee noted that grant application re more kissing gates has been made by the Wardens.

11. **Items of report and future agenda items:**

- a. Mill Lane signage.

- b. Ash Tree in Selwyn Hall car park and cable issue.
- c. Selwyn Hall street light, meter in the lamp.
- d. Londis bin and / or a bigger bin at the Fountain.
- e. Cllr Leach was pleased that his 'sink hole' at Rudloe was repaired within a day.

12. Date of next meeting – 15th September 2025

The meeting ended at 8.35pm

Chair