



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON 22nd JULY 2024

1. Present: Councillors: R. Davies (Chairman); R. Bean;
N. Ingledew; I. Johnston; D. Wright;
T. Walton; M. Tye

2. Apologies: Councillors A. Barton; H. Parker

3. Absent: Nil

4. Public Question Time: There were 12 members of the public present

Several people raised concerns about the Market Place Car Park and asked for the situation regarding the survey. There did not appear to be justification for the figures that had been mentioned and it was felt that communication had been lacking.

Parishioners raised concerns about the report received from the Highways Engineer re Hazelbury Hill and challenged some of the information in that report as being incorrect, particularly relating to the size of vehicles involved

Mr Bolton stated that there had been four different contractors on the A4 today. The broken drain in Mill Lane had been repaired which should alleviate the flooding issue.

5. Declaration of interests: Nil

6. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th May 2024 were taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed

7. Matters Arising:

- a. **B3109 Bradford Road by the School:** The flashing 20 mph signs by the school will be installed during the summer holidays
- b. **New footway from toucan crossing to Park Place:** The substantive bid had been successful and the work was planned for November 2024
- c. **Future installation of SID on B3109:** Conflicting information had been received from the Police stating that a SID can be installed without the need for a metro count. It was agreed to locate a SID at this location. A further SID can be purchased using CIL monies.
- d. **Maintenance issues:**
Update from LHFIFG:

- **Maintenance and signage at Kingsdown/Box A4 boundary signs:** Installation of Horse Warning signs and bar markings before the three SLOW on the road. Highways Engineer to look at this.
- **Box A4 boundary sign** – additional chevron signs to be installed in the near future. Highways Engineer to look at this.

- **Pavement opposite the garage A4 Ashley** Gemma Winslow and Sarah Dearden from Wiltshire Council to liaise regarding drainage works and issue of parking vehicles
- **Bus stop markings on road**
 - Revoke and remove existing DYL by Box Pharmacy A4 and replace with yellow bus stop cage
 - Devizes Road A365 – new yellow bus stop cage at bus stop

The cost for this will be included in the total figure for waiting restrictions/lining works
- **Dropped kerbs:** Issue Sheet had been submitted and was on the LHFIG agenda. Cost estimate 25% contribution of £1062
- **Extension of double yellow lines at junction of Chapel Lane and Devizes Road** – It was agreed, with one abstention, to extend the existing DYL to 10m to increase visibility
The cost for this will be included in the total figure for waiting restrictions/lining works
- **Works to A365 Devizes Road/Tunnel Inn/Mill Lane/Lycetts Orchard**
A365 – the work to install the warning signs is imminent (PC contribution £362.50)
Tunnel Inn – work completed (PC contribution £175)
Mill Lane/Lycetts Orchard – the work is imminent (PC contribution £287.50)
- **Top of Valens Terrace:** An Issue Sheet has been submitted to Wiltshire Council. Proposal to lay some DYL opposite the Pharmacy on highways area at top of Valens Terrace to stop parking on that corner and refresh the markings on the other side by the Vicarage entrance where worn.
The cost for this will be included in the total figure for waiting restrictions/lining works
- **Parking of cars at Hazelbury Hill:** Cllr Davies stated that he understood the difficulties of this issue and the Parish Council had been aware of the problem for some time with letters sent to residents in 2015 and 2021. The Parish Council had sought advice from Wiltshire Council and the Highways Engineer had submitted a reported proposing DYL at the junction. He was concerned that if the Parish Council rejected the report and a tragedy occurs, this could reflect badly on the Parish Council.

Cllr Bean read out a statement regarding the process and outcomes and questioned some of the procedures.

Cllr Walton felt that there were legitimate questions that could be asked about the Highways Engineer's report. DYL had been available as a solution for a considerable length of time but had not been seen as an issue before. All ambulances have accessed the site and Wiltshire Council use small refuse lorries for narrow road. He felt that the Council needed to take time before agreeing to anything.

It had been stated at the LHFIG meeting that if the Parish Council did not support the recommendation, then LHFIG would not continue with this support. However, Wiltshire Council has a duty as Local Authority to keep the highways safe and free from obstruction and this could continue to be progressed away from LHFIG.

It was **recommended**, that before the Parish Council accepts or rejects the report, it should look to take legal advice as to whether any responsibility would rest with the Parish Council and to look at possible mediation. Cllr Bean will look at taking the consultative process forward before the next meeting.

- **Leafy Lane**: proposed dropped kerbs and bollards near Dandelion Café Total contribution, together with the dropped kerbs at Middlehill and Bulls Lane will be £1450

It was **recommended** that the total cost of **£1450** be accepted

- **Signage at Middlehill**: Highways Engineer to look at the site
- **B3109 near Wadswick County Store**: An Issue Sheet had been submitted. Highways Engineer to look at the site
- **Safety of pedestrians and horse riders at Ditteridge**: Issue Sheet submitted. Highways Engineer to look at the site

Cost implications of all the proposed works listed above relating to Traffic Restriction Orders (TRO)

The total cost of the Parish Council's contribution for the work at A4 Box Pharmacy and top of Valens Terrace; bus stop on A365 Devizes Road and extending the DYL at top of Chapel Lane/A365 - total contribution **£1237.50** (not including Hazelbury Hill)

It is **recommended** that the contribution in the sum of **£1237.50** be accepted.

8. Update on items discussed previously:

a. Car Parks:

Update on Survey: Cllr Walton stated that no decision on the Market Place Car Park had been taken. The survey to cover all the Parish Council car parks was to gain opinion and had been successful. The closing date for the survey is 31st August. The figures in the analysis were created in good faith and may or may not be accurate. The result of the survey will be presented at the Highways Committee meeting in September.

A meeting had been held with the Council Chair and Clerk and an Officer from Wiltshire Council to discuss the lease that the Parish Council currently has with Wiltshire Council. This is a repairing Lease due to expire in 2025. Wiltshire Council had a photographic survey showing the condition when the Lease was entered into.

The Parish Council has two alternatives – it can either hand the car park back to Wiltshire Council or continue with the lease for at least a year. The cost implications were to cover any costs if the Parish Council decided to not renew the lease or to put aside for the future if it carried on with the lease. The Parish Council has a liability for all of its car parks

The Wiltshire Council officer did not think that there would be a need to remark the lines or to retarmac the surface. However there is an issue with the condition of the boundary walls and the vegetation growing out of the walls will need to be removed.

If Wiltshire Council take back control of the car park at some point in the future they would start to charge for this. It would be complicated and consultations would be carried out.

This will be discussed further at the next meeting

Lighting Options in Recreation Ground Car Park: A meeting between the Parish Council and Selwyn Hall Management had been held. The light had been checked by an electrician and it was still operational. Costings being obtained for getting this working fully. A further meeting will be held with the Selwyn Hall to discuss

how this light could be used and the costs involved. It is hoped that this can be sorted out before the end of September.

It was agreed to allocate a figure not to exceed £1000 to get the light working

Unauthorised vehicles parked on the Recreation Ground Car Park

It was reported that some of the camper vans parked in the Car Park have SORN on them. These are on private land and can be reported to the DVLA for removal. If any vehicles are untaxed the Parish Council can report these to Wiltshire Council to put a notice on the cars for their subsequent removal. Details of the cars in question will be obtained and an article will be put in the Parish Magazine and on Facebook. Cllr Barton was looking into the possibility of clamping.

Box Hill Common Car Park: It was agreed to discuss the installation of a sign after the results of the survey

c. **Bath to Box Cycleway and creation of Quiet Lane at Wormcliffe Lane**

It was agreed to remove this from the Minutes.

Safety of road between Box and Bathford: Continue to pursue this with Wiltshire Council. The pavement from Box to the boundary with B&NES is very overgrown. Clerk to ask the Parish Steward to clear all of this. **Action: MC**

d. **Solar panel unit for SID:** This has been obtained and is in use.

9. Further items for discussion:

- a. **Further metro count on brow of hill at Wadswick B3109:** It was agreed to ask for a further metro count, in the same location as last time, to see if the signage has made any difference to the speed of vehicles
- b. **Footpath 2 by railway line:** No reply received from Network Rail. The Cotswold Wardens will clear the path
- c. **Flooding update – Adopt a drain:** Cllr Bolton was pursuing the “Adopt a drain” scheme.
- d. **Leafy Lane – repainting of some of the white lines:** It was agreed to submit an Issue Sheet for this.

10. Correspondence:

- a. **Work to pedestrian crossings in Box:** Details of the schemes had been submitted and the work to the crossing by the School had started
- b. **Cycling on pavements in the village:** Letter received from a resident. Article to be put in the Parish Magazine. Clerk to reply stating that the Parish Council would not consider CCTV
- c. **Condition of fence by Valens Terrace and Car Park:** It was agreed to look at this and discuss further at the next meeting
- d. **Condition of road at Ditteridge:** Letter from a Parish regarding the state of the road. It was agreed to ask them to report it on MyWilts App
- e. **Clydesdale Road:** A resident had reported that large trucks and lorries are coming down Henley Lane which is undermining the bank to her house and adjacent property. There is a notice on the lane about no vehicles over a certain width. A retaining wall was built and kerb installed by Wiltshire Council. It was agreed to advise them to contact Wiltshire Highways
- f. **Reversing onto a main road:** The issue of cars reversing onto a main road had been raised at the Council Surgery. It was agreed that this is a police issue.

11. Rights of Way – update on work carried out by Cotswold Wardens and any issues:

An additional 17 kissing gates had been purchased and will be installed

12. items of report and future agenda items

There were no issues

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Chair