



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON 20th NOVEMBER 2023

- 1. Present:** Councillors: R Davies (Chair) T. Walton (Minutes); A. Barton; R. Bean; N. Ingledew; I. Johnston; H. Parker; D. Wright, D. Dorey
The entire committee was present.
- 2. Public Question Time:** There were three members of the public present.
John Tucker, Sophie Dawdry & Roger Bolton
John Tucker raised the issue of inadequate lighting around the entrance to the Rec Car Park. He reported that a member of the Gardening Club (a lady in her 70s), tripped on the 'speed hump' near the entrance, because of the low light. Mr Tucker asked if the Council had a legal responsibility to provide lighting. Mr Tucker also raised the issue of the poor condition of the road surface on Church Lane, and stated that this also posed a risk to pedestrians.
- 3. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 4. Items for discussion:**
 - **4.1 To discuss any issues that need to be taken to the next LHFIG meeting**
Cllr Davies advised that LHFIG had an underspend of £33k this financial year, and that Highways had £4-5k unspent to date in the budget. Dropped kerbs cost approx £1200 each, and Box PC would need to contribute one third.

The committee agreed to raise the following items for consideration at the next LHFIG meeting.
 - i. 2 dropped kerbs on Leafy Lane, in the area of the Dandelion Café, facing each other on both sides of the road.
 - ii. 2 dropped kerbs on the A4, on both sides of Middle Hill lane.
 - iii. 1 dropped kerb at the lower end of Bulls Lane, to match the existing dropped kerb by the Vine Court Bus Stop.
 - iv. BUS STOP to be painted on the road on both A365 Devizes Road bus stops and on the A4, by the bus stop outside the pharmacy.
 - v. B3109 safety: BPC rep to suggest WC Highways consider changing the road markings to continuous & solid double white lines in the middle of the road (i.e. no overtaking) & along with appropriate signage.
 - **4.2 Flooding in Box – Market Place; A365 by Budgens; B3109 bottom of White Ennox Lane**
Roger Bolton (Flood Warden) presented a report on his work. He is helping BPC liaise with WC Highways on the issue of blocked drains. He asked if BPC insured him when he is working as Flood Warden. This is to be clarified. Sophie Dawdry was invited to speak at this point, as she is a resident dwelling on the B3109, opposite White Ennox Lane. This area continues to experience flooding, largely due to the collapsed drains. WC Highways have made several unsuccessful attempts to remedy the situation. Ms Dawdry reported that since 2012, she has experienced 8 vehicles making serious unplanned & uncontrolled entry into her property, and in her opinion, flooding was often a contributing factor. BPC is to report this to WC Highways. Ms Dawdry reported that 'Emma' at WC Highways had told her in 2010 that the drains were collapsed. Ms Dawdry was asked to share any relevant correspondence with BPC. Roger Bolton will forward a Report made by Julian Feasby of Ashley on the flooding problems on the A4 opposite the garage



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Cllr Bean reported that the 'French Gulley' at the top of Hazelbury Hill is not functioning properly, and thereby adding to the problems lower down the hill, but unfortunately, this is an unadopted road, so WC Highways/Parish Steward will not address this issue.

5. Wiltshire Council Highway Events – Corsham 11th January 2024

Cllr Bean proposed that BPC concentrated its contribution to this event around the risks posed by excessive road speeds around the Parish. This was agreed to, and Cllr Bean offered to collate contributions, before passing them to the Clerk, and thence to Samantha Howell at WC Highways, before the event.

POST MEETING NOTE: Roger Bolton to attend the event in his capacity as Flood Warden, to raise those issues.

6. Repainting of white lines in Car Park

Cllr Davies reported that, in his opinion, the repainting of the white lines by WC Highways contractors was inadequate, and would be taking the matter up.

7. Items of report and future agenda items

i. Cllr Wright reported that the work on PROW80 had been achieved with an underspend of £800, and asked if this money could be used elsewhere in the programme, on fence posts etc, without the need for further discussion/votes etc. MC to confirm.

ii. Cllr Johston said he would check the situation with the apparently non-functioning solar lights at the car park entrance.

iii. Cllr Bean reminded Cllrs to check any grits bins in their vicinity, and to report on condition & contents to the Clerk.

8. Date of next meeting – 22nd January 2024

Chair