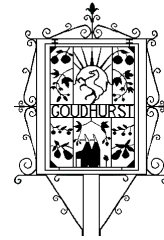


Goudhurst Parish Council



Highways Committee 26.09.23

MEETING
26 September 2023 19:30

PUBLISHED
21 September 2023

Goudhurst Parish Council



To: Cllrs Craig Broom (Chairman), Suzie Kember, Paul Wareham and Mrs Alison Webster.
Cllrs Antony Harris and Phil Kirkby (ex-officio)

I summon you to a Meeting of the Highways & Public Transport Committee on Tuesday 26 September 2023 at 7.30 pm, in Goudhurst Village Hall, where business detailed on this agenda will be discussed.

Goudhurst Parish Council recognise that there are continuing risks associated with COVID-19 and are supportive of individuals wearing masks in meetings and maintaining a social distance. We will continue to provide hand sanitiser at the entrance to the Village Hall. In order to keep everyone safe, please do not attend a meeting if you have COVID-19 symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 5 days. We will continue to review the risks and will comply with any future controls recommended or mandated by HM Government.

Members of the Public and the Press are welcome to attend this meeting. At the Chairman's discretion, 15 minutes will be set aside for questions from members of the public each one of whom may be invited to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes in total relating to items on the Agenda or about issues of local concern. Thereafter they have the right, and are welcome, to stay and observe the rest of the Meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1.

Please inform the Clerk if you intend to film or record the Meeting.

Claire Reed
Clerk to Goudhurst Parish Council
19 September 2023

Parish Council Office - The Hop Bine, Ranters Lane, Goudhurst, TN17 1HN
01580 212552 | clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk | <https://goudhurst-pc.gov.uk> | 07494 117313

A quorum for Highways Committee is 3 Members.

Agenda

<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Owner</i>
Goudhurst Village Hall	26/09/23	

1. Apologies for absence as reported at the meeting.
2. Declarations of Interest.
3. To resolve to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 27 June 2023, and available to members via Board Intelligence prior to the meeting.
4. Questions from the Press and the Public.

This is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or raise issues of local interest. Thereafter they are welcome to stay and observe the rest of the Meeting (members of the public are not permitted to speak during the remainder of the meeting except by special invitation of the Chairman) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1. Please note, Council cannot lawfully decide on items of business not specified on the published agenda although the Chairman may decide to refer any issues raised for further discussion (LGA 1972 Sch 12 10 (2) (b)).
5. To receive an update from GTAG on lorry watch and speed watch.
6. To receive an update on the campaign for A21 safety improvements and to decide any action needed.
7. To receive an update from the North Road Action Group and to decide any action needed.
8. To receive an update from the Highways Working Group and to decide on any action needed.
9. To receive an update on the Highways Improvement Plan and to decide on any action needed.
10. To consider the quotation from KCC of £600 for a new Goudhurst Village Sign and to make a recommendation to Council.

Agenda

<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Owner</i>
Goudhurst Village Hall	26/09/23	

11. To receive an update on discussions regarding the downgrading of the A262 and to decide on any action needed.

12. To consider traffic issues raised by residents and to decide on any action needed.

13. To consider how best to respond to the National Highways and Transport Survey 2023-24. <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/national-highways-and-transport-2023-24>.

14. Items for Information

14.1. Letter to Kent Police regarding racing on the A21 on Friday evenings.

14.2. Date of next meeting is Tuesday 19th December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Church Rooms, Back Lane.

Goudhurst Parish Council



HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE WITH PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Minutes of a Meeting held on 27 June 2023 at 7.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall

PARTICIPANTS

Councillors Present: Cllrs Craig Broom, David Knight, Paul Wareham and Alison Webster.

Officers Present: Rebecca Barden, Assistant Clerk.

Others Present: Nine members of the public. (Three more members of the public arrived part way through the meeting).

APOLOGIES

163/23 Apologies were accepted from Cllr Antony Harris (KALC). It was noted that Cllr Suzie Kember was absent.

164/23 Election of Chairman

Cllr Craig Broom was nominated by Cllr David Knight and this was seconded by Cllr Alison Webster and unanimously agreed. It was resolved that Cllr Broom would become Chairman of the Highways Committee.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

165/23 There were none.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

166/23 A member of the public **noted** that the minutes of the Highways Committee meeting held on 21 February 2023 had been posted on the website and not the minutes from the 4 April 2023. Assistant Clerk to ensure minutes from 4 April are posted onto the website.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

167/23 There were none.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

168/23 *Goudhurst Traffic Action Group (GTAG) on Lorry Watch and Speed Watch.*

The Committee received an update on the GTAG. It was noted that the Summer phase of speedwatch was about to commence and NRAG were asked if they would like to join. The Council were informed that around 450 vehicles travel through the speedwatch area in an hour, and out of these, 20 speed. The group would like to carry out this review on a Saturday too. The cameras on the Star & Eagle were proving to be very useful and it was noted that a video in which a lorry had become stuck on the corner of the high street, had gone viral. The Kent Messenger had been in contact but nothing came out of this. It was asked whether the number plates of offenders could be published. The Assistant Clerk investigated and found that **"Whenever the footage or a picture of an individual is captured through the CCTV, that may be used to identify that person (directly or indirectly) it is considered to be personal data."**

169/23 *Campaign for A21 Safety improvements (SAG)*

Mr Ted Bennett (Chair of the SAG) gave an update on the work carried out on the A21. He acknowledged that this had been the result of 5.5 years of work. Key achievements are:-

- Clearance of vegetation and overhanging trees
- Resurfacing
- Extension of double white lines
- Erection of Stonecrouch sign
- New road safety signs
- Speed reduction
- Red cats' eyes on edge of the road

There are two outstanding actions:-

- Rosemary Lane junction still requires improvements
- Installation of average speed cameras

Ted Bennett gave the Assistant Clerk the contact details of those Officers that had been particularly helpful. Mr Bennett was asked by the NRAG whether they needed to go via the Parish Council or whether they could go directly to KCC. Mr Bennett was very complimentary about the assistance offered by the Parish Council and how effective it had proved to be.

170/23 *Report from the Newly Formed North Road Action Group (NRAG)*

Martin Roberts (Chairman of NRAG) stated that the work of the group had been issued to the Highways Committee Councillors. Cllr Wareham commented that their work looked very impressive and professional and that direct conversation was essential. Cllr Broom talked about the creation of a Highways working group which would run alongside the Highways Committee. The working group could identify and discuss issues. These issues and requests could then be brought to the Committee. The priorities and ownership of the HIP were discussed. Mr Bennett offered his assistance to the NRAG.

Action Chairman to advise Assistant Clerk on the inclusion of North Road issues. The Chairman asked for the speed data collated by the North Road residents. **Action –** Chairman to obtain this data from resident.

171/23 *EV Chargers*

The background of the EV Chargers was explained and the associated costs of updating the chargers identified. It was unanimously agreed that the EV chargers would not be replaced. **Resolved – EV chargers will not be replaced.**

172/23 *Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)*

The Chairman had met with Nigel Rowe from KCC regarding the speed limit outside the school on the A262: he felt that this meeting had been positive.

Current projects, their priorities and progress were discussed.

1. The speed limit is currently being reduced at Iden Green.
2. No news on traffic calming nearby Goudhurst and Kilndown Church of England school. The major issue being that the road layout and paths are unsuitable for the installation of illuminated warning signs and road signs.
3. Safety improvements on the High Street – all options explored and exhausted

4. Reduction of speed limit from 40 to 30 mph Blue Coat Lane to Spelmonden – despite this road being an accident black spot, this issue is considered a lower priority.

The need to reduce the speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph on North Road was discussed. It was **agreed** that the priorities of the NRAG needed to be identified via the working group and once established the key issue can be added to the HIP and prioritised accordingly.

Action: Chairman to liaise with NRAG, set up a meeting and identify priorities.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

173/23

- Clerk will be meeting with KCC regarding the missing Goudhurst village sign along North Road.
- A member of the public asked about the village curtilage and boundary which Cllr Broom answered.
- How to get accident data – Mr Bennett said that personal data was best.
- Water flooding Chequers Road
- Gravel on road surface near Lidwells Lane.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Highways Committee will take place on 26 September 2023 at 7.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.18pm

Rebecca Barden
Assistant Clerk

Schemes Planning and Delivery Team working in Partnership with Goudhurst Parish/Town Council* Highway Improvement Plan

Submission Date: 07/12/22

(Please remember that the HIP is for new initiatives/measures/schemes in your community – it is NOT to be used as a maintenance log, as these MUST be logged using the online reporting tool via this link <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>)

HIP Front Cover

HIP Version	Submitted by (Name)	HIP Date	Record Of Meeting Dates with KCC Virtual or Face to Face	Please list below the funding Opportunities/Sources for HIP initiatives/Measures	
1		16.08.2022	07/12/22	Parish Precept Donation, LTP bid	
Are you an active member of the Speed Watch Scheme?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Are you an active member of the Lorry Watch Scheme?	
			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Name of HIP Representative	Cllr David Boniface	Contact Telephone Number	01580 211 430	Email Address	david.boniface@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk
Name of Clerk	Claire Reed	Contact Telephone Number	01580 212 552	Email Address	clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk
Name of Chair	Antony Harris	Contact Telephone Number	01580 211 329	Email Address	antony.harris@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk
KCC Project Manager Name	Nigel Rowe / Tim Grigg	Contact Telephone Number		Email Address	west.highwayimprovements@kent.gov.uk

- Please note the Priority column MUST be those issues which are regarded as the most important (No 1 being your highest priority, then filtering down)
KCC is unable to guarantee that all your requests will be deliverable, but Project Managers can investigate your top 1 or 2 priorities per year.

Live Priorities Record

Please Note: Highway Improvement Plans will only be accepted if they are in this prescribed template format. PLEASE DO NOT ALTER IN ANY WAY. Whilst this is intended to be a living document for your Parish/Town Council*, KCC can only make resources available to review your HIP annually.

Schemes Planning and Delivery Team working in Partnership with Goudhurst Parish/Town Council* Highway Improvement Plan

Submission Date: 07/12/22

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Priority	Location	Problem/Concern	What do you feel are the potential solutions?	KCC Comments (This column is to be completed by Project Manager ONLY)
1.	0.9 mile stretch of A262 Iden Green (area to the east of Goudhurst village extending to the village 30mph area)	Speed and frequency of traffic on road with driveway junctions for 43 residences and 17 businesses	Speed limit reduction to 50mph. Verbal approval from Chris Koningen 09 Mar 2020. ATC speed survey obtained as requested - TSP14940 (28 Feb to 06 Mar 2022). There have been many collisions involving injury on this section including one death. Request to reduce speed limit as recommended in DfT 2013 Circular 'Setting Local Speed Limits'.	27.05.2021 – Speed Survey requested and ordered 20.08.2021 – Speed Survey data shared with Parish DR CK 02/12/22 – Survey data provided by PC appears to support the reduction of the existing speed limit. DR to discuss with PC at meeting on 07/12/22 and possibly raise speed reduction review enquiry to P&A. DR 07/12/22 – Enquiry raised to PA to undertake speed review / feasibility study for the reduction of the speed limit. ATC survey data has been saved in The shared folder. (12408886).
2.	A262 Cranbrook Road – (near primary School on Beaman Close.TN17 1DZ)	Residents of the 85 households on roads north of Cranbrook Rd have to cross the A262 to get to the primary school. This road carries large volumes of traffic with 85th %ile speed of 37.4 westbound and 36.5 eastbound.	Permanent or p/t 20mph speed limit, or crossing, or other traffic calming method.	DR CK 02/12/11 – Wig-wags were previously looked into this location and as there is no existing power supply, the cost for installation would be significantly higher as a road crossing would be required. This would also cause severe disruption as the main A268 would need to be closed and diverted, this would also increase the cost to an unachievable amount. The school is situated at the back of Beaman Close. There is no footway opposite the to cross to – discuss with PC. DR 07/12/22 – DR discussed with PC. This has been investigated previously. NR to undertake some initial checks on HADMs.

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Schemes Planning and Delivery Team working in Partnership with Goudhurst Parish/Town Council* Highway Improvement Plan

Submission Date: 07/12/22

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		Parents often accompanied by infant or child in push-chair etc.		
3.	A262 Goudhurst High Street.	Frequent conflicts between pedestrians and motor vehicles. <i>'Pedestrian/vehicle shared pavements'</i> lead to pedestrians having to walk out into the road to get past parked vehicles and vehicles having to swerve onto pavements to avoid oncoming vehicles. This creates anxiety and danger for all users of the highway, shops, hotel, pub, and church.	<p>(1) Reduce the amount of use of the shared 'pavements' by vehicles for parking (eg time limits). Possibly a trial period of the KCC and TWBC approved 2018 yellow lines plan.</p> <p>(2) Place warning signs about the shared status of the 'pavements'.</p> <p>(3) Establish a pedestrian crossing location near Antique shop to facilitate changing across to different side of road that might be less congested with parked vehicles.</p>	DR 07/11/12 – DR discussed with parish. After taking a look into this, I have raised an enquiry for P&A to take a look into this. (12408887)
4.	A262 Spelmonden to Blue Coat Ln.	Accident Black Spot. History of frequent Injury collisions in area of several sharp	Suggest reduction of speed limit from current 40mph to 30mph.	DR 07/12/22 – NR to undertake initial checks on HADMs

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Schemes Planning and Delivery Team working in Partnership with Goudhurst Parish/Town Council* Highway Improvement Plan

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		bends and gradients alongside a new Housing development of 6 units, several older houses, and driveway junctions.	ATC speed survey obtained as requested - TSP14940 (28 Feb to 06 Mar 2022). Average speed eastbound and westbound 34mph.	
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Schemes Planning and Delivery Team working in Partnership with Goudhurst Parish/Town Council* Highway Improvement Plan

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Historical Priorities Record

No	Location	Problem/Concern	What do you feel are the potential solutions?	KCC Comments
1	<i>EXAMPLE: Church Lane</i>	<i>Speeding off peak.</i>	Speed Reduction	After traffic surveys obtained, data showed that vehicle speeds were within the current speed limit, therefore no further action proposed.

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Notes: Goudhurst Village Sign	
Sign Details: x-Heights: 70, 35 Dimensions (mm): Width: 1084, Height: 595 Area: 0.65 m² Material: BS EN 12899-1:2007 class: RA2 Colours: <input type="checkbox"/> black on white	
Project: Hawkenbury Village Sign	
Project No: Hawkenbury Village Sign	
Sign Ref:	
Drawn By: AWE	Scale 1:10
Checked By: CRK	Approved By: CRK
Date Printed: 03-08-23	
<div> <div> <div>Kent</div> <div>County</div> <div>Council</div> <div>kent.gov.uk</div> </div> <div> </div> </div>	



Subject: Extending existing pavements

Message: Good evening. I live in a house that has no access to pavements. It is on the a262 near to the horsmonden road. There seems to have been a plan to provide pavement access to forstal farm and the properties but the pavements then seem to come to a stop 50 yards from us. There is then an additional section 300 yards further down. We would like safe access to the village of lamberhurst and currently we are unable to walk from our front door. Can we get the pavement extended?

Thank you

Goudhurst Parish Council

Chairman of the Council

Cllr Antony Harris
The Oast House
Curtisden Green
Cranbrook
Kent TN17 1LL
Telephone: 01580 211329
antony.harris@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk

**Clerk to the Council**

Mrs Claire Reed
The Hop Bine
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Goudhurst Cranbrook
TN17 1HN
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clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk

<http://goudhurst-pc.gov.uk>

18 September 2023

Inspector Ian Jones

Tunbridge Wells Community Safety Unit (CSU)
Police Station
Crescent Road
Royal Tunbridge Wells
Kent TN1 2LU

Dear Inspector Jones,

Racing vehicles – A21 Lamberhurst

Goudhurst Parish Council has asked me to write to you regarding the ongoing issue of vehicles racing each other along the A21 between the Lamberhurst roundabout and the Scotney Castle roundabout. These races, between both cars and motorcycles, regularly take place on a Friday evening/ Saturday morning between 11pm and 1am. The Parish Council has received a series of complaints from residents about this anti-social behaviour.

Whilst this section of the road is not in Goudhurst Parish it is well used by residents and the Council has serious concerns about the safety of other road users and the noise the racing creates can be heard as far away as Goudhurst Village.

The Parish Council would like to know what action Kent Police is taking to address this anti-social and dangerous behaviour and what plans are in place to prevent further occurrences. The Council notes with interest the inclusion of Road Safety as a priority in the published Community Safety Unit Partnership Plan for 2023/24.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Reed (Mrs)
Clerk and Proper Officer to Goudhurst Parish Council

Copy: Cllr Sean Holder, KCC
Cllr David Knight, TWBC
Cllr Alison Webster, TWBC
PCSO Simon Fuller, Kent Police Parish Liaison