

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE WITH PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Minutes of a Meeting held on 26 September 2023 at 7.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall

### PARTICIPANTS

*Councillors Present:* Cllrs Craig Broom, Suzie Kember and Paul Wareham.

*Officers Present:* Claire Reed, Clerk.

*Others Present:* One member of the public.

### APOLOGIES

352/23 Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Antony Harris (KALC) and Alison Webster (unwell).

### DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

353/23 There were none.

### MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

354/23 It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the committee meeting held on 27 June 2023, a copy of which was made available to members prior to the meeting via Board Intelligence.

### QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

355/23 A member of the public asked if the footway on the A21 Lamberhurst roundabout could be extended to the properties situated at the top of the A262, just along from the Lamberhurst Road turning to Horsmonden, adjacent to Forstal Farm. The resident also raised the issue of ownership of the ditch and hedgerow/trees running adjacent to the carriageway in the area. It was **agreed** that the legal boundary needed to be confirmed so that responsibility for cutting back of growth and clearing ditches could be established. *Post meeting note:* the area discussed does not fall within the Goudhurst Parish Council Boundary, the Clerk has suggested the resident contact Lamberhurst Parish Council.

### MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

356/23 *Update from GTAG on lorry watch and speed watch.*  
There was no update.

357/23 *Update from the Campaign for A21 Safety improvements (SAG)*  
It was **noted** that the works have been completed but the installation of the average speed cameras is still outstanding. Cllr Paul Wareham agreed to contact National Highways.  
**Action: Cllr Paul Wareham**

358/23 *Update from North Road Action Group (NRAG)*  
There was no update.

359/23 *Update from the Highways Working Group.*  
There was no update.

360/23 *Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)*  
The Committee reviewed the HIP; it was **noted** that there have been an increased number of accidents at the junction with the A262 Cranbrook Road and B2085 Glassenbury Road adjacent to the Peacock Inn. It was **agreed** that a reduction in the speed limit in this area should remain as the number one priority on the HIP. The priorities as **agreed** are:

1. *Speed reduction A262 Iden Green* from 60 to 50mph on the 0.9 mile stretch of the road (area to the east of Goudhurst village extending to the village 30mph area).
2. *Temporary 20mph limit on the A262*, Cranbrook Road adjacent to Beaman Close.
3. *Safety improvements on the High Street*. It was **agreed** that this item should be **removed** from the HIP as the requests are nonspecific and all requests so far have been rejected by Kent Highways.
4. *Reduction of speed limit A262 Spelmonden* from 40 to 30 mph, to the junction with Blue Coat Lane.

*Safety improvements on North Road*. It was **agreed** to add elements of the requested improvements however, it was **noted** that the requests from residents need to be broken down and quantified before any items can be added to the HIP.

**Action: Clerk to arrange a HIP meeting with Nigel Rowe and to update the HIP.**

361/23 It was **resolved** to approve expenditure of £600 for the purchase and installation of a new Goudhurst Village Sign on North Road opposite the junction with Chequers Road. **Action: Clerk to inform Kent Highways.**

362/23 *Downgrading of the A262 to a B-road.*

It was **noted** that the Chairman had been in contact with Benenden and Cranbrook & Sissinghurst Parish Councils to try and establish a joint approach. He has shared details of the traffic surveys needed and the costs involved and is awaiting further discussions.

#### TRAFFIC ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS

363/23 These were discussed under questions from the public and press.

#### NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT SURVEY 2023-24

364/23 It was **agreed** that Cllr Paul Wareham would complete the survey on behalf of council.

#### ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

365/23 It was **noted** that Inspector Ian Smith of Kent Police had responded to Council's letter regarding the late-night weekend racing on the A21.

#### DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

366/23 Next Highways Committee meeting, 19 December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Church Rooms, Back Lane.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Claire Reed  
Clerk