



TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: 2nd December 2020
Meeting via Zoom @ 19:30

In attendance:

- *Nick Beaumont (NB)*
- *Peter Morgan (PM)*
- *Paul Burford (PB)*
- *Rob Banks (RB)*
- *Niki Shefras (NS)*
- *No apologies for absence*

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Agreement of minutes of meeting held on 19th November 2019
3. Report on matters arising from previous minutes
 - a. Parking around the Shop
4. To discuss a Feasibility study request to ESCC Highways concerning road safety around the Southdowns/Station Road junction.
5. To discuss Vehicle Activated Signs - Revised ESCC Working Practice
6. To discuss Village Gates idea

MEETING

- 1. Parking around the Shop** - Discussion of parking restrictions around the station and the shop
 - PM spoke to David Weeks – Parking Manager at ESCC, the only way to make progress would be if we had local support - this is not the case as yet, so we would therefore need to solicit support, talk to neighbours and canvas the village
 - Problem has been exacerbated as more people have been using the shop during Covid
 - A short survey canvassing for opinion on Parking around the Station was done 3 years ago, people were in favour, however the request got rejected. Suggestion then to concentrate on a smaller area, perhaps only the area surrounding the shop
 - PM raised the point if Station Road is a highway, then people should not park on the brow of a hill anyway.
 - The issue is one of visibility; suggestions were made to paint lines outside the shop (would lines be needed on both sides outside of the shop?), put up a mirror, make it a loading only zone? (Delivery vans can park on double yellow for deliveries)
 - ESCC Highways felt Bollards and Railings would obstruct peoples view turning left out of Riddens Lane

- Need to have a brief consultation about it, however, if the Riddens Lane Development progresses, when they go for full planning, it is possible that ESCC will insist on some action so perhaps sensible to hold fire

2. Feasibility study request to ESCC Highways concerning road safety around the Southdowns/Station Road junction.

- Suggestion to highlight the “slow” signs in red. Issue is not so much speeding, more when one driver stops for a child to cross the road, another driver behind could potentially swerve around them to overtake causing danger to those crossing. Due to the zero accident rate, ESCC won’t fund it themselves. Budget issue around crossing. Need to do a feasibility study around the issue.
- Wivelsfield has 20MPH zone, this could have been linked to expansion of the school
- Ian from ESCC had the idea of painting the road with red tarmac. PPC will ask for a feasibility study, and see what other suggestions are offered to highlight the area and help change driver behaviour
- A speed survey was conducted in 2018 but on ESCC Highways measure we do not have a speeding problem. Feasibility study £500, last time ESCC reviewed the area from the Plough down to the Half Moon found that 85% of people drove within the limit.
- Careless parking by parents during pick up is also not helpful, perhaps a yellow box might work? School to inform the parents about careful parking
- Also, a suggestion to put a flashing sign at the top of the hill
- 20MPH zone not the same as a 20MPH limit, need to ensure that ESCC do not insist on chicanes

3. Vehicle Activated Signs - Revised ESCC Working Practice

- Under the revised working practice we can have a VAS on a time limited basis (Max 3 months). Have to license each site (£50), purchases, installation, maintenance is down to PPC. NB looking for suppliers, already had one quote of £1,800. NB has asked Anita to contact Dane Hill and Maresfield to ascertain how much they paid for theirs, how they manage them and if they are permanent or temporary.
- Ascertain from ESCC Highways as to where to put the signs; by the school? Coming south from Woodgate Meadows into village?
- PM noted that Vehicle Activated Signs that show the speed in MPH can encourage some people to speed so that they can see how fast they are going
- Speeding problem defined as at least 50% of cars exceeding the limit.
- Solar power can get batteries or multiple solar panels – duration: 45,000 vehicle triggers
- Would need to concrete them in/or attach to an existing sign

4. To discuss Village Gates idea

- Get people to change driver behaviour, currently we just have standard road signs
- Gates make you aware that you are driving into a residential area
- Need to get quotes and check who’s land they would be on
- Plumpton Green ESCC Highways responsibility

5. Footpaths

- NB to sort out terms of reference TBD next meeting

ACTION POINTS

- *NB to pass contact details of Ian Johnson @ ESCC Highways to PM*
- *PM to call Ian Johnson to call and ask about Wivelsfield 20MPH zone or limit, and also to request someone to come and investigate the shop area*
- *PM to contact Mr. Hughes at the school with a reminder about parking around the school*
- *NB to fill out form for the feasibility study concerning road safety around the Southdowns/Station Road junction*
- *NB to get further info from Danehill & Maresfield, speak to ESCC Highways as to where to put the Vehicle Activated Signs*
- *NB to get quotes Vehicle Activated Signs and check who's land they would be on*
- *NB to check with Anita regarding the terms of reference for Footpath Committee*