

LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS AND BURIAL GROUND COMMITTEE MEETING

19:30, 28th January 2019, Jubilee Pavilion

Present: Mr N Moorcroft - Chairman
Mr C Cave
Ms S Hardingham
Mr M Harris
Ms L Lansley
Mr S McQuillan
Mrs J Pullin
Mr I Scoones
Mr M Semple (from 19:31)
Miss M Uppington
Mr A Wilkinson

Absent:-
Mr A Batt
Mr A Cartman
Mrs S Hughes
Dr P Jackson
Mr A Johnson
Mr R Sterland
Mr J Thomas

At 7:15 pm before the formal meeting Julie Main, British Horse Society Chairperson for Avon and the Chairperson of the NS Local Access forum, spoke to the committee about allowing horses on the Festival Way. A resident spoke about the Festival Way road crossing.

Hb19.01 - Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Cartman and Sterland.

Hb19.02 - Declarations of Interests and Grant of Dispensations

Interests to be declared during the meeting and no dispensations were requested

Hb19.03 - Minutes of the previous meetings

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd December 2018 copies having been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Moorcroft. All in favour.

Hb19.04 - Exclusion of the press and public

There were no matters necessitating the exclusion of the press and public.

Hb19.05 - Matters arising

- a) Hb18.109a – Management Agreement; no response has been received from the NS planning team.
- b) Hb18.109b – Dog Bins; it has proved impossible so far to remove the damaged bin with no lid near Birdwell Rec without damaging the fence but an alternative method is to be tried. This old bin is still well used despite a new bin nearby. The PC has 10 new bins to replace damaged ones but as Cllrs have limited time to replace them it was agreed that the Clerk can contact a contractor to see if they are willing to replace the bins and to get a price.
- c) Hb18.109c – Path opposite the Doctors' surgery; North Somerset Council (NSC) has replied to the PC confirming that they have carried out a probability vs impact risk assessment and the damage to the path meets their intervention level and a temporary repair is to be done. They cannot give a timescale for a permanent repair, but will continue to monitor the site.
- d) Hb18.111 – Parking consultation - the working group has met and a response has been sent to NSC.
- e) Hb18.122 – Seat in bus stop opposite Lovelinch Gardens; the Clerk is waiting for quotes for fitting the seat before it is ordered.

- f) Hb18.125 – Response from NSC re request for street lighting not to be turned off; NSC have replied to the PC's request for reinstatement of some part night lighting back to dusk to dawn by saying that any request for reinstatement of individual lights will only be considered by NS if their approved exception criteria are met in relation to crime and antisocial behaviour and an instruction from Avon and Somerset Police is received.

Hb19.06 - Leigh Woods

- a) Parking issues including parking of caravans and yellow lines. Cllr Harris reported that the three caravans have been removed with the Police, NSC, Cllr Cave and residents working together to achieve this. A draft of the parking scheme has been produced and it is hoped that consultation on it will start soon. It includes double yellow lines, bays with restricted parking (parking limited to 4 hours with no return in 2 hours) and unrestricted areas. It was noted that this scheme will need to be properly enforced. Cllr Harris thanked Cllr Cave for his time on resolving parking issues.
- b) Broken notice board – an order for the repair has been placed.
- c) Cllr Harris will send a list of vegetation to be cut back to the Clerk.

Hb19.07 - Ashton Brook and Flood Management

It has become clear that other groups have also asked for updated flood maps from NSC following the construction of the SBLR and have not received them. It was agreed that a letter should be written to NSC's CEO to ask for confirmation that updated plans have been produced.

Hb19.08 - Footpaths

- a) Working group; Cllr Lansley confirmed there is no report at this time but noted that equipment being used to repair the broken sewer in Dawson Walk is damaging the footpath. The NSC PROW officer is aware. The path from Long Ashton Road to Catley Grove has been used by vehicles to carry out work on a house at the top of the path. NSC has been informed and is happy that no damage has been done but noted that this was without permission and the residents have been notified accordingly.
- b) Peel Park footpath; there is no further update a reply is awaited from NSC about progress.
- c) Parsonage Road footpath update. It was noted that NS and Persimmon are in negotiation to have this footpath dedicated on the claimed route. NSC will have informed Persimmon that the PC will maintain the kissing gates.
- d) Sign for Dawson Walk – This is now in place.

Hb19.09 - Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard.

- a) Heaven Scent Garden; no report at this time. A meeting will be arranged with the volunteer group to discuss plans for the coming year. It was noted that in the original agreement that if the group could not maintain the area it would revert to its original state as part of the burial ground. Cllr Lansley noted that wild areas are beneficial for wildlife and asked to attend a meeting with the Clerk and the working group.
- b) Garden of Remembrance; Cllr Mrs Pullin confirmed that quotes are yet to be obtained. Cllr Moorcroft will forward the specification for the work to the Clerk.
- c) To consider a request for interment of ashes; it was agreed that given the particular circumstances around this request that the interment of ashes in the burial ground should be allowed. It was agreed that the rules would be amended to make it clear that exceptions could be considered by the committee. The clerk will bring a suggested form of words to the next meeting. It was RESOLVED to allow this request for interment of ashes. Proposed by Cllr Moorcroft. All in favour.
- d) To agree to the replacement of the wooden gate into the Burial Ground, who by and budget for works; it was RESOLVED to accept Menshed's offer to repair the gate and

once a quote is obtained, materials can be purchased up to £150. Proposed by Cllr Moorcroft. All in favour.

- e) Query from Diocese about the Gardener's shed in the vicarage garden; it is expected that the diocese will ask the PC for information about the shed, which is used to store the equipment required to maintain the closed churchyard and has been there since before 1976. The PC noted there is currently nowhere else to store the equipment and alternative arrangements would need to be made before the shed is removed.

Hb19.10 - Road safety issues.

- a) Vehicle Activated signs (VAS) – A report was received from Cllr Sterland. The Westcotec camera has been assessed by the manufacturer and no fault has been found, new cables should solve the issue with the downloading of data. It was noted that a resident had objected to the VAS being placed outside his house and asked for the post to be removed. Noting the cost of the installation of the post and the likely cost of removal it was agreed not to remove the post. It was noted that the 3M camera's date fault has reoccurred and it was agreed that it should be returned to the manufacturer for repair.
- b) Yanley Lane - NSC's response to the PC's request for the reinstatement of the humps; NSC have confirmed that the restoration of the humps flattened by resurfacing works will take place early in the next financial year. They also suggested tightening up of the Yanley Lane/Glebe Road junction but Cllrs did not think this would bring much benefit. It was agreed that an extra hump will be requested to be sited near the Cricket Ground entrance for the safety of those using the entrance and to address the speeding issue between Lower Court Farm and The Long Ashton Business Park at a cost of £3,000. Proposed by Cllr Moorcroft, all in favour.

Hb19.11 - Hollis Close.

There has been increased parking around Hollis Close, including the turning circle, since the recent works were carried out. It was agreed to write to NS to confirm that due to concerns about the safety of the area, the PC has made provision in next year's budget of £5,000 noting this was the cost suggested by a NSC officer, to reinstate kerbing and road markings removed by NSC and to request that this should be dealt with promptly. Cllrs McQuillan and Semple will draft a letter to include Cllr Thomas's comments, for the Clerk to send.

Hb19.12 - Festival Way

- a) To receive any relevant items for information; none.
- b) Bench for walkers; Cllr Lansley will identify the preferred position for the bench so the Clerk can ask Greenbelt services for permission and arrange fitting.
- c) To consider request for additional dog waste bin near Birdwell School on the cycle track; it was agreed that a dog bin could not be placed here as the distance from the road would be too great for collection of the waste by the contractor.
- d) To consider response to presentations; The request that the PC support the proposal for horse riders to be allowed to use the Festival Way from Yanley Lane to B3128 was discussed. Concerns about the effect on horses of being passed by a cyclist in a restricted area, being in close proximity of an animal that a person cannot defend themselves against and horse dung were noted. However, it was also noted that the roads are not very safe for horses and the numbers using the path would not be great. It was RESOLVED to support the proposal of allowing horses on the Festival Way. Proposed by Cllr Wilkinson, seconded by Cllr Cave carried with one abstention. Following discussion re the safety of the crossing of the B3128 it was RESOLVED to write to NS to request all brambles near the crossing be removed at ground level and vegetation cut back, at the Festival Way crossing to improve safety at the site. Proposed by Cllr Cave and seconded by Cllr Miss Uppington, carried with one abstention. It was RESLOVED to write to NS to request they carry out a safety audit of this crossing. Proposed by Cllr Moorcroft and seconded by Cllr Wilkinson. All in favour.

Hb19.13 - Biodiversity

Cllr Lansley made a request that to support the bee population flowers such as dandelions, a rich source of nectar in early spring, are not cut. Cllr McQuillan confirmed that there had been interest from organisations in the biodiversity working group and this will be followed up once work on the library working group has reduced.

Hb19.14 - Village Enhancement Scheme working group;

Cllr Hardingham gave the following report for information:

“Preparing the leaflet for printing has taken longer than expected and we hope this will be ready soon. This will be delivered to all homes in the village. At the same time, businesses will be consulted and social media used. A stand has been booked at the Village Market on March 2nd. Any help with the consultation will be welcome. After the consultation, queries and practical details can be discussed with NSC to finalise a detailed design scheme and firm up the TRO and traffic management required and other associated costs.”

A mock-up of the draft leaflet for residents was circulated. It was suggested that it should include that works may have to be staged depending on budgetary availability and also details of the parking restrictions in the single yellow line area. The costs of the leaflet were confirmed as £300 for the artwork, £360 for printing and £50 for delivery. It was agreed that it should go to print. The leaflet will be delivered during the second or third week in February with the Long Ashton and Leigh Woods Newsletter. The Chair thanked Cllrs for their work on this leaflet.

Hb19.15 - SBLR and MetroBus;

- a) SBLR – The planting to replace dead trees around the SBLR in the parish is again using very young trees (essentially sticks). This is contrary to what was promised and it was agreed that Cllr Cave will pursue this with NSC.
- b) First Bus are claiming an increase in the number of users on the MetroBus compared with the 903. However, observation suggests that this is from people using intermediate stops and the numbers boarding at the Park and Ride have reduced, showing that the new service is less useful for NS residents despite NSC making a significant contribution to the project.

Hb19.16 - Cycle Forum – No report available.

Hb19.17 - Joint Local Transport Plan 4 Consultation

It was agreed that this will be discussed at full Council.

Hb19.18 - Correspondence

- a) From resident re rubbish in Westward Gardens; the resident has already made a complaint to NS and it was agreed that there was not much more the PC could suggest but would forward contact details of Alliance Homes to the resident.
- b) From resident re work he has carried out on Yanley Lane; this was noted. It was commented that snowdrop bulbs were unfortunately removed during these works.
- c) From resident re trash dams and a fallen tree in Ashton Brook; one of the reported Trash Dams behind Copford has been cleared after heavy rain and Cllr Moorcroft has spoken to the riparian owners about the fallen tree.
- d) From bus user re the bus stop near Providence Lane; a letter has been written to the PC, NSC and First Bus about an incident where a driver had stopped past the stop to avoid blocking the traffic and suggesting double yellow lines are needed opposite the bus stop. This was discussed but the PC noted that residents in that area had no other area to park.
- e) Letter from resident re tree on the Festival Way – this was noted but it was pointed out that NSC have been aware of the leaning tree for several years and that it did not seem to be moving.

- f) Letter re leaf clearance from Festival Way; a user of the Festival Way has asked that there should be a bi-monthly clearance of leaves and suggested the purchase of a small sweeper. However, the PC has no budget to purchase such an item and nowhere to store it and the Village Orderlies' time is fully used. The PC noted that NSC has responsibility for maintenance of the Festival Way and should be asked to carry out the work.

Hb19.19 - Other Items for Information

- a) Letters written by clerk under delegated authority; none.
- b) Cement at bottom of Providence Lane noted; this has been an ongoing problem but NSC has quickly dealt once it has been reported.
- c) The planting of hedging in Yanley Lane by the school has been completed and the contractor has carried out a good job and has replaced the plants from an earlier planting which have died.
- d) Cllr Cave noted that Wild Country Lane is due to be closed for 10 days for works to install a footpath within the width of the current bridge with funds being provided from S106 monies from the first Barrow Hospital development. The initial plan has had to be modified to allow farm vehicles to still use the road but the timetable for works is unchanged.

Date of next meeting – 25th March 2019

Meeting closed at: 21:31