

BURWELL PARISH COUNCIL

SAFETY GROUP

Notes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021 7.30 pm

Virtually using Zoom

**Present:** Paul Webb (Chair), Lea Dodds, Robin Dyos, Helen McMenamin-Smith and Jim Perry.

**S/180521/01 Apologies for absence and declarations of interests**

Apologies for absence had been received from Liz Swift, Geraldine Tate, and Gill Miller. There were no declarations of interests.

**S/180521/02 Approval of minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were approved. Proposed by Jim Perry and seconded by Helen McMenamin-Smith

**S/180521/03 Consideration of and updates to the Action Sheet**

The Clerk reported that 'This Land' has included the cycleway in one of their News Updates on their website.

Jim Perry reported that the surface of the footpath known as Swan Alley is in a bad condition and agreed to report to Highways. Helen McMenamin-Smith informed the group that a pothole she had reported in Silver Street was coming up to the end of the three months repair period. Robin Dyos suggested that she reports the hole again.

It was agreed that item no. 9 should be changed to Road Issues in general.

Paul Webb and Robin Dyos confirmed that Highways were not happy of the suggestion of having a one-way system around North Street and Silver Street. Vehicles are more likely to speed and looking at the results of the survey, residents in North Street did not feel that a one-way system was an option. Highways had also previously indicated that the location was not suitable. It may be worth revisiting the issues with North Street at some point. Lea Dodds suggested giving more priority for pedestrians and bicycles over cars may be an option.

**S/180521/04 Safety Campaign**

Paul Webb updated those attending the meeting that the Safety Campaign should have been launched at the Carnival in June 2020 but was delayed due to Covid. Revised suggested launch date is Carnival 2022, with a possible soft launch earlier in the year. It is planned that the campaign will last for 12 months, although if there is not enough material the duration may need to be shortened. Based on a year, the campaign will be split into 4 quarters based on key issues raised in the 2018 village wide traffic survey. These are traffic, speeding, pedestrians, and cycling. There will be an overlap of activities over the year. Paul Webb and Yvonne Rix (Clerk) to produce a two-page resume. Robin Dyos informed the group that the key part of the campaign is the children. There are ample resources and materials available from the County Council. Yvonne Rix pointed out that it was important for the campaign to be completed prior to the election in 2023 and that some time needs to be allowed for the evaluation of the scheme. Jim Perry questioned why there is no longer a Councillor acting as a Governor for the school. The Clerk to investigate. Accident data, although probably only fatalities or serious accidents is recorded on the County Council website. The Council has earmarked £3,000 for the Safety Campaign. The campaign will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

**S/180521/05 MVAS and Speed Watch Updates**

Following a request from a Speed Watch Group Organiser, the MVAS signs will remain in their current locations until such times as the first round of speed watch sessions have been carried out. The signs will then be moved according to the plan every three to four

weeks. Speed Watch Awareness Week lasts up until 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021. Robin Dyos, Helen McMenam-Smith, Jim Perry, and Paul Webb will all be doing sessions in the near future. It is thought that there are currently enough volunteers. The PC website and Burwell Community Facebook Page to be used to heighten awareness.

**S/180521/06**

a) Email regarding Cambridge Light Railway

An email had been received regarding the Cambridge Light Rail and the lack of priority to the Burwell area in the proposal, and how it would be better to prioritise shorter routes, such as to Burwell, where there is residential growth and poor public transport, instead of focusing on longer routes such as going out to Haverhill.

Robin Dyos commented that off peak daytime bus services are very good, although never well used, but that there is a major issue at peak times with young people attending six form facilities in Cambridge having to endure long journeys and very early starts to arrive at college for the start of the day.

It was felt that the content of the email links in very well to the work of the A to B1102 who do not wish to see Burwell and the surrounding villages left behind.

b) A to B1102 Group

Liz Swift, Paul Webb, Jim Perry, and Lea Dodds had all shown an interest in joining the group. As only one Councillor is required to represent the Council, it was agreed that Liz Swift should be recommended to Full Council to attend the meetings or in her absence Paul Webb.

c) Dropped kerbs for roads off Low Road

An email had been received from a resident in the village about a lack of dropped kerbs on roads with junctions on Low Road and how it makes it difficult for walking if you have a disability, in a wheel chair or pushing a buggy. This has previously been mentioned to the Highways Supervisor for the area who expressed that we would need to apply for them to be installed through an LHI. The Clerk to investigate if there is any legal requirement for Highways to provide them.

Lea Dodds asked if new developments could consider the reverse happening where cars would need to drive up over a path, therefore removing the need for a dropped kerb. The Clerk to speak to the ECDC Planning Manager when they next meet.

d) 20's Plenty for Cambridgeshire

An email had been received from 20's Plenty for Cambridgeshire Group to promote calling for a wide-area signed 20mph limits across Cambridgeshire's urban and village settlements. The Safety Group members agreed that reducing the speed would have many benefits and it would be good to get involved but accepted that it is likely to take several years before any changes are come about. Ways of reducing speed is important in the short term and could be addressed through LHI's.

Robin Dyos explained to Lea Dodds how the LHI Scheme works and that Burwell has been successful in gaining funding in the latest round towards 40 mph buffer zones at the entrances to the village. Further discussion to take place next meeting on whether the Council should continue to consider the need for white gates to be installed at the entrances to the village

**The Group recommends to Full Council that Burwell Parish Council should support the 20's Plenty for Cambridgeshire Group.**

e) Letter regarding Dark Lane

A letter had been received from a resident about opening Dark Lane up to traffic at the High Street end. It was agreed that this is something that Highways would not allow. The Clerk to respond to the resident accordingly.

f) Response from Lucy Frazer MP A14/A142 junction

A response had been received from Lucy Frazer explaining that she is unlikely to be able to address issues any further with the A14/A142 junction until 2025. It was agreed that the item should remain on the action sheet and that the Council should continue to lobby the MP.

**S/180521/07 Any other business**

Robin Dyos enquired about ownership of the area of land to the side of the Cricket Pavilion to ascertain if it could be used for additional car parking by the Cricket Club. The Clerk to investigate. This item to be added to the Action Update Sheet.

Lea Dodds suggested that a priority traffic sign could be an answer for traffic using the narrow access for Silver Street from the Causeway. This should also be added to the Action Sheet and could be an item for discussion when members next meet with Highway's representatives.

Members should consider ideas for the next LHI round. All ideas should be passed to the Clerk or Paul Webb. Options could be automatic school slow signs for Buntings Path, Ness Road, and the Causeway.

S/180521/08 Date of the next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Signed

Dated.