

Highways Engineer meeting – 6th November 2018**Attendees:**

Richard Bishop	(RB) David Jacklin	(DJ)
Philip Bray	(PB) Kate Gordon	(KG)
Cllr Ed Colman – absent	(EC)	

Topics Discussed:

1. Parking Bay – outside Impson's Butchers – RB confirmed that this area has never been used for Market Stalls, so it was hard to understand why the signage prevents parking on a Saturday. He handed DJ correspondence with an officer at NCC who conducted a review back in 2013 and made changes to some signage including this one. It was highlighted as an error at that time.
2. Beech Close – white road lining and car park now complete. A resident at Goodrick Place also called the office, prior to the meeting, to express thanks for the double yellow lines finally being completed after being hampered by a parked car previously.
3. Community Centre – DJ to chase progress of the car park white road lining scheduling.
4. Campingland / Whitecross Road – DJ had spoken with the resident and it was agreed the resident would complete the tree cut back himself.
5. Princes St – RB required permission to supply Highways with the contact details of the new owner of the Old School house – Data Protection - and so it was thought best that RB should write to the new owner directly asking them to tidy up the ivy otherwise Highways would be required to intervene with a charge being levied.

It was agreed RB would write to the new owner directly asking them to tidy up the ivy otherwise Highways would be required to intervene with a charge being levied.

6. Parish Partnership Scheme – three options suggested by the Transport & Access working Group were discussed.
 - Church Walk lighting – Street lighting isn't allowed as part of the Parish Partnership scheme so this option could not be progressed.
 - Church Kissing Gates – it was suggested a joint site visit with RB DJ & Andrew Gayton would be beneficial to see what could / could not be done before any costing could be worked up. and potential disabled access.

It was agreed RB would organise a site visit with DJ and Andrew Gayton to see the feasibility of what could be done about the kissing gates before any costing could be worked up.

- Norwich Road/New Sporle Road area central refuge – DJ advised that the Dept. of Transport were not in favour of such measures as it was felt that to add a central refuge would severely restrict the road width and make it to dangerous for cyclists. Highways wouldn't necessarily be therefore be unable to pursue this.

- It was agreed

The Parish Partnership Scheme is open to bids up to the end of December from across the County. All bids will be then reviewed, assessed against available budget and potentially approved.

7. Town Centre Trees – RB walked Rob Walker and his team around the area after their meeting at the Town Hall last month. Breckland DC are in the process of considering passing the War Memorial area across to the Town Council and so the subject of trees would then become the Councils responsibility. the transfer was yet to be agreed.

8. Watton Road, straw lorry – RB to contact Steve Hitchman, Breckland regarding increasing road sweeping in the area.

9. Parking Orders – RB spoke to Simon Taylor Avery, Breckland DC and it was agreed BDC would look to amend the signage as part of the market Place car park changes.
10. Hamonds Academy hedge – DJ and his team have been talking to the School with a view to the school organising to get the hedge tidied up and cut back.
11. Swaffham Network Improvement Strategy – RB forwarded an update to DJ as promised.
12. Traffic Access Focus Group – KG confirmed there was a meeting planned for Thursday with Ian Parkes Norfolk County Council & Andrew Grimley Breckland Council to help gain a better understanding of the traffic survey being conducted and also to discuss the Breckland Action Plan re Air Pollution.
13. Litter bin for the Half Acre – a new bin was agreed at the Full Council meeting in October to be placed at the New Sporle Road end of the public footpath.
14. Railings at Traffic Lights – DJ advised that despite vigorous chasing he was unable to obtain a timescale for delivery.
15. Councillor queries:
 - Spinners Lane lighting – a resident was extremely concerned by the street lights being switched off between 12 midnight and 6am, as they felt very vulnerable and concerned for their own safety. DJ advise the decision had been taken a long time ago as part of a NCC wide initiative to reduce light pollution and cost however agreed to raise the matter further to see what could be done.
 - Green Parrot crossing – the bricks were again uneven and in need of repair. DJ confirmed this would be picked up as part of the normal 6 weekly town inspections.
 - East Side carparking – concern was raised by cars over shooting parking spaces and potential health hazard to the walking public. A suggestion as bollards however DJ advised this would not be feasible and would instead result in dented bollards continuously needing repairs.
 - Filby Road & Manor House pathway – these were in need of cleaning re pine cones and leaves. RB agreed to refer these areas to Steve Hitchman.
16. Highway Rangers – DJ had shared with ARB some updates regarding recent Rangers requests:
17. Queen St Planning Application - RB shared the Councils objections to the recent outline planning application; in particular the restricted access/byway leading to the Water Tower. DJ agreed to look into how feasible it would be to use of this restricted byway as part of the proposed development and what this could mean to the existing residents and future access for the Shouldham Lane allotments.
18. Xmas Event road signs - RB asked DJ to sanction the Council to put up signs advertising the pricing upcoming Xmas Event and allow them to stay in position for the week leading up to the event. DJ agreed on condition the signs were taken down asap after the event.

Next meeting Tuesday 4th December 2018, 9.30a.m