

HARTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council Office, Hartley Library, Ash Road, Hartley, Longfield, Kent DA3 8EL

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18th January 2008

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Highways Committee to be held on **Thursday 24th January 2008** at **7.30 p.m.** at **Hartley Library, Ash Road.**

Yours sincerely

Julie Hoad
Proper Officer

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive Members' declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

(WHITE)

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Highways Committee held on 29th November 2007 as a correct record. (Annexed).

4. Springcroft

(BLUE)

To receive a report on the public meeting held on 11th January 2008, which the Cabinet Member responsible for the Environment, Highways and Waste, Mr K Ferrin, and officers from Kent Highway Services had been invited to attend. (Annexed)

5. Parking at Cherry Trees

(CREAM)

(a) To consider concerns expressed by a resident at the recent members Surgery, about the problem with parking outside the shops at Cherry Trees.

The resident enquired whether the yellow lines were legally enforceable and if so why no action was taken by the District Council.

The resident enquired as to whether anything could be done to stop parking on the pavement, which causes damage to the pavement and trip hazards, and also whether the District Council could repair the existing and install additional wooden anti parking bollards.

(b) To consider the response received from the Transportation Engineer, Mr A Jiwaji, to the Parish Council's proposals regarding improvements to the parking outside the shops in Cherry Trees. (Annexed)

Background document

E mail dated 4th December 2007 from Kent Highway Services

6. Bus Shelter

At the last meeting of the Highways Committee it was resolved that, (1) a feasibility study be undertaken on the siting of a bus shelter at Wellfield, (2) the Planning Authority be pressed to respond to the enquiry about whether the provision of a bus shelter required planning permission and, (3) a response be sent to each of the three residents who had contacted the Council in respect of the siting of a bus shelter at Cherry Trees.

The Committee is requested to (1) consider a reply received from Sevenoaks District Council in response to the Parish Council's enquiry about whether the provision of a bus shelter required planning permission, (2) note that responses have been sent to all residents who replied to the Council's request for views on the siting of bus shelters at Cherry Tree shops and Wellfield, and (3) consider any replies received from Kent Highways Services, West Kent Housing Association and Arriva, in response to the Parish Council's enquiry as to whether they would support the proposal to provide a bus shelter at Wellfield.

Background documents

E mail dated 17th November 2007 from resident of Church Road and the Council's response of 20th November 2007

E mail dated 20th November 2007 from resident of Church Road and the Council's response of 20th November 2007

E mail dated 28th November 2007 from a resident of Church Road and the Council's response of 29th November 2007

E mail dated 3rd December 2007 from Sevenoaks District Council

7. Bus Services

(GREEN)

(a) At the last meeting of the Highways Committee it was resolved that enquiries be made with Arriva in respect of (1) the provision of through-ticketing on the 423, 433 and 489 bus routes and beyond onto the Fast Track service, (2) the feasibility of introducing electronic signage at the bus stops in Hartley, (3) the replacement of the missing bus stop at Cherry Trees and, (4) the reduction of the bus service on Ash Road between Wellfield and St Johns Lane to a 1½ hourly service.

The Committee is requested to note the response received from Arriva.

Background documents

Letter dated 12th December 2007 from the Council to Arriva

Letter dated 20th December 2007 from Arriva

(b) The Council has been invited for its views on a consultation document entitled, "Options for strengthening bus passenger representation", published by the Department of Transport. The document seeks views on four possible different options to improve bus passenger representation. The consultation period expires on 17th March 2008.

Background document

Options for strengthening bus passenger representation: Consultation paper

8. Cycle route - Ash Road

(WHITE)

At the last meeting of the Highways Committee it was reported that the Transportation Engineer had agreed to investigate an example of a shared footpath and cycle route in Offham, which was considerably less than the 3.0 metre wide standard.

The Committee is requested to consider his response.

Background documents

E mail dated 13th December 2007 from Council to Kent Highway Services

E mail dated 9th January 2008 from Transportation Engineer

9. Speedwatch (CREAM)

At the last meeting of the Highways Committee it was reported that letters had been delivered to every household in Gorsewood Road and Woodland Avenue to assess the level of interest from residents in initiating a Speedwatch Scheme in Hartley. The Committee examined an analysis of the responses received so far, but it was explained that further responses were expected.

The Committee is requested to consider the responses received from residents.

Background document

Analysis of responses received from residents of Gorsewood Road and Woodland Avenue

10. Interactive Speed Sign – Ash Road (BLUE)

To consider the latest advice from Kent Highways Services in respect of the commissioning of the interactive speed sign on Ash Road.

Background documents

E mail dated 18th December 2007 from Kent Highway Services, Mr A Ross

E mail dated 13th December 2007 from local County Councillor

E mail dated 11th December 2007 from Chairman of the Highways Committee

E mail dated 19th November 2007 from Mr B Fitzgerald to Mr A Ross

E mail dated 18th November 2007 from Chairman of the Highways Committee

11. Litter picking – The Parade, Ash Road

The Committee considered a complaint received from the Graham Simpkin Partnership about the amount of litter at The Parade, Ash Road and it was resolved to take the matter up with Sevenoaks District Council.

The District Council has confirmed that the litter bin is emptied and the litter is picked, both on the privately owned frontage and the highway outside the shops, on a daily basis, Monday to Friday. The District Council is prepared to supply the litter bin and arrange for its daily emptying, provided the Parish Council obtains the written permission from the shop frontage owners in the vicinity of no 1 The Parade and agrees to meet the cost of its installation, estimated to be £65.

The Committee is requested to consider whether it wishes to pursue the provision of an additional bin outside no 1 The Parade.

Background document

Letter dated 14th August 2007 from the Council to Graham Simpkin Partnership

Letter dated 27th July 2007 from Sevenoaks District Council

Letter dated 16th July 2007 to Bottle & Basket

Letter dated 16th July 2007 to No 1 The Parade

Letter dated 16th July 2007 from the Council to Graham Simpkin Partnership

Letter dated 16th July 2007 from the Council to Sevenoaks District Council

Letter dated 30th May 2007 from Council to Graham Simpkin Partnership

12. Gorsewood Road – Tunnel

To consider concerns expressed by a resident at the recent Members Surgery, about the condition of the tunnel under the railway at the bottom of Gorsewood Road. The

main issues highlighted were, 1) lighting not working, or so dirty that it does not give off light, 2) the lack of handrails alongside the steps on the Hartley side of the railway, 3) the new gate on the Longfield side is often left open, 4) the approach path is covered in mud and requires cleaning and 5) the tunnel is in a dirty condition and appears not to have been cleaned for a number of years.

The residents were advised that the tunnel is a public right of way and therefore the responsibility of KCC.

13. Parking Restrictions

To consider concerns expressed by a resident at the recent Members Surgery, about the safety of pedestrians using the Fairby Lane gate into the Hartley Primary School. The problem appears to relate to cars being parked on the 'no parking' lines outside the school entrance and at the same time, other cars being parked in Chantry Avenue and at the top of Fairby Lane. The problem is made worse by cars being reversed at the junction of the two roads by drivers wishing to return down Chantry Avenue and having to mount the footpath.

The Committee is requested to note that the resident has arranged to meet with Hartley's Police Constable to discuss the problem.

14. Ash Road

To consider concerns expressed by a resident at the recent members Surgery, about the condition of Ash Road from the roundabout at Milestone School, to the junction with Chantry Avenue. It would appear that the side where there is no kerb present, is breaking up, causing a problem for cyclists. The resident enquired as to whether there are any plans to repair Ash Road.

15. Highway matters

To receive any reports from Councillors on issues and concerns regarding highways within the parish.

16. Date of the next meeting.

Public Question Time

A period of 15 minutes will be set aside to receive any queries or concerns raised by members of the public.

List of circulated documents

1. Minutes of the meeting of the Highway Committee held on 29th November 2007 (WHITE)
2. Report on the public meeting held on 11th January 2008 (BLUE)
3. E mail dated 4th December 2007 from Transportation Engineer (CREAM)
4. Letter dated 20th December 2007 from Arriva (GREEN)
5. Consultation document "Options for strengthening bus passenger representation". (GREEN)
6. E mail dated 9th January from Transportation Engineer (WHITE)
7. Analysis of responses received from residents of Gorsewood Road and Woodland Avenue (CREAM)
8. E mail dated 18th December 2007 from Kent Highway Services (BLUE)

Committee Membership

Cllr Mr J Gaywood (ex officio)
Cllr Mr S Granger
Cllr Mr J Minns
Cllr Mr D Brazier (co-opted)

Cllr Mr D Graeme
Cllr Mr M Harris (ex officio)
Cllr Mr V Sewell