

HARTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

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272th August 2009

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Highways Committee to be held on **Thursday 3rd September 2009 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. Declaration of Interests

To receive Members' declaration of interests.

3. Minutes

(WHITE)

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Highways Committee held on 25th June 2009 as a correct record. (Annexed).

4. Northfield

(DARK GREEN)

At the previous meeting of the Highways Committee it was reported that the landowner, New Ash Green Village Association Ltd, had given its consent to a bore hole being sunk on Northfield to assess if the area was suitable for the provision of a soakaway.

The Committee is requested to note that the exploratory works commenced on 6th July 2009. The highways engineer has reported that the borehole encountered chalk at a depth of 1.5 metres below ground level, with clay-with-flints overlying. Soakage tests with the chalk were undertaken and it was found the permeability of the chalk improved with depth. A plastic liner was installed in the borehole to enable soakage at a depth with the chalk to achieve a greater rate of discharge. The relatively shallow depth of the chalk would mean that a suitable system could be designed to reduce the run off and alleviate the flooding. The Environment Agency has approved the works. A full report from Jacobs is awaited.

At a meeting of Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council held on 16th July 2009 it was resolved that Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council would not be prepared to have a soakaway on Northfield.

The Committee is requested to consider the above report.

Background document

Extract from the minutes of the meeting of Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council held on 16th July 2009

E mail dated 9th July 2009 from Jacobs

E mail dated 13th August 2009 from KHS

5. Springcroft

(ORANGE)

(a) At the previous meeting of the Highways Committee it was reported that a ground radar survey would be undertaken to locate the position of services in the highway at the end of Springcroft, with a view to providing a small soakaway at this locality. This would provide a temporary solution for say up to 15 years.

The ground radar survey has been completed and an area identified where it would be possible to install a soakaway. Soakage tests are to be undertaken during the first week in September. Residents in the turning area have been advised of progress.

The Committee is requested to consider any further updates.

Background document

E mail dated 12th June 2009 from KHS

E mail dated 12th August 2009 from KHS

(b) To receive and note the response of a resident of Manor View to the provisional findings of the Local Government Ombudsmen in respect of a formal complaint against Kent Highway Services. (Annexed). The resident has taken the matter up with Kent Highway Services, the local member for Kent County Council and the local Member of Parliament.

Background document

E mail dated 28th June from resident of Manor View

E mail dated 14th July 2009 from resident of Manor View to KHS

E mail dated 14th July 2009 from KHS to resident of Manor View

E mail dated 21st July 2009 from resident of Manor View attaching correspondence to KCC member and from local M.P.

E mail dated 22nd July from KCC member to resident of Manor View

6. Parking at Cherry Trees

At the previous meeting of the Highways Committee it was resolved that Kent Highway Services be provided with copies of documentation held by the Parish council relating to the original planning consent and land registry details. These documents were duly sent on 3rd July 2009. No response has been received.

The Committee is requested to receive and note the report.

Background documents

Letter dated 3rd July 2009 to KHS

7. Church Road

(RED)

At a meeting held on 16th April 2009 the Highways Committee considered an e mail dated 20th March 2009 from a resident of Church Road informing of recent incidents involving dangerous driving in Church Road. The resident had come forward with a number of suggestions, one of which included the designation of part of Church Road

as a Quiet Lane. Following further investigation the Parish Council was advised that the Quiet Lanes Scheme had not been successful in the County and Kent County Council no longer promoted such schemes.

The resident has been in contact with Kent Highway Services and has been informed that additional signage could be provided but the Parish Council's approval would be required.

The Committee is requested to consider the matter.

Background documents

E mail dated 12th August 2009 from resident of Church Road

8. Kent County Council Member Highway Fund (DARK BLUE)

The Kent County Council Member Highway Fund has recently been approved. Each County Council Member may recommend spending upto a maximum of £25,000 during each financial year on minor highway works. Capital and revenue funded works are eligible and funds may be rolled over for two years. Examples include resurfacing, integrated traffic schemes, streetlights, interactive signs, traffic calming, grass cutting and road safety training for schools.

The Committee is requested to consider whether any highway works in the parish would be suitable for funding through this scheme. One suggestion has come forward; provision of salt bins at the top of Parkfield and at Quakers Close.

Background document

E mail dated 3rd July 2009 from Local KCC Member

9. Network Rail

Following a complaint from a member of the public about the condition of the railway bridge at Longfield, Network Rail has advised that it has been recommended a painting programme will be undertaken in the near future. There are no plans to refurbish the bridge during 2009/10.

The resident also complained about the condition of a number of road name signs and signs on the parish boundaries. The matter has been taken up with Sevenoaks District Council and Kent Highway Highways respectfully.

Background documents

Letter dated 29th July 2009 from Network Rail

10. Date of 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 25th June 2009 (WHITE)
2. Extract from the minutes of the meeting of Ash-cum-Ridley held on 16th July 2009 (DARK GREEN)
3. Letter dated 28th June 2009 from resident of Manor View to LGO (ORANGE)
4. E mail dated 12th August 2009 from resident of Church Road (RED)
5. E mail dated 3rd July 2009 from local KCC Member (DARK BLUE)

Committee Membership

Cllr Mr J Gaywood (ex officio)
Cllr Mr S Granger
Cllr Mr V Sewell

Cllr Mr D Graeme
Cllr Mr J Minns
Cllr Mr D Brazier (co-opted)