

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Road Safety Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 15th June 2022 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr P Mackenzie (Chairman) Cllr M Barnes (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr J Beadle Cllr S Ward

In attendance: Mrs C Woodward, Clerk of the Council

RS/01/22 **Election of Committee Chairman**

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that Cllr Mackenzie was elected as the Committee Chairman for the current municipal year. Cllr Mackenzie accepted the nomination. Cllr Barnes SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

RS/02/22 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Roberts.

RS/03/22 **Election of the Committee Vice-Chairman**

Cllr Mackenzie PROPOSED that Cllr Barnes should be elected as the Committee Vice-Chairman for the current municipal year. Cllr Barnes accepted the nomination.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

RS/04/22 **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations, as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 11th July 2012 (Minute Ref C/159/12), including paragraph 12(2), were made.

RS/05/22 **Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting**

The previous minutes had been approved at Full Council in 2020 and so the Clerk reminded Members of what they contained. There were some unresolved issues that the Clerk agreed to chase up.

RS/06/22 **Community Speed Watch Fund**

It had been agreed at the Council meeting that took place on 8th June 2022 that the Council should place a bid for money from this fund of £600,000 and that the Road Safety Committee should consider what it should bid for (although there was already an agreement in place for a VAS).

RS/06/22

Community Speed Watch Fund (Continued)

The items that could be bid for were:

- Road Safety Officer
- Speed Surveys
- Wheelie bin sticker campaign
- Either Community Speedwatch Camera or Mobile VAS sign

Initially the Committee talked about '20's Plenty' scheme and its desire to see a blanket cover over the whole of Northway for this, but it appeared that this was not on offer at that time. It was noted that this scheme would not necessarily mean there was less speeding traffic but, overall, it would reduce the speed to a safer level as drivers that normally drove at 40mph in a 30mph would be more likely to drive at 30mph in a 20mph, so the roads would be safer.

The Clerk reported a conversation she had with the Road Safety and Traffic Management Officer (RS&TMO) (responsible for the Community Speedwatch programme). He had forwarded documents that covered the Tewkesbury District showing the enforcement activity over the year as well as an explanation of the process of Community Speedwatch and how it fit in with the enforcement team (including advisory letters that could be sent to offending motorists). He said that there were two groups operating in the Tewkesbury District one being in Lincoln Green Lane.

In order to apply for a camera there would need to be an active Community Speedwatch in Northway, which was not currently the case. The Parish Council had invited residents to start a group but only two had come forward. The RS&TMO was attending a meeting that day where discussions were going to take place as to the need of have a registered Community Speedwatch group for the ANPR Camera, as this would not involve a team standing on the roadside holding a speed gun. No update was received prior to the meeting.

As an agreement was already in place for a VAS, locations had already been approved:-

- The Park (closer to Hardwick Bank Road end)
- Hardwick Bank Road
- Northway Lane between The Park junction and The Sandfields
- Northway Lane between Apple Tree Court and Saxon Park entrance
- Kingston Road.

There was a long-standing agreement with Gloucestershire County Council, that they would provide five poles to erect the mobile VAS on to. Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the Road Safety Committee applied for funding for a VAS. Cllr Mackenzie SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

The Working Party went through the application, which contained a few simple tick answers and then the Vision which the Committee responded: -

To reduce the risk of speeding vehicles impacting local residents, cyclists, and especially the school children. Northway Parish has two pre-school, one infant and one junior school plus pedestrian school children walking to Tewkesbury Secondary School.

RS/06/22 **Community Speed Watch Fund** (Continued)

We have had several speed date recorders detailing huge traffic volume, which is only going to increase due to further developments around Northway. Outside of rush hour the traffic speed increases dramatically as detailed on various surveys with police provided speed velocity guns.

Northway is located just off junction 9 M5 and the A46 and as such is used as a 'rat run' by neighbouring communities to access M5 and A46 and local industrial sites.

To encourage and educate motorists to consider and value the local residents, pedestrians, cyclists and school children especially those that transit through our parish.

RS/07/22 **Highway Matters that fall outside of the monthly Council Meeting**

The Clerk said she had received an email from a resident regarding volume of traffic and speeding through Northway. They believed it had become a rat run for workers from the industrial estates. He referred to the useless speed humps across Northway Lane and The Park.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should respond and let the gentleman know that the Parish Council was also concerned and fill him in on what it was currently doing to improve matters. It was also AGREED to ask the gentleman whether, if was a need to provide additional evidence relating to road safety, he would be happy for his email to be used for that purpose.

Cllr Ward said that, as Gloucestershire County Council had promised the poles for the mobile VAS, could it be requested that these were installed now, regardless of whether the Parish Council would be getting funding.

RS/08/22 **Correspondence received after 9th June 2022**

No further correspondence was received.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded at 8:00 p.m.