

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Road Safety Committee held on Wednesday, 24th September 2025 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr M Barnes (Chairman) Cllr J Llewellyn (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr J Beadle Cllr G Fancourt
Cllr S Ward

In attendance: Mrs C Woodward, Clerk of the Council
Mrs L Stewart, Clerk's Assistant

RS/01/25 **Election of Committee Chairman**

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

FOR: UNANIMOUS

RS/02/25 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Roberts, Poole and Kareem.

RS/03/25 **Election of the Committee Vice-Chairman**

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

FOR: UNANIMOUS

RS/04/25 **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations, as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 12th April 2023 (Minute Ref C/85/23 refers), were made.

RS/05/25 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Cllr Beadle PROPOSED that the Minutes of the Road Safety Committee meeting that took place on 25th September 2024 should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr Fancourt SECONDED.

FOR: Cllr Beadle Cllr Fancourt
Cllr Barnes

ABSTENTIONS: Cllr Llewellyn Cllr Ward

RS/06/25 **Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting**

RS/08/24 Community Speedwatch Camera – The signs were installed as agreed.

RS/09/24 Village Gateways - The agreed gateways had been installed the previous weekend. The Clerk reported that the '30' roundels were not approved by Gloucestershire County Council Highways so Members agreed alternatives with the NPC roundel and the wording 'Please Drive Carefully' on the Hardwick Bank Road and Northway Lane M5 bridge gateways. Also, a sign saying 'Please Drive Carefully' on the Saxon Park gateway. These changes fell within the parameters of the original quotation. AGREED.

RS/07/25 **Vehicle Activation Sign (VAS)**

Members were reminded that the VAS changed location approximately every 3 months and the battery changed in between. Members were very grateful to those who assisted in doing this. It was noted that the Hardwick Bank post still had no brackets and the Clerk agreed to chase these up.

RS/08/25 **Auto Speedwatch Camera**

The Clerk tabled information relating to the highest speeders ranging between 52mph and 69mph, and the most persistent speeders having been caught up to 11 times. Members felt that this was justification for the police getting more involved and asking them to do some speed checks along this section of road. The Clerk was asked to see if more could be done by contacting the police, the PCC and the Road Safety Partnership.

RS/09/25 **Hardwick Bank Road / Carrant Brook School**

The Council had been contacted by a resident as well as the Headteacher of Carrant Brook School to see if there was anything the Parish Council could do to help with the dangerous situation during drop off and pick up times. Members of the Council had visited the site the previous Monday to watch for themselves and made the following observations:-

- The gate into the school remained locked until 8.38 a.m., causing over thirty pupils and some adults to wait outside the school on the path next to parked cars.
- Some parents/caregivers remained sat in their cars after dropping pupils off waiting to observe them entering the school.
- Road markings were worn out and needed repainting.
- Road markings ignored by seven adults/cars dropping pupils at the school.
- One car parked in the bus stop for 10 minutes.
- One adult parked in the school disabled parking bay and entered by the back gate.
- Portable warning signs had no ballast in them so blew over and would present a tripping hazard.
- Unknown what security issues were being experienced by the school but it seemed odd that the main gate was locked until just before the school opened. There did not appear to be a member of staff present at the gate to supervise safety. The gates to the playground were open the whole time and this could be accessed at any time via the car

RS/09/25

Hardwick Bank Road / Carrant Brook School (Continued)

park. The fence between the car park and the main path into the school was only approximately one metre high so the reasons for keeping the pedestrian gate locked when the car park gates remained open was unclear. The area was not secure with just the pedestrian gate locked so unsure what the school was trying to achieve here. This attempt at securing the property until a set time appeared to create an unnecessary safety issue.

- Plenty of car parking spaces on the side roads.

Cllr Ward had visited the school separately one the afternoon and noted that between Merrett Close and Rainbow Corner there were nineteen cars parked on the road and one on the zig zag lines. Two vehicles were parked in George Dowty Drive. The school car park gates were open and there were at least ten empty spaces in there.

Members felt there was little the Council could do but it may be useful to ask the school about some of the procedures adopted by them. The police should also have more of a presence there and the line markings needed to be reinstated.

RS/10/25

Speeding

- 20's Plenty** – No update was available.
- Signs and Bin Stickers** – It had been suggested that the schools could be asked to get involved in designing a poster for attaching to residents' bins (Min Ref: RS/11/24 refers). Members considered this further and felt that, as bins were only put out once a week, it would not be much of a deterrent, therefore it was AGREED not to progress the idea further at this time.

RS/11/25

Bridges in Northway

- M5 Overbridge, Northway Lane** – The Clerk said there was no further update following Full Council, but she was awaiting a further TEAMS meeting with Highways England, (this had not been very successful previously) Cllr Llewellyn offered to check the setup of TEAMS on the Clerk's computer.
- M5 Overbridge, Hardwick Bank Road** – Nothing to report.
- Northway Lane Humpback Bridge** – Cllr Llewellyn noted a dip in the road and wondered whether it might be the result of a sump that may have collapsed. Cllr Fancourt felt that the cutting back of the greenery on the bridge had not been done sufficiently.

RS/12/25

Disabled Bays

There was no available update regarding repainting of the disabled bays at the Northway Centre (Min Ref: C/59/24 refers).

RS/13/25

General Road Safety Matters

Cllr Ward had already reported a loose brick on the railway station roundabout which, when driven on, had flicked and hit the bottom of his vehicle. The Clerk offered to report this again.

RS/14/25

Correspondence received after 18th September 2025

No further correspondence was received.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded at 7:50 p.m.