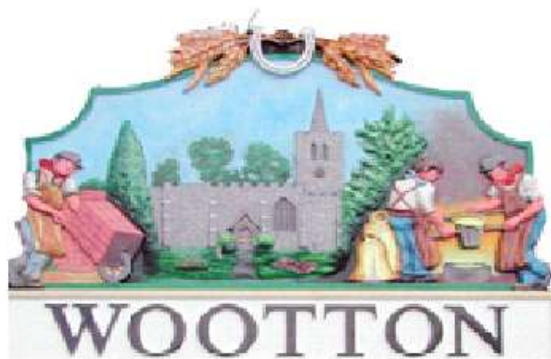




# WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

3 Longden Close  
Haynes  
Bedfordshire  
MK45 3PJ

Tel: 07531 930788

E-mail: [woottonparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:woottonparishclerk@gmail.com)

Website: [woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk](http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk)



[www.facebook.com/  
WoottonParishCouncilBedfordshire](http://www.facebook.com/WoottonParishCouncilBedfordshire)

Minutes of the Roads & Footpaths Safety Steering Group meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016 at 7pm in The Hub, Wootton New Life Methodist Church, Cause End Road.

| <b>Present</b>                        | Gareth Lloyd (in the chair - GL), Tony Ireland (TI), Stuart O'Dell (SO).<br>Sue Playford (SP) as Clerk to the Council.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                              |                     |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Absent (no apologies received)</b> | Louise Brazier (LB), Marie Dennis (MD), Rebecca Mulvanerty (RM).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                              |                     |
| <b>Agenda no</b>                      | <b>Agenda item title</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Resolution</b>                                                                            | <b>Action</b>       |
| <b>RF16/08</b>                        | <b>Apologies for absence.</b><br>Clive Baker (CB), Naomi Groves (NG), John Wheeler (JW). JW is also the Borough Councillor for Wootton                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Resolved to accept.                                                                          | SP to keep on file. |
| <b>RF16/09</b>                        | <b>Disclosure of local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests.</b><br>It was noted that SO worked part time for Bedford Borough Council's Environment and Sustainable Communities Directorate.                                                                                                                                                                        | Noted for the records.                                                                       | N/A.                |
| <b>RF16/10</b>                        | <b>To consider any dispensation requests received by the Clerk in relation to local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests, not previously recorded.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                              | N/A.                                                                                         | N/A.                |
| <b>RF16/11</b>                        | <b>Minutes of the previous meeting.</b><br><i>Minutes are published on the Wootton Parish Council website: <a href="http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk/">http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk/</a>.</i><br>Members of the Roads & Footpaths Safety Steering group are asked to receive and adopt the minutes of the Roads & Footpaths Safety Steering group meeting | Resolved to receive and adopt.<br>Proposed: TI.<br>Seconded: GL.<br>Resolved by all present. | SP to keep on file. |

Roads & Footpaths Safety Steering Group minutes 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016

Chairman.....

Page | 1

Date 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                      |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
|                | held on 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2016.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                      |
| <b>RF16/12</b> | <b>To revisit issues raised at the previous Roads &amp; Footpaths Safety Steering Group meeting (RF16/05), since received and approved by Full Council on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016 (FC16/186) and to make further recommendation to Full Council as necessary.</b> | <p>SP detailed the issues raised and TI explained there were two separate items with the footpath planned from Berryfields via Potters Cross. The path in Berryfields extended to the existing hedgerow into Potters Cross but was blocked as the hedgerow was still in place and the other side was fenced off. A proposed footpath in Potters Cross stopped before Manor Road and so didn't link to the existing Bedford Road footpath. Developer contributions were being used to fund the latter and it was agreed it should either meet Bedford Road or not be placed there at all.</p> <p>GL detailed how he believed Cranfield Road footpath was too narrow to take pedestrians walking from Fields Road South via Barnes Road.</p> <p>SP confirmed Bedford Borough Council (BBC) had stated a proposed footpath from the Chequers PH to Keeley Lane could not be provided as there wasn't enough footfall and the road was too narrow to accommodate it.</p> <p>GL mentioned JW had recently attended a BPHA coffee morning and residents from Berryfields had complained about narrow roads on the estate. They had also complained about the 'them' and 'us' feel to the estate, due to lack of footpaths linking them to older Wootton. Proposed links on original plans would have seen routes via Grovebury Court and Monoux Road. Housing backing on to Grovebury Court was detailed on those plans as abutting existing housing – in reality this hadn't happened and there was now an area of grassland which could be used for anti-social activities. A fence (erected by Persimmon Homes) had been damaged in the past and residents were still trying to use the area as a short-cut through</p> | All to take forward. |

Roads & Footpaths Safety Steering Group minutes 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016

Chairman.....

Page | 2

Date 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                      |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p>(it was used previously by dog walkers before the development began).</p> <p>SP confirmed Street Watch now had postcards to place on cars parking on verges and footpaths. SO stated the Government was looking to introduce a London by-law, banning parking on any footpath or verge, UK-wide. Current signage (such as in Kempston Rural) gave the assumption you could park as such in other areas.</p> <p>TI felt shared access space between vehicles and pedestrians was cause for concern and caused serious conflict. Fields Road was a prime example – with narrow footpaths, pedestrians, buses and vehicles (many of whom were parents driving to school). It was noted there were some 210 pupils travelling between the two lower school sites.</p> <p>SO added many estates in the village were built to accommodate only 1 car per family – that was no longer the case.</p> <p>Agreed to carry on working on the above issues and not take anything to Full Council at this stage.</p> |                      |
| <b>RF16/13</b> | <b>To revisit issues raised at the previous Roads &amp; Footpaths Safety Steering Group meeting (RF16/07) and to make further recommendation to Full Council as necessary.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       | Nothing further was added at this stage.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | All to take forward. |
| <b>RF16/14</b> | <b>To receive reports from all members detailing pros and cons of all speeding restrictions identified at the previous meeting of the Roads &amp; Footpaths Safety Steering Group meeting (RF16/06), to select the best speeding solution and areas for implementation, consider wording for a petition and to make recommendation to Full Council as necessary.</b> | <p>TI believed the best approach was to identify locations with major concerns – he was concerned about lack of a safe route to school. He felt a risk assessment approach was needed with a view to splitting/re-directing vulnerable users if possible. Failing that, measures needed to be identified to mitigate risks. Fields Road being a bus route however, limited some options.</p> <p>GL had compiled a list of pros and cons which he detailed (Appendix 1).</p> <p>It was noted costings were a con in many instances –</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | All to take forward. |

Roads & Footpaths Safety Steering Group minutes 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016

Chairman.....

Page | 3

Date 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017

|  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
|--|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|  |  | <p>Speed Watch for example were cheaper than a permanent Speed Indicator Device (SID).</p> <p>GL felt the only deterrent was drivers knowing they risked being caught and fined.</p> <p>SO suggested a sign in the village detailing how many people had been caught speeding in the previous month. He added he often waited at Keeley Corner in the morning to catch a bus and was concerned at the children having to cross a very busy road to catch the Holywell school bus. It had been hoped the new A421 would take traffic away from Wootton but that was not the case and many were travelling at above 30mph.</p> <p>GL detailed how Stewartby Parish Council had installed Average Speed Cameras. They had reported a drop in through traffic numbers and existing traffic now stuck to the speed limit. This in turn, made the area quieter. He added Kempston Rural Parish Council had previously indicated they would join with Wootton to install cameras as far as the Ridge Road roundabout. He believed costings for 7 cameras a couple of years ago had been in the region of £80k.</p> <p>TI added he had looked at Sustrans (Safe Routes concept) for information and sought information on surface treatments, kerb buildouts and 'change in priorities' – rather like chicanes. It was felt the raised table proposed for Fields Road wouldn't help speeding there – concerns were raised about vehicles on the table being at the same level as pedestrians and case studies had revealed issues with drainage and flooding. Developer contributions were proposed for that table and the question was asked whether the monies could be used to install Average Speed Cameras instead.</p> <p>It was agreed to ask JW if that could be done.</p> |  |
|--|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

|  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
|--|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|  |  | <p>SO agreed rather than identifying hotspots – cover the whole village with one system.</p> <p>GL added – even if vehicles were only travelling within the village they would not be able to speed as other through traffic would be sticking to the limit.</p> <p>It was agreed the best way forward was to identify the solution (Average Speed Cameras), produce a map showing where they could be installed and then petition the village for support. Costings were not necessary at this stage – if there was backing for the scheme then monies could also be earmarked from the precept in addition to developer contributions. It was also agreed to see if a specialist would advise the committee on the benefits of installing the cameras.</p> <p>SP agreed to speak to Bill Brady to find the best point of contact.</p> <p>TI agreed to speak to contacts at Luton Borough Council.</p> <p>Once further information was available the website and Facebook pages could be updated accordingly.</p> <p>TI was still keen to try and progress a footpath via Monoux Road as a safe route to school. GL recommended a new petition (the previous one had also detailed Grovebury Court). It was noted residents of Monoux Road already had issues with people littering and a good number had attended previous Full Council meetings to state they didn't wish to see a footpath in that area. TI stated it was important to work with both the residents of Monoux Road and those in Berryfields, adding a gated area with Public Space Protection Order could be beneficial to all.</p> <p>Agreed this issue should remain on the agenda.</p> |  |
|--|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

**Meeting closed at 7.55pm.**

Roads & Footpaths Safety Steering Group minutes 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016

Chairman.....

Date 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017