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Minutes of the Roads & Pavements Safety Steering Group meeting held on Wednesday 20th May 2020 at 7pm via Zoom.

Agenda no	Agenda item title		Power
Open Forum	There were no members of the public or press present and so the meeting continued without adjournment.		Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s1(1).
Present	Gareth Lloyd (GL – parish councillor – in the chair), Clive Baker (CB), Hazel Martin (HM – parish councillor) and Stuart O'Dell (SO – parish councillor). In attendance – John Wheeler (JW – parish councillor. JW is also the Borough Councillor for Wootton). Also in attendance – Sue Playford (SP – Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer).		
Absent (no apologies received)	None.		
Agenda no	Agenda item title	Resolution	Action
RP20/013	Apologies for absence. Gerald Bygraves, (GB – parish councillor) and Tony Ireland (TI).	Noted for the minutes.	SP to keep on file.
RP20/014	Disclosure of local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests. No disclosures made.	N/A.	N/A.
RP20/015	To consider any dispensation requests received by the Clerk in relation to local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests, not previously recorded. No requests received.	N/A.	N/A.

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Date 15th July 2020

Signed at Full Council.....

RP20/016	Minutes of the previous meeting. <i>Minutes are published on the Wootton Parish Council website:</i> http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk . Members of the Roads & Pavements Safety Steering group are asked to receive and adopt the minutes of the Roads & Pavements Safety Steering group meeting held on 4 th March 2020.	Resolved to receive and adopt. Proposed: HM. Seconded: SO. Resolved by all present. (To be signed in person by the Chairman when Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions have been lifted).	SP to keep on file.
RP20/017	Matters arising from the minutes – for information only. Please refer to the Project Action Plan for fuller information.	N/A.	N/A.
RP20/018	To review, amend and approve the Project Action Plan and to take the same to Full Council for formal approval.	Please refer to Appendix 1.	SP to keep on file.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm.

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Date 15th July 2020

Signed at Full Council.....

RP20/018**ROADS AND PAVEMENTS SAFETY STEERING GROUP PAP¹ 2020-21**

WPC² publishes a SAP³ annually in May, drawn from the budget which is formally set in January and which includes project expenditure for the upcoming year. The R&PSSG⁴ committee will produce its own PAP, to be reviewed and amended as necessary at each committee meeting, after which it will be formally reviewed and approved by Full Council, alongside the SAP.

Please refer to earlier published minutes of this Steering Group for PAP information relating to 2019 and/or earlier. These are available to view either via the Clerk to the Council or at: https://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk/files/index?folder_id=3322934

The Roads & Pavements Safety Steering Group committee's projects for 2019-20 are:

Issue	How identified?	Timescale	Budget	Action/Update	Project Manager
Berryfields pavement via Potters Cross – lack of continuity between Potters Cross and Bedford Road. (Now including pedestrian crossings in Harris Way and lack of lighting in the same area).	Committee discussion and TI.	Ongoing – carried forward from 2018-19.	Persimmon to finance.	<u>15th January 2020</u> Query was been raised over saplings planted in the area which would require ongoing maintenance. BBC were aware and were considering an additional bollard. A complaint was also raised over the “quiet lane” signage (noisy pedestrians – however the signage applied to vehicles only). <u>4th March 2020</u> JW confirmed two new bollards had been installed and that the new crossing for Harris Way was due for installation Q2 2020. JW also confirmed shrubs in the area would be cleared in the coming weeks and the verges would be made good. <u>20th May 2020</u> JW confirmed the area had been cleared and verges	BBC/Persimmon.

¹ Project Action Plan.

² Wootton Parish Council.

³ Strategic Action Plan.

⁴ Roads & Pavements Safety Steering Group.

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				made good, including tarmac works. HM stated verges outside the bungalows in Potters Cross remained in a poor state having been used for parking by construction vehicles and it was agreed JW would ask BBC to request Persimmon remedy this (it was noted Persimmon's contractor had recently gone into liquidation).	
Berryfields Estate (infrastructure).	GL.	Ongoing.	Persimmon to finance.	<u>15th January 2020</u> WPC had requested it be involved in the inspection/snagging issues ahead of BBC adopting the area. BBC⁵'s response stated they did not normally involve third parties in the inspection process as the adoption agreement was between the Highway Authority and developer. <u>4th March 2020</u> Request was made for BBC to inform WPC when all issues have been remedied by Persimmon to enable GL and SO to check and report back within a two week window. SP/JW agreed to chase for a further update. <u>20th May 2020</u> JW confirmed no works would take place until Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions had been lifted. Thomas Emmett was happy to meet with GL to discuss the handover. JW was asked to ensure a map of all grass areas was made available to clarify who was responsible for all areas within Berryfields – BBC or Greenbelt. SO reiterated his wish to meet with GL and Thomas Emmett to ensure a handover 'by default' did not occur.	GL/SO. BBC/Persimmon.

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Bus routes/stops.	Various.	Ongoing.	BBC.	<u>15th January 2020</u> SP had previously confirmed Chris Pettifer, Chief Officer for Transport, BBC, was reviewing all school bus stops in terms of location/safety. JW had requested Burgoyne Avenue be opened at the earliest opportunity to allow buses through the Fields Road South development and via Cranfield Road. JW confirmed two bus stops were in situ within Fields Road South and two further bus stops were proposed for Cranfield Road. Once operational, no school buses would stop on Fields Road and bus timings would change. It was noted the route through the Fields Road South development (Burgoyne Avenue) would not be open for two years according to Neil Laws at Concept. Bus users would have to walk to Harris Way or Cranfield/Fields Road. Official bus stops were needed on Cranfield/Fields Road – even as a temporary measure, pending completion/adoption of Burgoyne Avenue (including raised kerbing and tactile paving). SO confirmed the s106 agreement⁶ detailed £18k was set aside (maximum £36k for two) bus stops/shelters and JW (in his absence) was asked to take forward a request for a bus stop either side on Fields Road to come forward at the earliest opportunity, pending the above. <u>4th March 2020</u> Bus stops had been installed on Cranfield Road. JW confirmed it was not possible to install stops (even as a temporary measure) on Fields Road. Timescales for	BBC.
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⁶ S106 funding is also known as developer funding and as a s106 agreement is a mechanism drawn up between developers and local authorities (Bedford Borough Council in this instance) to mitigate the impact of development. For details of fuller s106 obligations please visit: <https://www.local.gov.uk/pas/pas-topics/infrastructure/s106-obligations-overview>

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				Burgoyne Avenue were not yet known. JW also confirmed a RTPI unit would be installed at the bus loop on Harris Way and KR (in attendance) agreed to speak to the doctor's surgery to see if bus times could be displayed on their information screen. <u>20th May 2020</u> JW confirmed the RTPI unit was due to be installed imminently at the bus loop (Folkes Road). No update was available regarding the doctor's surgery due to ongoing Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions. HM raised again the possibility of a bus shelter and seating on Fields Road in the vicinity of the doctors' surgery. It was noted WPC could use its CIL funding to finance a seat as part of SO's proposed CIL project for additional public seating in the village. It was further noted s106 developer funding could be used to finance the shelter, given there were now no plans for shelters along Burgoyne Avenue. After detailed discussion it was agreed to leave this issue on file until the Fields Road pedestrian crossing was in place as this would determine the best location for the proposed shelter and seating. SP agreed to chase KR regarding publication of bus times in the doctor's surgery. <u>15th January 2020</u> HM had previously reported the yellow bus stop markings outside the Manor Road bus stop were not bright enough, and white lining was missing near the Memorial Hall on Bedford Road. JW has established bus stop markings were never in situ and are not a	
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				requirement. Missing white lining is ongoing with BBC. TI detailed parked vehicles were encroaching the Bedford Road bus stop adjacent to the Manor Road flats, preventing buses from pulling up alongside the raised kerbing and preventing disabled access. SP agreed to revisit SO's report ahead of a request to BBC to add boxed markings to all stops in Wootton without them. It was hoped Bedford Road at least would be at BBC's expense, given the road had recently been resurfaced. TI agreed to provide photographic evidence of the issue. Proposed: HM. Seconded: GB. Resolved by all present. <u>4th March 2020</u> A request for bus cages at several stops within the village was made to BBC. Jon Pauling (BBC) had undertaken site visits and determined requirements at the following sites only: • Bedford Road (Potters Cross area – both sides); • Cause End Road (St. Mary's Road area – both sides). Developer contributions had been identified by Chris Pettifer (BBC) to install the cages and JW had authorised all works. <u>20th May 2020</u> No further update available. JW confirmed he had chased Chris Pettifer.	
Cause End Road leak.	Various.	Ongoing – carried forward from	BBC/Anglian Water.	<u>15th January 2020</u> BBC were programming works to replace the entire length of draining pipework.	BBC/Anglian Water.

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		2018-19.		<u>4th March 2020</u> Test work was complete and works were programmed to take place between 26th March – 7th May 2020. This involved replacing sections of pipe and the installation of new gullies and drains. Once the leaks have been resolved the road would be resurfaced (likely to be summer 2020). <u>20th May 2020</u> Remedial works have been programmed for May 2020.	
Church Road/Cause End Road junction/pavement – too narrow in parts.	Committee discussion and CB.	Ongoing – carried forward from 2017-18.	FRS ⁷ to finance.	<u>15th January 2020</u> Dates and timescales to square off the junction were still not known. <u>20th May 2020</u> No further update available. JW agreed to chase again to establish how this could be taken forward.	BBC/Developer. GL.
Cranfield Road flooding.	Various.	2020.	BBC/Anglian Water.	<u>15th January 2020</u> It was noted significant flooding had returned to a different area along Cranfield Road. JW (in his absence) was asked to take this forward with BBC. <u>4th March 2020</u> SP reported additional flooding and JW confirmed BBC were looking to dredge the ditch (fields side). <u>20th May 2020</u> No further update available.	BBC/Anglian Water.
Fields Road HGV signage (now extended to the entire	N/A.	N/A.	N/A.	<u>15th January 2020</u> JW has confirmed installation of signage will be	BBC.

⁷ Fields Road South
RP20/018 Project Action Plan

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village).				completed by the end of Q1 2020. <u>20th May 2020</u> Andy Prigmore confirmed works would not take place until Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions had been lifted. Statutory notices had not yet been published.	
Fields Road – junction with Bedford Road/Cranfield Road	Resident.	Ongoing.	BBC.	<u>20th May 2020</u> SP was made aware of concerns over safety issues at this junction, with fast-moving vehicles travelling along Bedford Road and Fields Road towards the double mini-roundabouts, causing other vehicles already on the roundabouts to take emergency action. A request was made for better and larger signage, clear road markings and writing. Concerns were also been raised regarding parking outside the Cock Inn PH which restricts views when leaving Fields Road. After detailed discussion it was agreed SO would investigate these issues in greater detail and bring findings back to the next meeting of this SSG. JW agreed to request 'road change' signage in Church Road be taken down.	BBC.
Fields Road white lining.	N/A.	N/A.	N/A.	<u>4th March 2020</u> BBC had emailed JW stating there were no plans to white line the centre of Fields Road. Concerns were raised as this was a bus route and could cause issues for night driving. White lining inferred a busy road and encouraged vehicles to slow down. The logic in white lining a small section of the road was also queried. After discussion it was proposed to request BBC white line the entire length of Fields Road – centrally and both sides of the road and to make the same	BBC.

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				recommendation to Full Council. Proposed: SO. Seconded: HM. Resolved by all present. <u>20th May 2020</u> Resolved at Full Council on 8th April 2020 to delay forwarding this recommendation to BBC due to ongoing Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions.	
Fields Road pavement – concerns over shared access space between vehicles and pedestrians.	Committee discussion and TI.	Ongoing – carried forward from 2018-19.	Goodmans (North) and BBC/WPC (South).	<u>FIELDS ROAD NORTH</u> <u>15th January 2020</u> All works have been completed, save for the signage which will indicate the pavement is a shared access space for vehicles and pedestrians. <u>4th March 2020.</u> JW confirmed signage would be installed when Fields Road was resurfaced. A fresh concern was raised over the remaining pinch point, varying widths along the length of the pavement and how shared access would work in practice with pedestrians and adult cyclists. SO stated BBC's priority was the road width and that they were governed in part by other landowners. Government guidance (recommending a 3m uniform width) was ambiguous and not all local authorities agreed with a segregating line. It was possible to make a Freedom of Information Request to BBC to establish how they arrived at their decision to model the pavement in this manner, however SO was confident BBC engineers had followed government guidance. The design was out of WPC's remit and were an accident to occur, it would be for BBC to defend their decision.	Goodmans/BBC. WPC/BBC/GL.

				JW confirmed BBC had taken the decision to fence off the remaining pinch point to prevent cyclists falling into the ditch and that this decision was balanced against the wider environmental benefits of keeping an established water course in place. It was unsure what impact the new cycle path from Burgoyne Avenue would have. After further discussion it was agreed to await the installation of pavement signage and the new pedestrian crossing/cycle path and to keep this item open for further review. <u>20th May 2020</u> A further request was received asking WPC to request formal confirmation from BBC they were satisfied the engineering at the pinch point met all safety requirements and that BBC recognised they would be culpable in the event an accident occurred in that area. It was noted a Freedom of information Request response unequivocally detailed a BBC Highways Control Officer's observations that 3 meters was the safety margin and therefore the entire shared facility should be the same. After discussion it was agreed to recommend to Full Council that SP write to Councillor Royden (Portfolio Holder, Environment, Highways and Transport) requesting formal confirmation as detailed above. It was noted the path had been financed using developer contributions not BBC funding and so BBC finance constraints were not a consideration. <u>FIELDS ROAD SOUTH (ADDITIONAL NEW PAVEMENT)</u>	
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				<u>15th January 2020</u> It is hoped BBC will take this forward as one of their own projects.	
Pavement/all parking issues – various sites including Cause End Road (near the One Stop shop), Fields Road, Manor Road, Mepham Road, Neale Way, Sherwood Close and recently Tithe Barn Road. (To include also the pavement by the Legstraps PH) and issues within “Little Wootton”). (To include fading white lining at several sites within the village). (To include the newly-widened footpath along Fields Road North). (To include outside 19a Bedford Road). (To include parking restrictions including yellow lining).	Residents.	Ongoing.	Not yet identified.	<u>15th January 2020</u> Andy Prigmore has yet to submit his alternative suggestions for parking restrictions outside the One Stop Shop on Cause End Road. JW (in his absence) was asked to follow this up with Andy Prigmore. <u>4th March 2020</u> Jon Pauling had undertaken a site visit at One Stop Shop (now Tesco Express). The following was suggested: <i>“With regards to the parking situation outside the Tesco Express in Cause End Rd, the most obvious restriction to my mind would be to install an approx 45 mtr length of single yellow line with 7AM to 7PM restrictions in the carriageway outside the front of the shop. This would still enable the delivery vehicles to utilize the forecourt to load/unload whilst maintaining traffic flow on Cause End Rd”.</i> It was noted this proposal was not workable as the forecourt was used by customers. BBC’s decision to approve an additional eight dwellings at 41-43 Cause End Road would further exacerbate congestion in the area. A yellow line on the other side of the road would be a better approach and would encourage vehicles to park further away, freeing the area for delivery and passing vehicles. It was agreed to seek clarification from Jon Pauling and JW agreed to request a sample week of HGV movement from Tesco (including timings if possible). <u>20th May 2020</u>	SO.

				A request to meet after Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions were lifted had been made by BBC. A further request for yellow lining to be included along Church Road was made – on the bend before the upper school, towards Hall End. <u>15th January 2020</u> Concerns were raised over vehicles parking along Bedford Road, close to the entrance to Potters Cross and a request was made for double yellow lining to be installed along one side as far as Manor Road and the other side as far as 1 Potters Cross (from Bedford Road). SP was asked to take this to Full Council before a request was made to BBC as it was expected WPC would meet costings. Proposed: SO. Seconded: TI. Resolved by all present. <u>4th March 2020</u> A request for parking restrictions/yellow lining (to include Elmsdale Road/Bedford Road, Potters Cross/Bedford Road and Hall End) had been made to BBC – no further update received. <u>20th May 2020</u> A request to meet after Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions were lifted had been made by BBC. <u>15th January 2020</u> The in-fill of gaps to some advisory white lining is still outstanding at several sites (again this is with Andy Prigmore). SP had sent confirmation to Andy Prigmore on 10th December that WPC would assist	
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				with resident notification. JW (in his absence) was asked to follow this up with Andy Prigmore. <u>4th March 2020</u> No further update received. <u>20th May 2020</u> A request to meet after Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions were lifted had been made by BBC. <u>15th January 2020</u> JW and SP met with Melanie MacLeod BBC on 13th November 2019. Melanie agreed to seek a solution for parking issues outside Wootton Upper School (SP suggested a camera similar to that sited adjacent to Wootton Lower School) and to add an advisory H-bar outside 19a Bedford Road. It was likely many PSPO's would be withdrawn in the coming months/years and that was therefore not the favoured approach to prevent parking on footpaths. It was suggested identifying areas within the village for 'no verge or footway parking' enforcement would be a better approach. SP suggested the newly-widened Fields Road footpath and Keeley Lane near the Legstraps PH and the following areas were also identified at this safety steering group's meeting on 20th November 2019: • Bedford Road - £15,000 • Fields Road - £5,000 • Keeley Lane (in the vicinity of the Legstraps PH - £2,000. It was agreed to see how the Traffic Regulation Order fared in these areas, before suggesting additional sites.	
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				SP had emailed Melanie with the above suggestions on 23rd December. JW (in his absence) was asked to follow this up with Melanie MacLeod. <u>4th March 2020</u> SP had received costings (detailed in red above). Resolved to trial Fields Road only (using the same signage as used at the Memorial Hall) due to costings and to make the same recommendation to Full Council. Proposed: GL. Seconded: HM. Resolved by all present. <u>20th May 2020</u> The above recommendation was taken to Full Council for formal approval however it was noted central government were looking to extend the ban on pavement parking beyond London and Scotland – to include England and Wales. It was therefore resolved at Full Council on 13th May 2020 (FC20/135) to leave this recommendation on file until further guidance had been received from central government. SP noted inconsiderate/pavement parking was now an issue in Tithe Barn Road. SO expanded upon central government's intention to extend the ban on pavement parking to include England and Wales. The Transport Committee had previously recommended a consultation be carried out in the near future (report dated 12th March 2020) and SO had (as a private individual) written to Nadine Dorries MP to establish when that consultation would likely take place.	
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				After discussion it was agreed to recommend to Full Council that SP also write to Nadine Dorries MP to request the same, and that JW and SP respond to future enquiries on this issue, stating this was now a matter for central government, in light of the above. It was further agreed to include an article in the next edition of the Wootton newsletter and WPC's FB and website. JW agreed to make enquiries regarding BBC's stance on this issue too.	
Signage of Rights of Way – various areas	Resident.	Ongoing.	BBC.	<u>20th May 2020</u> SP received a request from a resident for additional signage along several Rights of Ways between Wootton and Wootton Green. This request had already been passed to BBC who confirmed works would not take place until Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions had been lifted.	BBC.
Speed restrictions – identifying what would work best and in what areas. (Members to note a request to include Wootton Green has now been received). (Members to note also a request has been made to re-paint the 30 mph repeater signs along Keeley Lane).	Committee discussion.	Ongoing.	Not yet identified.	<u>15th January 2020</u> Works to install the cameras were anticipated to take place in early 2020. Final locations would be determined by the contractor with input from the police and would cover all main routes in and around the village. A request to introduce a village-wide 20MPH speed limit was dismissed by Andy Prigmore who stated: <i>“In order for a 20mph limit to be installed in Wootton then the majority of traffic must be travelling 24mph or less. If the speed of traffic is greater than 24mph, traffic calming features must be introduced to lower speeds.</i> <i>It is unlikely that traffic is travelling at this speed throughout the village and therefore it will not be</i>	GL.

				<i>possible to lower the speed limits village wide.</i> <i>In addition it should be noted that at present average speed cameras can only enforce on 30mph limits. If the speed limit is reduced, then we will not be able to use average speed cameras to enforce”.</i> GL stated it was not an opinion WPC had requested, but information on how to take the request forward. GL had contacted Living Streets, who had contradicted most of the response above. JW (in his absence) was asked to forward Living Streets response to Andy Prigmore). TI added RoSPA were in favour of 20mph limits which were effective at preventing injuries and hoped to see more areas and local authorities introducing the same – if not village-wide, then in designated locations. It was also hoped a reduction in speed would reduce carbon emissions. JW (in his absence) was asked to forward this also to Andy Prigmore). <u>4th March 2020</u> JW had requested a meeting with BBC representatives to move this forward. GL noted areas in Bedford where a 20MPH limit had been successfully implemented without the need for other calming measures. He added he was currently liaising with the police to establish why they had objected to cameras (as detailed by BBC). <u>20th May 2020</u> A request was received from a resident of Wootton	
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				Green, requesting ASC be deployed in that area also. SP confirmed she had spoken with the Clerk to Marston Moreteyne Parish Council who confirmed MMPC had no plans to install average speed cameras within their section of Wootton Green or Upper Shelton (Wootton Green is divided between the parishes of Wootton and Marston Moreteyne and also two local authorities – Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council). Financing and enforcement would be an issue given that split and currently Bedfordshire Police did not support the installation of cameras*. Members were asked to consider a request from JW to select a road for the ASC being funded by BBC (one pair of cameras). JW confirmed BBC were happy to meet with their contractor, JW and GL on Fields Road to discuss camera location and also WPC's plans for cameras elsewhere in the village. It was noted all costings for this pair of cameras would be met by BBC who would own and maintain the assets. *GL read out a response from Bedfordshire Police regarding average speed cameras which stated both speed and collision history did not evidence the need for fixed camera enforcement. GL confirmed he would be requesting further information. Members were also asked to consider a request to re-paint the 30MPH repeater signs along Keeley Lane. SP was asked to pass this request to BBC and await their response.	
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Wootton Village Entrance Sign (Cranfield Road).	Jeff Noakes (non-committee member).	Ongoing.	Not yet identified.	<u>15th January 2020</u> The signage is still in the wrong location, obscuring vehicles leaving Wootton towards Cranfield, for vehicles leaving the Berry Wood Car Park. JW (in his absence) was asked to follow this up with Andy Prigmore). <u>4th March 2020</u> No further update received. <u>20th May 2020</u> No further update available.	BBC/Developer.
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To be reviewed at each committee meeting.