

Notes of **Strengthening Local Relationships** meeting between  
Battle Town Council (BTC) and East Sussex County Council (ESCC)  
Wednesday, 26 April 2017 at 2.00pm at The Almonry, High Street, Battle

**Present:** BTC: Cllr R Jessop (RJ) -took the chair  
Cllr J Boryer (JB)  
ESCC: Cllr K Field (KF)  
Jon Copp (JC)  
Helen Pain (HP)  
Deputy Town Clerk Jane de Garston (JdG) – took the notes

- 1. Apologies** – received from Cllr D Furness
- 2. Notes of meeting held on 18 January 2017 were agreed.**  
**Matters arising from meeting of 18 January 2017**  
**Re-lining of the High Street** – centre lines have been repainted, parking markings will be undertaken soon.  
**Parking on verges/roads in Netherfield Hill area** – HP reported this awaits a decision re a feasibility study which will incur costs, a survey of residents is needed to discuss this cost. The banks are steep and parked vehicles provide artificial slowing points. Any new footpath would require match funding (CIL funding?)  
**Wildflower verges** – JC advised grass cutting contractors now have maps on tablets which will indicate, by an alarm, areas not to be cut. Areas will be cut once in August after the seeds have dropped unless there is a safety issue relating to vision splays.  
**Broken light column by the Baptist Church** – JC reported that a new column has been erected and is awaiting connection by UK Power.
- 3. ESCC grass cutting regime at Darvel Down**  
JB asked a question regarding the large island on the estate as this is not being cut. JB suggested this could be a wildflower area. This will need to be checked by ESCC ecologist – JC to arrange.
- 4. Double yellow lines opposite the school at Darvel Down**  
HP advised this would need a traffic order. Parking is difficult to enforce and parents collecting children from school do not comply with yellow lines anyway.  
RJ requested this be added to the list for consideration for a new traffic order.  
KF reported RDC are looking at civil parking and local councillors have been given maps to review their areas. John Barnes has this map. Evidence relating to areas for consideration was requested by 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- 5. Speed control in Darvel Down**  
RJ asked JB where in particular speeding occurs. JB advised several areas but youngsters are main culprits at certain times. JB suggested short bolted down ramps. HP advised these cannot be used on highways and are only suitable for car parks etc. Cushions would need to be used but it would be difficult to know where to site them. HP to check injury crash records to check as this is unlikely to be a priority area for ESCC.
- 6. Playground signs near Telham Playing Field**  
Signage would need to be black and white signs as this is not a brown sign tourist attraction. BTC would need to pay but permission would not be required if sited off the public highway. HP expressed concern about possible safety issue if vehicles park on A2100 to access the field. RJ responded BTC would investigate possibility of a small car park being constructed in the playing field.
- 7. Proliferation of signs on verges; particularly Battle Gates and Glengorse**

Correspondence had been received by BTC, with photographs, regarding this item. JC reported pulling out signs when he sees them but there are only 2 enforcement officers for a large area. Where signs are on private land this is not a Highways issue but would be a planning matter.

Neighbourhood Plan banners were shown in pictures and JC requested that no banners or signs are erected using metal road pins as they are a health and safety concern. Firstly as a trip hazard or could cause injury in event of an accident and secondly, the installer does not know what is below where the metal stake is being put. RJ agreed no more metal pins will be used by BTC.

#### **8. Safety audit of Battle High Street: low curbs south side and double curbs on north side**

HP advised an audit would be expensive and what would outcome be? HP has spoken with Brian who advised that guard rails would be needed on both sides on the road. RJ responded BTC would not want guard rails. All agreed NFA regarding this point.

#### **9. Potholes by Arran Telham Lane**

JC reported temporary repairs will be made. Significant repairs and resurfacing work is due from Telham Lane to Ford Lane shortly.

#### **10. Relining review – to include NTR 2 parking bays**

HP believes this area has already been added to the list. However, 2 spaces were left to regulate vehicle speeds. To remove them would require a traffic review and there is no review scheduled currently for Battle. A small amendment to the existing lining scheme could be paid for by BTC. HP to confirm costs. This matter will not be a priority for ESCC as this is a congestion matter and not a safety issue.

#### **11. Poor quality of repairs an north of railway crossing on London Road**

JC reported this area needs a full repair scheme. The cement bound deep repairs are weather dependant as the carriageway needs to be warmer to allow them to be reopened after overnight repair. JC to ask for details of current programmes of work. RJ asked about the repair scheduling of failing sub bases in areas between Whitelands and the B2096. JC reported will be done before next winter.

#### **12. Blocked drains at junction of Telham Lane/Hastings Road**

JC reported this is due to the gully top getting clogged and not the gully pot becoming silted. JC clears it when passing. RJ asked how often this is cleared as part of scheduled works – JC replied every 6 months.

#### **13. Dangerous paving between steps and art shop on Mount Street**

JC to investigate

#### **14. No cycling signs for Western Avenue**

HP was asked what the designation of the pathway is, she will check and report back.

Traffic regulations are required for a cycling prohibition.

#### **15. Any other business**

**General highways works** – JC reported carriageway works to be carried out for Telham Lane, Ford Lane and Powdermill Lane (from Powdermill Hotel towards Catsfield). London Road and North Trade Road are all due this year.

RJ requested a list of all works so BTC have details. JC advised all works are listed in the ESCC website.

##### **Requests made to BTC**

**Request for yellow hatch at Norman Close** – HP will investigate options, unlikely to be yellow box.

**Dog fouling sign & bin requested between Battle & Langton and Saxonwood Road** – This would be for BTC to arrange.

##### **Requests made to KF**

**Grass triangle at Wellington Gardens** – KF enquired re ownership. This is not an ESCC responsibility.

**Request for 'No right turn' or shaded boxes at Mount Street Junction** – Would not be considered.

**Changing zebra crossings to pelican crossings** – HP responded would be too costly and not a priority.

**Loose drain cover outside FatFace shop** – JC to investigate

**Footways narrowing due to encroaching verges** – JC reported all verges on A2100 have been cut back. Concerns can be reported on ESCC website.

**New crossings requested for Mount Street and to Tesco store** –HP stated that Mount Street would need match funding from BTC. Tesco – HP will check injury records and High Level Sifting. A new footway would need to be provided on Tesco side of carriageway. RJ suggested any development behind Tesco could include this provision. KF responded that would be too long to wait.

**Muddy footpath at Asten Fields** – RJ reported that the BTC grounds team are repairing footpath but access to the site is difficult.

**Issue raised by RJ**

**Condition of footpath on NTR hedgeline by recreation field** – JC to investigate

**Issues raised by JB**

**Resurfacing of Netherfield Road** JB reported this was due 3 years ago but has always slipped down the list. JC to ask assets and planning team for any update.

**Battle Golf Club sign removal**\_Golf Club has been gone for 2 years but signs remain. JC reported as brown tourist signs these are usually responsibility of venue to remove. JC cannot remove them as they cannot be removed as this would involve using a ladder. JC to ask if any street lighting team in the area could remove signs.

**16. Date and time of next meeting – Wednesday, 5 July 2017 at 2pm in The Almonry, High Street, Battle**