

Note of Highways Committee meeting (02/10/23)

Present: Terry Hayward (chair), Stephen Woodbridge, Sue Lowen, Colin Burns, Jill Leyland

Apologies: Vicky Ellis, Carrie Allen, Clare Brown, Nick Austen

Gates and Roundels. An invoice from KCC for the cost of the design work has been awaited for some time. TH has chased **and will continue chasing**. Once the design work is done we will know costs and can decide what needs to be done first.

It was agreed that residents should be consulted on relevant parts of the scheme. The first meeting will be with Pluckley Road residents in the first half of November. **Action: TH to check Parish Hall availability and book date; CB and JL to design leaflet to distribute to residents; TH, JL and CB to organise meeting.**

Faversham Road. TH has been unable so far to get an update from Highways but **will continue chasing**. *Post meeting note. The survey has been carried out and summary results were sent to us shortly after the meeting. They support the extension of the 40mph limit. The next step is for us to canvass residents informally to ensure there is sufficient support before a formal Traffic Regulation Order is made.*

Charing village. See note of meeting on September 5th. KCC have said that as they are working on two projects (Faversham Road and Gates/Roundels) for us they cannot work on anything else for the moment. There is no urgency to progress this, therefore.

TH has reported the problems with the signage for Brenchley Mews car park on the portal.

A20 speed limit/proximity of accesses to A20. Unsatisfactory nature of KCC's response to letters to be followed up with Charlie Simkins. **(Action: TH to discuss with Dawne Austen.)**

The revised Reserved Matters plan for the "Land Behind Charing Motors" now shows the spur from the site to the "Land South of the Swan" site aligning with the spur from LSOS. However, there is no specific mention of this in the documents or confirmation that it will be built to the standard required of an access road. The Parish Council will be urged at their meeting on 10th October to raise the point in their comments on the application.

Website. CB and JL agreed to work jointly on putting together material for the Highways page on the Parish Council website **(action)**.

2024/25 Budget. It was agreed to request a further £20,000.

Other points. It was noted that the Examiner for Maidstone's draft Local Plan appears to have accepted the proposal for a garden village of around 5,000 houses in Lenham Heath (Heathlands). Among (many) other issues, this will affect the A20 and other roads in Charing parish.