

Minutes of Highways Group Meeting 21st January 2025

Present: Cllr Terry Hayward (Chair); Cllr Stephen Woodbridge; Colin Burns; Jill Leyland; Sue Lowen.

Apologies: Cllr Carrie Allen; Claire Brown; Vicky Ellis; Nigel Pickford

1. The Chair announced that Nick Austen had resigned from the Group.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
3. Faversham Road. The design has now been done and there is a cost of £2,626.86 for the installation. **Jill Leyland** agreed to approach Clair Bell/Charlie Simkins to see if it was possible for Charlie Simkins to contribute **while Terry Hayward** agreed to check that the Parish Council could meet part or all of the bill. *(Post meeting note: it is too late to obtain Councillor grants this FY so the Parish Council agreed to fund the costs entirely.)*
4. Gates. The detailed design has been carried out and the Parish Council has paid the £5,483.72 installation costs. A date for installation is awaited.
5. The Hill. The TRO was not on the agenda for the December meeting of the Joint Transportation Board. It was agreed to put the need to fill in the “gap” between the proposed lines and the A252 junction on the Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) and discuss how that might be funded without the Parish Council incurring unreasonable costs.
6. Budget for 2025/26. There is an allowance for surveys. It was agreed that it would be useful to survey various roads around September time to see what impact the gates and the posters in Pluckley Road had had. In addition it might be sensible to survey some roads in Charing Heath.
7. Highways Improvement Plan (HIP). A number of comments were made on the draft and additional items suggested. Jill Leyland agreed to update the draft and circulate for comments (done). When finalised we will seek an on-line meeting with Kieran Doble.
8. Work Plan. It was agreed that the group would work on three items in the HIP with a view to these being the next items that KCC would agree to work on.

- a) Bowl Road. **Stephen Woodbridge** to identify points for potential signs and work with **Colin Burns** to identify appropriate signs which could be installed on private land.
- b) Village centre. **Colin Burns** and **Sue Lowen** to start looking at the village centre and discussing as appropriate with shopkeepers. In particular should the Lower High Street be one way or should exiting from it be left turn only?
- c) Gates etc for Charing Heath. **Jill Leyland** agreed to contact Chris Prinn and possibly Dave Bennett with a view to meeting to discuss possible places for gates, roundels etc.