



Holmes Chapel Parish Council

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TECHNICAL SERVICES

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE – Cllr A Armitt, Cllr M Blomeley, Cllr D Grice, Cllr RC Parry, Cllr M Ranger, Cllr D Savage and Cllr MJ Street.

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Technical Services Committee on **Thursday 28 July 2016** at 1 Church Walk, Holmes Chapel commencing at 7.00 p.m. or as soon after the Full Council meeting.

AGENDA:

1. **Apologies** - to approve any apologies for absence.
2. **To receive Declarations of any**
 - a) **disclosable pecuniary interests**
 - b) **any other disclosable interests****as required under Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.**
3. **Public Forum** - The Chairman will adjourn the meeting to allow questions from members of the public to last no more than 15 minutes. After questions the Chairman will reconvene the meeting.
4. **Minutes** - to approve the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 16 June 2016 - copies circulated
5. **Matters arising –** To receive verbal reports on any matters arising from the above minutes:
 - **Boundary signs** - signs have been installed;
 - **Street lighting** - GR Bayley have repaired a couple of faulty lights
 - **Gaps on Jubilee Walk** - shrubs have been purchased and planted to fill the gaps
 - **Hermitage bridge** – some work has taken place but the bridge still needs repairing
6. **Planning applications –** To consider any applications on lists recently circulated.
 - **16/3549C** 89 Ravenscroft, CW4 7HJ Dormer in a front elevation roof slope
7. **Highways Issues Review** - To consider the following issues raised at previous meetings:

- a) **HGV Re-routing** – enforcement has taken place by the police. A meeting is being arranged for early October with CEC to review the scheme. Additional signs are due to be erected further out from the village.
 - b) **SIDs** – to receive a report on data collection
 - c) **Speedwatch** - to note problems Speedwatch are having with abusive drivers and to discuss signage. See emails at appendix 1
8. **Hedge cutting** – a request for hedge cutting along Jubilee Walk and on the A50 near the cemetery have been made by residents. See appendix 2
 9. **Parking at Sutton Oaks** – to note the request from a resident on Sutton Oaks to install residents' parking at the area. A meeting has taken place with Cllr Gilbert who has taken this on to CEC.
 10. **Benches** - to receive a report from Cllr Street on a review of benches in the village with recommendations.
 11. **Village competition** – to receive feedback from Cllr Street on progress.
 12. **Christmas Tree and lights** – to confirm the use of GP Green to install and maintain the Christmas lights and to ask Cllr Street to arrange the purchase and installation of the Christmas Tree.
 13. **Chairman and clerk's report**

Nicola Clarke
Clerk of the Council
22 July 2016

Appendix 1

During our session this afternoon, Dawn and I experienced a very unpleasant confrontation with a seriously aggressive male driver whose verbal approach and body language were decidedly belligerent. Dawn was the recipient of most of his ire (I had the gun but she had noted the number) and she called 999 as he finally left us with a copy of the letter we are required to provide to anyone who approaches us. The 999 responder asked if she wanted the driver to be spoken to, and Dawn said yes. Log no. 471.

The incident was unsettling, particularly for Dawn as this was her second confrontation in two weeks. Anita called in that one. Incident no. 586.

Shortly after the incident, we clocked a car transporter at 37 mph. We clocked one more vehicle and decided to call it a day because we no longer felt safe standing at the side of the road.

Dawn and I have decided that we will in the short term volunteer for no more sessions and that our continued support of CSW depends on the outcome of the meeting that Anita is organizing. We request that PCSO Jill Cope and a member of the Parish Council be present at that meeting.

We all know that, despite our best efforts, speed is becoming a worsening problem in the village. And it seems that driver aggression towards us is on the increase. Among the issues on the agenda for our meeting are two absolute requirements:

- Signs posted at the entries to the village that Police-Supported Community Speed Watch is in operation in the village and warning drivers to limit their speed to 30 mph.
- Signs at the roadside where we work displaying who we are and what we are doing and warning that any aggression will be reported immediately to the police.
- A refined protocol for teams to deal with any person who approaches.

I was optimistic when I first started with CSW that we could make a difference, but I am not so sure now. Drivers can and do speed with impunity because nothing happens to them most of the time. The permanent SIDs are clearly not a deterrent, so I don't see how temporary CSW volunteers can be unless there are a lot more of us and we get some serious signage around the village.

Barbara Reeves

Appendix 2

Dear Sir / Madam

I previously reported an incident (see emails below) to Cheshire East Council Highways dept. Despite not being satisfied with their initial response, I have not had a further reply - hence the reason for contacting you to see if you can help.

I have attached a photo to show where the incident occurred on the A50 coming into Holmes Chapel. A motorbike came within cm of hitting my daughter as we were walking into Holmes Chapel from Cranage, since he was leaning into the corner & the pavement is very narrow at that point due to the hedge.

There are several contributing factors to the problem:

1. Traffic speeding at > 30mph - not practical to reduce speed from 50mph to 30mph immediately
2. Pavement width reduced by overgrown hedge
3. Pavement width further up the hill reduced by ivy / undergrowth

A simple solution to the problem would be to cut the hedge back to behind the telegraph pole to widen the path & to clear the undergrowth on the left side of the pavement going up the hill.

Speeding traffic is more difficult to manage - however, if a 40mph limit was put in place on the A50 from Cranage then it would benefit exit from Needham Drive onto the A50 (also a danger) & encourage traffic to slow down before hitting the 30mph signs coming into Holmes Chapel.

Thanks & regards

Simon Bennett
22 Armistead Way
Cranage
07980 215 535

-----Original Message-----

From: Simon Bennett (Silox UK)
Sent: 26 April 2016 12:12
To: 'CEC Highways'
Subject: RE: CEC Highways Enquiry Resolved - Enquiry 3252722

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the response following the carriageway inspection.

I have to carry out risk assessments as part of my role in the chemical industry - as such, I have a good handle on assessing scenarios for level of risk.

In this case, I believe there was sufficient risk to result in reporting the incident i.e. a speeding motorcycle came within cm of hitting a child on the pavement.

Hence, I would dispute your safety intervention levels since they have not picked up a potential hazard.

A simple solution would be to implement a 40MPH limit prior to the change to 30MPH giving traffic sufficient time to decelerate.

Best regards

Simon Bennett

-----Original Message-----

From: CEC Highways [<mailto:cecconlive@cheshireeast.gov.uk>]
Sent: 26 April 2016 11:43
To: Simon Bennett (Silox UK)
Subject: CEC Highways Enquiry Resolved - Enquiry 3252722

Enquiry Reference Number: 3252722

Thank you for your enquiry.

The Carriageway at Knutsford Road, Cranage has been assessed. At the time of inspection, there were no defects identified that were considered to present a danger to highway users.

We will continue to keep the highway safe for all users via our scheduled safety inspection regime, when any defects that fall within intervention levels will be identified and arrangements made for prompt repair.
