

Information for the Parish Council Meeting on 25 April 2022

3 Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda - for information only)

3.1 To note outcome of Buckinghamshire Council's On Street Parking Review

Buckinghamshire Council has concluded its review of parking restrictions within the villages following the informal and formal consultations held last year.

A link to the map showing the restrictions is here: <https://www.buckinghamshiretraffweb.uk/main.html>. Please note that all traffic restrictions (new and old) are on this map so you need to click on a restriction to see the effective date. New restrictions are effective from 20 May 2022.

In summary it appears that double yellow lines will be installed in areas on:

- Beeches Road
- the service road off Kingsway
- the corner of Kingsway and Green Lane
- the bottom of Green Lane down to Hawthorn Lane (right hand side)
- the corner of Victoria Road as it bends into Parsonage Lane
- the entrance to Scotland Drive.

Hawthorn Lane and all round Burnham Beeches will now be no stopping at any time on the verge or footway.

There will not be double yellow lines, as proposed, on Blackpond Lane or in the entrance to Hill Place. These proposals were removed by the ward councillor(s).

There will also not be residents' parking on Green Lane as there was insufficient support (less than 50%) from the houses along Green Lane.

The Clerk spoke to Ian Thomas, Senior Traffic Regulation Officer at Buckinghamshire Council, and he believes that the lines will be installed before the end of the year.

3.2 To note concerns regarding HGV traffic on Parish Lane

The Clerk has received an email from a resident who, together with other residents, is concerned that since early spring last year there has been a significant increase in through HGV traffic along Parish Lane (and by extension, Collum Green Road).

The residents believe that due to the vehicles' size, frequency, and speed, Parish Lane is wholly unsuitable for this type, and volume of traffic. The resident has previously brought this to the attention of Thomas Broom, Chair of the Hedgerley Parish Council and Buckinghamshire Council Councillors but has been advised that the road itself is within the Parish of Farnham Royal.

The concerns are frequency, speed, vehicle size, road damage, green verge damage, danger to other road users and unseen damage to roadside properties.

The resident would like the parish council to take whatever steps in can to help with this issue. A copy of the email has been circulated to councillors separately.

3.3 To note the receipt of the Annual Playground Inspection reports

The Clerk received the reports by email on 21 June 2022. These have been circulated to councillors separately and will be reviewed to compile an action list.

3.4 To note concerns about wheelchair accessibility around the Parish

The Clerk has received an email from a resident who experienced difficulties walking around Crispin Way, Mayflower Way, Templewood Lane, One Pin Lane, Scott Close and along the A355 with a relative who uses an electric wheelchair. She expressed that the general state of the paths is poor, and in some places dangerous for anyone in a wheelchair. She continued that there are not enough dropped kerbs and that some of the dropped kerbs they came across are too steep making them dangerous.

The resident has asked if the Parish Council can do anything to make Farnham Common a more accessible, wheelchair friendly village. A copy of the email has been circulated to councillors separately.

3.5 Update on surrender of Guide Hut lease

The new storage shed for the Girl Guides has been installed at the Brian Jubb Hall and the Guides are working to clear the old Guide Hut. A draft deed of surrender has been prepared and will be issued shortly.

4 To consider the Beeches Community Board response to potential Highways projects for A355 speed limit reductions

The responses from Transport for Buckinghamshire to the two A355 speed limit reduction proposals were discussed at the recent Highways Action Group meeting and the group is supportive of moving forward with the suggested next steps, which are detailed below, though appreciates that this is not the full implementation of the projects that the Parish Council had requested.

The Board Co-Ordinator is preparing the recommendation reports for the revised scope of the two projects before they are put before the full Board. On application, the Parish Council was proposing to contribute £5,000 to the implementation of each project. Until the speed assessments and surveys are completed it will not be known whether TfB will support speed limit reductions, and at that point details of the costs of full implementation would be provided. The Parish Council is being asked to confirm whether or not it wishes to proceed on this basis, and, if so, how much of the two £5,000 contributions the Parish Council would be willing to put towards this first stage of each project. Once this has been confirmed, the Co-Ordinator will be pleased to progress, if relevant, the applications through the process as soon as possible.

Project One - Farnham Common 30mph speed limit (north from Beaconsfield) - CB355376925

The Network Safety Team and TfB's design team have confirmed the following commission would need to be raised in order to undertake the speed assessment and speed surveys to consider whether the section of road, and the exact section of road, may be appropriate for a speed limit reduction.

Scope: Assess the suitable speed limit for the section of A355 Collinswood Road (USRN 35200306), from the point where the existing speed limit changes from 30mph to 50mph in a northern direction (near to the southbound bus stop called Clare Drive, grid reference 495939, 186151).

Speed Assessment and Speed Survey - A355 Collinswood Road	
Speed survey x 2	£816.00
Speed assessment	£746.00
Total	£1,562.00

It has been noted that, if possible, the parish council and residents would like the speed limit reduced to 30mph for this section.

If the speed assessment is successful the order could be combined with the other section of the A355 for joint savings on the cost of the Legal Order and we could calculate the cost of implementing the speed limit signs and posts.

Project Two - Farnham Royal to Farnham Common – proposed 30mph speed limit - CB355344014

The Network Safety Team and TfB's design team have confirmed the following commission would need to be raised in order to undertake the speed assessment and speed surveys to consider whether the section of road, and the exact section of road, that may be appropriate for a speed limit reduction.

Scope: Assess the suitable speed limit for the section of A355 Beaconsfield Road (USRN 35200300), where the existing speed limit is 40mph (i.e. between "Oak View, Old Beaconsfield Road grid reference, 496131, 184338 and the A355 junction with Sospel Court grid reference, 496041, 183272).

Speed Assessment and Speed Survey - A355 Beaconsfield Road	
Speed survey x 3	£1224.00
Speed assessment	£746.00
Total	£1,970.00

It has been noted that, if possible, the parish council and residents would like the speed limit reduced to 30mph for this section.

If the speed assessment is successful the order could be combined with the other section of the A355 for joint savings on the cost of the Legal Order and we could calculate the cost of implementing the speed limit signs and posts.

5 To consider Buckinghamshire Council's Wider Call for Sites

On 13 June 2022, the Clerk received notice from the Planning Policy Department of Buckinghamshire Council's Wider Call for Sites. They advised that Buckinghamshire Council is beginning work on the new Local Plan for Buckinghamshire (LP4B). The LP4B will allocate sites for development in the period up to 2040 to meet the housing and economic development needs of Buckinghamshire. They are keen to ensure that when new development takes place, it is sustainable and makes best use of available land. To achieve this, they have undertaken two 'Call for Brownfield Sites' consultations where they asked for previously developed land to be submitted for consideration. During this process, they received over 300 submissions of brownfield sites. A list and map of these sites can be found at: www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/brownfield-sites.

Not all of the brownfield sites submitted to the Council previously will be suitable, achievable and available, this will be assessed by the Council in the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessments (HELAA).

Buckinghamshire Council advised that it is still committed to 'Brown before Green', however, based on what they currently understand the needs to be and an initial assessment of the brownfield sites submitted to them, it is important to also understand what further sites are available to ensure they have enough capacity to meet the future needs.

This means they are now undertaking a 'Wider Call for Sites' (including Greenfield sites) to gather a fuller understanding of the land available for development within Buckinghamshire. All of the sites that are submitted to them through this Call for Sites consultation, and the previous two Call for Sites consultations, will be technically assessed in the HELAA. This will assess sites for their suitability, availability and achievability (including viability) to accommodate development. To give an indication on how this process will be undertaken, they have published their draft methodology which can be found at: www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helaa.

In addition to this, further information is available in government guidance about Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessments (HELAA). This can be viewed at: www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-land-availability-assessment.

This Call for Sites is open from 13 June 2022 until 11 September 2022, although sites submitted after this may still be considered.

6 To consider appointments:

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 23 May 2022, it was decided that as not all councillors were present it would be appropriate to seek further members for the following committee/working groups. Please would councillors consider whether they are able to join.

- Finance Committee
- Planning Working Group
- Contracts Working Group

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 23 May 2022, the following roles were not filled. Please would councillors consider whether they are able to take on one (or more) of the roles.

- Project Lead – Residents' Association (inc. Community Litter Picking)
- Project Lead – Community Speedwatch
- Project Lead – Woodlands & Biodiversity
- Project Lead – Highways
- Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Representative
- Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common Consultation Group Representative

7 Finance:

7.1 To consider bus shelter work identified during the recent inspection

Following the latest inspection, the contractor has recommended the following work:

The Kingsway – Cleaning large deposit on end glass panel – £15

Farnham Park Lane – Cutting back and clearing trees overhanging roof – £65.

7.2 To consider repairs to streetlight EF84 in Ingleghen, Farnham Common

The contractor has been called to a fault with this light a number of times over the last few months, It is not working again. The contractor has advised that the fittings and wiring are so old and corroded that every time they repair one part another part breaks. They are therefore recommending:

1. A complete overhaul / rewire etc of each fitting at approx. £60 per fitting
2. A complete new LED fitting at approx. £80 per fitting

There are four fittings for these lights so the total approximate cost is £560.

7.3 To note the use of the Chairman's Allowance

On 27 May 2022, the Chairman instructed General Waste & Refuse to remove some fly tipping from Victoria Road, Farnham Common. The items included a divan bed base and mattress. The items had been there for over two weeks and despite being reported to Buckinghamshire Council had not been removed. Due to the condition of the mattress, he felt the items posed a health risk. The cost was £70.

7.4 To approve payments and note receipts, as per the cashbook

The cashbook has been reviewed and approved by the Chair of the Finance Committee and has been circulated to councillors separately.

7.5 To receive and note the 2021/22 Annual Internal Audit report

The Internal Audit was completed on 21 June 2022 and the report has been circulated to councillors separately.

7.6 To consider the 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 AGAR)

The Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 AGAR) has been circulated to councillors separately.

7.7 To consider the 2021/22 Accounting Statements (Section 2 AGAR)

The Accounting Statements (Section 2 AGAR) has been circulated to councillors separately.

7.8 To note the arrangements for the exercise of public rights

The period for the exercise of public rights to inspect the accounting records for the financial year ended 31 March 2022 will commence on Wednesday 29 June 2022. The period continues for 30 working days and ends on Tuesday 9 August 2022.

8 Planning:

8.1 To ratify comments submitted on recent applications

The schedule of comments submitted to the planning authority has been circulated to councillors.

8.2 To note recent planning decisions

The schedule of planning authority decisions has been circulated to councillors.