

WARBLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the SLR Meeting held between Members of Warbleton Parish Council and ESCC Highways Thursday 29 February 2024 Dunn Village Hall, Rushlake Green 9.30am

- 1. Attendees:** Bob Bowdler (ESCC), Darren Bass (Highways Steward), Rebecca Pudsey (East Sussex Highways), Ian Johnson (Traffic & safety), Councillors: Andy Long (Chair), Buster Ansell, Chris Wells, Katy Whymark and Jeanne Peterson (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Councillors: Charlie Saunders, Beverley Saunders, Peter Sterling, Bruce Simpson and Richard Whymark.

- 2. Approve minutes from the 28 March 2023 meeting:** Approved subject to correction of typo on p2, 10th printed line down – word should be patcher not catcher

Matters Arising – the following issues were noted:

- 1) There is still debris in the stream. Some has been cleared but needs further clearance work – ACTION Highways
- 2) Drain on the junction with Flitterbrook Lane is still covered with debris – ACTION Highways
- 3) Whitehorse Road/Victoria Road jet patching has been done but the area requires resurfacing – ACTION Highways
- 4) Continual flooding of Rookery Lane, the trash screen still needs to be cleared with permission from owner – ACTION Highways
- 5) Rocks at Three Cups old dairy are still there – ACTION Highways chase enforcement team

Any other Business from previous minutes:

- The council confirmed that they have opted for two rural verge grass cuts for the forthcoming year. But there is a question over what is the definition of a single-track road in relation to verge cutting.
ACTION Highways to research & advise
- With the change of contractor used by ESCC, it was hoped that there would be continuity of service – in that repairs carried out by the previous contractor are guaranteed for 24 months. It was confirmed that Balfour Beatty (new contractor) have taken over that guarantee.

Issues of Concern in the Parish:

It was agreed to bring forward item 19 for discussion.

Proposed water works in Punnetts town for 16 months.

https://www.southeastwater.co.uk/about/updates/improving-your-water-network/punnetts-town-water-main-upgrade/?fbclid=IwAR0Bk7KRjYlehHRR3-sv_bQAPeY4DbAfTIN5NqX_eq8VmiV_bqtAhZOcBWU

This plan will have a major impact in the parish and it appears that SE Water and ESCC Highways had not communicated regarding the proposed patching repairs to Punnetts Town roads which if happen will need to be dug up again for the SE Water work.
There appears no consistency in timing outcomes between varying stretches of the proposed works.

The major concern for Warbleton Parish Council is that the documented diversion routes are not suitable to carry the type of vehicle that will have to go its way, and are currently not in a state to accommodate HGVs; overgrown trees and hedgerows, single lanes and tree branches are hanging touching BT power lines.

ACTION: Highways to have a detailed discussion before the works go ahead to address the issues which will present during diversion if not resolved; road pinch points and tree works. Highways will raise a job via BT to address the power line incursion.

3. Marklye Lane low tree branches just down from Chapman's town road junction. Believe it's an oak tree.
ACTION: This will be passed by Highways to the enforcement team to look at potential boundary issues and responsibility for cutting back.
4. None of the drains are functioning, they are continually blocked and the carriageway is being washed away with huge pieces of concrete being lifted and gouged away.
ACTION: Highways to assess and check if work guaranteed with Drainage department, and take necessary action
5. Overhanging trees on Marklye Lane opposite the Marklye estate stone wall.
ACTION: Highways have already noted this issue and will resolve
6. Overhanging trees Flitterbrook Lane opposite Fort Ironside.
ACTION: Highways have already noted this issue and will resolve
7. Overhanging Hegde on the C15 just south of the Dunn village hall on the opposite side of the road.
ACTION: Highways have already noted this issue and will resolve
8. Middle Lane north of Rushlake Green , large stretch of overhanging hedge and trees north of the old Telegraph exchange(Rushlake Green end). These are on Land owned privately and owned by East Sussex.
ACTION: Highways have already noted this issue and will resolve.
9. Top of Middle Lane area surrounding the Old Dairy. Overhanging hedges encroaching and rocks placed adjacent to the carriageway which vehicles have hit multiple times.
ACTION: Highways have already noted this issue and will resolve.
10. Middle Lane at Turners Green at the site of recent drainage works. Large area of tarmac missing and full of water.
ACTION: Highways have already noted this issue and a works order has been made.
11. Trolliloes lane at the bridge. Still no action with the broken bridge sections left in the river.
ACTION: Highways
12. South of Trolliloes lane bridge low branches overhang the carriageway.
ACTION: Highways
13. Iwood Lane south of Iwood Lane Barn towards Trolliloes lane is like an assault course, multiple washouts and pot holes.
ACTION: Highways
14. Chapman's Town Lane. Thorrington House , overhang Yew tree.
ACTION: Highways have already noted this issue and will resolve

15. Kingsley Hill road just east of the Hammer Lane and Warbleton turning, low overhang Oak tree branches. Also all the Oak trees at this junction/cross roads are low and show multiple vehicle impacts.

ACTION: Highways

16. Hammer Lane all the way to the Junction of Foords Lane there are hundreds of overhanging trees and branches all well below 16 feet 5 inches showing impact damage with vehicles.

ACTION: Highways have already noted this issue. Part work has been completed.

17. No road markings to distinguish between path and road outside Osborne House, Rushlake Green. It was confirmed that WPC can mark boundary delineation on its own privately owned land.

ACTION: Highways & WPC to establish boundaries from land registry and county documents.

18. Review of any additional issues to those listed: See item 22

19. Proposed water works – discussed at the beginning of the meeting

20. Faded & worn-out white lines at various junctions in Rushlake Green village centre including the words SLOW. Reinstatement could satisfy some of the concerns of the residents of the village about speeding vehicles.

ACTION: Highways to look at re-marking of traffic lines in the village. WPC to send details to Traffic Safety of the school bus drop off point in Rushlake Green where currently there are no markings.

21. Potholes throughout the parish; example on Cade Street that will probably cause an accident if not repaired soon and on Bodle Street Road - it also still floods across the road there. Flooding also across the road near the junction of Kingsley Hill and Cowbeech Road.

ACTION: Highways reported that there had been temporary fills and new holes identified had been raised for completion. The drains have been jetted.

22. Any other business

- Some speeding signs are discoloured & dirty and it was confirmed that cleaning work can be carried out locally.
- WPC were urged to report pothole problems via the ESCC website, that way jobs will be noted and raised. Those holes already marked with white paint lines showed that they have been registered by ESCC for repair.
- Any claims for car damage through potholes should be made via Balfour Beatty and not ESCC
- It was noted that there had been a serious issue with the call-out system during bad weather and trees down. The site had been overseen by local councillor/s but no attendance by ESCC. The trees had eventually been cleared locally to clear access routes.

23. Close of Meeting 10.45am.

It was agreed to arrange the next meeting for August 2024