

**Minutes of Committee meeting held online (using Zoom)
on Tuesday 3 June 2020**

[This meeting was held online because of the restrictions of the Covid-19 virus pandemic]

Present: Tony Bartlett, Bryan Biggs, Fred Dunkerley, Bryan Hall, Desmond Henley, John Hobbs, Andy Peddle, David Porter and Evan Thomas.

Item 1: Record of meeting held on 13-17 March 2020

i. Approval

The minutes were agreed.

ii. Matters Arising

A response had been received from R L Goodman & Son, dated 20 May 2020. This was judged to be not very helpful and a draft response was agreed. It was also agreed to publish the correspondence on the SLRA website and to send a copy to Westwell Parish Council.

ACTION DP

Item 2: Planning Issues

It was noted that amended plans had been submitted for the undetermined outline planning application for the former Sandpit, Sandyhurst Lane. The number of dwellings had been reduced from 18 to 9. It was considered that the SLRA objection comments submitted in November 2018 were still relevant and that any additional points would be submitted by the closing date of 17 June 2020. **BH** agreed to look at additional environmental points and **DP** raised the issue of the excessive walking distance to local shops, buses and schools.

ACTION DP/BH/TB

Item 3: Traffic issues

Traffic speed management was a long-standing issue, heightened by recent complaints about traffic speed in Sandyhurst Lane during the current lockdown. There were mixed views within the committee as to whether the lockdown had made matters worse, but it was agreed that recommendations on potential traffic speed management measures should be submitted to the two relevant parish councils, both of whom were developing Highways Improvement Plans, in conjunction with KCC Highways. A full discussion of the issues was held, including:

- the evidence we have that there is reasonable adherence to the 40mph limit but flagrant disregard of the 30mph limit
- safety concerns by pedestrians and cyclists, particularly where there is no pavement, and the encroachment of property owners close to the road leaving little or no safe passage
- the use of the Lane as a rat-run between the A20 and Faversham Road.
- increases in all users to be expected over the Local Plan period from S20 Eureka Park, enhanced use of Sandyacres, environmental pressures against private vehicle use and windfall development sites.
- the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) initiative of "Twenty is Plenty" to encourage 20mph speed limits on rural roads across Kent
- possible options ranging from passive traffic calming signage, through more active measures or even to making the Lane a no through road.

It was agreed that the recommendations should include:

- a 20mph speed limit along the entire length of Sandyhurst Lane
- at or near the existing "pinch point" between 316 and 326 a formalised "priority one-way access" point should be installed.

• that a second "priority one-way access" point should be installed towards Potters Corner

TB agreed to submit recommendations to the parish councils.

ACTION TB

[Secretary's note: Subsequent to the meeting, the committee agreed to include the following further point in the recommendations:

- that residents be encouraged to make their front boundary more "pedestrian friendly".]

Item 4: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Parish Residents' Association/Neighbourhood Plan

BH said that there had been little progress on the Neighbourhood Plan because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Plan was currently awaiting completion of some minor amendments.

Item 5 Sandyacres Trustee Board

FD said that there had been no meetings of the Trustee Board since 17 February. Sandyacres had been closed since the start of the lockdown.

Item 6: Membership

DP said that there were now 152 members, 3 new members having joined recently.

Item 7: Treasurer's report

The Treasurer was not present. **DP** said that the bank balance in March had been £2,091.39 and should not have changed significantly since then. Expenditure to be claimed included £60 annual website hosting charge and £25 domain charge for 3 years.

Item 8: Neighbourhood Watch

The latest Neighbourhood Watch database had been circulated. The Westwell Eye (currently in electronic form only) contained security information under the heading of Westwell Community Watch Scheme.

Item 9: Other business

FD said that parking on the pavement in Sandyhurst Lane continued to be a problem. **AP** also confirmed this. It was noted that this issue is currently under review at national level.

[Secretary's note: This complaint was passed to Boughton Aluph & Eastwell PC on 20 January 2020.]

DHe said that the pole supporting the 30mph repeater sign outside 86 Sandyhurst Lane was badly corroded. **ET** agreed to notify the Westwell Parish Clerk. **ACTION ET**

Item 10: Next meeting

The next meeting will be held in 6-8 weeks' time by Zoom, on a date to be decided.

ACTION DP