

Minutes of the Roads Committee meeting held Friday 9th April 2024 at 1.30pm at the Town Hall.

Present Cllrs; Beavan (DB) – Chair, Davy (PD), Jarvis (RJ) and Palmer (MP)

Also present, Town Mayor Cllr Flunder (SF) (ex officio) and Town Clerk (LB). Also, SCC Ward Cllr M Ladd (ML) and SCC Highways Officer W Saunders (WS).

Agenda

1. **To receive apologies for absence** – Cllr Sutton.
2. **Declarations of interest:**
 - a. To receive any declarations of Non-Registrable Interest regarding the agenda. Nil
 - b. To receive any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest/ Other Registrable Interest regarding the agenda. Nil.
3. **Public section** - *for members to speak on matters relating to the agenda items under consideration. Max of 30 minutes will be given to this section. Discussions at the discretion of the Chair of the Cttee.*

There were no members of the public present.

4. **Update from SCC Ward Cllr Ladd re local Highways matters, including;**

Update on East Street parking bays – went to SCC legal on 22nd March 2024. Formal advert being prepared for 21 day consultation. If no comments – legal process will go ahead. If comments – this will take longer. But it is a health and safety issue so it is hoped that it can be progressed by the summer.

Discussion re whether a temporary restriction could be put in place for immediate solution. Cones to be placed out.

Surface of area behind old Kings Head – ML advised that it is on the priority list but there is no timescale. Pier Avenue and some other roads are also on the list.

5. **Update from ESC Ward Cllr Beavan including;**

Update on residents parking in specified bays – DB advised those present to see ESC website for details.
6. **Update on matters from previous meeting including;**

20mph zone – it was suggested that STC apply for 20mph in the High Street first as it is expected that this could be agreed as an exception under the SCC 20mph policy. The policy is unlikely to apply to other areas throughout the town so these might be more difficult to align with SCC policy. Discussion re whether East Street ought to be added to the High Street speed limit request. Agreed by all along with Queen Street. (20mph request will therefore cover High Street, Market Place, East Street, Queen Street (but not Pinkneys Lane)).

SCC WS advised that a Speed survey would need to be carried out on every street for which a speed limit request is made for. WS advised that the Police and SCC consider that High Street is the best area to be applied for first.

Action – Town Clerk/WS to liaise over speed survey for East Street/High Street speed limit request. SCC costs likely to be £700, and the 20mph TRO is approx. £12k.
Funding – SCC will need to prepare a quote for STC to put in an Application for ESC CIL.

Entrance/ Exit to High Street build ups - Build ups – cost is likely to be £50k for two build outs – one to go by No 51/and one by chemist on Queen Street. Costing will come from SCC to STC.

ESC CIL application – application to be submitted for £13k for 20mph TRO as well as for the build outs costs of £50k approx. ESC CIL application will therefore be £63k - £70k.

Disabled bay outside URC – STC cannot apply for a disabled bay – STC request would be a change to the TRO – cost approx. £4k.

Alternative is to find someone in the High Street with a Blue Badge to apply instead – resident applying for a disabled bay can get one for approx. £800.

Safety Improvements for area outside Town Hall/ East Street entrance/ Market Place line markings – to consider – SCC could burn off the white marked lines/shapes which suggest that this is a pedestrian crossing. Town Clerk to ask WS formally to remove them.

7. **STC survey of pavements** throughout the town - to consider and if agreed, to recommend the next steps.
After discussion it was agreed to make sure the minimum width is always maintained. STC policy = 1.5m – 2m minimum.
8. **To receive update on new Electric vehicle charger** installations and Plug in Suffolk next phase of roll out including nomination of streets for a public EV chargepoint.
60p – new fast charger. 45p – Church Green 7kw.
Media release and signage to be organised.
9. **Signage Report** – to consider and if agreed to recommend next steps – cost/charges to be added to ESC CIL application to take this forward.
10. **Other matters**
 - *Gardner Road verges;*
to consider recommending that SCC transfer ownership to STC/ to consider purchasing type 1 to level surface
SCC maintain this as verge – STC to ask SCC for the verge ownership (covering solicitor costs) but ask SCC to improve/heighten the kerb stones on the corner to improve/stop water flow and damage. Council to be asked to agree informally that STC will maintain the verge and STC to do the kerbing by the Gardner Road car park should SCC not agree to do it.
 - *Lengthy standing of buses outside Fat Face* - discussion about taking away front bus stop for health and safety/visibility of junction of York Road. SCC Simon Barnett will approach bus companies and do consultation. (see subsequent alteration to the proposal following comms with bus companies who need all spaces to remain)
 - *Constitution Hill Verges* – to consider the erosion of the greens/ installation of kerbing –

ML provided the history – it was felt that kerbing would actually prevent cars from parking along Constitution Hill. No further action at this stage.

11. **To consider the Nov 2023 Suggested Priority actions and to receive updates as appropriate.**

North Parade – DB to find out about the ESC funding for limited waiting to stop overnight parking.

It was considered that there is a need to have spaces marked out.

Full Council to be asked for their views on limited waiting and what sort of times this should apply. Could instead put no parking between certain hours (unless a resident with a resident parking permit) or have an timed restriction.

ESC parking permits for essential care workers – see ESC website.

Potholes were discussed as the issues are ongoing – it was agreed to continue to encourage residents to report on SCC Highways reporting tool.

Discussion re road mender and dragon patcher. SCC have these on trial.

Potters Bridge survey – SCC have it on their works plan for 2024. Drains have been done. Grips still need doing.

Request received for Double yellow outside Godyll Road/York Road corner. Camper Vans sometimes park outside a residents house. STC/SCC to consider the concerns and what is possible.

Klondyke Skatepark – suggestion received for dropped kerb from the park onto Pier Ave being created. SCC advise that this would not be approved.

12. **Date of next meeting.** Wednesday 15th May 2024 2pm

Gardner Road verge - SCC maintain this as verge – STC to ask SCC for the verge ownership (covering solicitor costs) but ask SCC to improve/heighten the kerb stones on the corner to improve / stop water flow and damage. Council to be asked to agree informally that STC will maintain the verge and STC to do the kerbing by the Gardner Road car park should SCC not agree to do it.

ESC CIL application – application to be submitted for £13k for 20mph TRO as well as for the build outs costs of £50k approx. ESC CIL application will therefore be £63k - £70k.

North Parade - Full Council to be asked for their views on limited waiting and what sort of times this should apply. Could instead put no parking between certain hours (unless a resident with a resident parking permit) or have an timed restriction.