

## Draft Minutes of the Roads Committee meeting held Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at 10.30 am the Town Hall.



Present Cllrs; Beavan (Chair) Jarvis, Hurr, Davy, Palmer.

Also present; SCC Highways officer J Kerridge (JK), Charles Harrison (CH) and Town Clerk.

1. To receive apologies for absence. SCC Ward Cllr Ladd
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. Minutes from August meeting - as presented at full council. Noted
4. Public section - for members to speak on matters relating to the agenda items under consideration. Max of 15 minutes will be given to this section. Discussions at the discretion of the Chair of the Cttee. Nil
5. Update from SCC Charles Harrison and Jo Kerridge re local Highways matters, including;
  - *High Street 20mph Application /High Street Build outs/ courtesy crossings– confirm SCC approval and costs - receive update on progress and costs.*  
Members were advised that SCC had approved the 20mph application at their meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> August. The costs for the TRO are likely to be £6k - £12k.  
The estimate of costs for the build outs which are part of the Scheme have been received (£50k – 62k) but it is hoped that the SCC £54K funding should be sufficient to cover the costs. Cllr M L agreed to fund any excess required for the build outs.

**IT WAS AGREED BY ALL TO RECOMMEND TO ACCEPT THE COSTS AND RESPOND TO SCC HIGHWAYS ACCORDINGLY.**

  - *East Cliff – parking spaces/ road resurfacing – receive update.*  
The need for some resurfacing of the small piece of road outside the houses has been reported on the Highways reporting tool. But this is likely to be very low priority.
  - *Community Liaison Officers*  
Jo Kerridge advised that Charles Harrison will be the Southwold Community Liaison Officer with immediate effect.
  - *Mights Bridge update*  
A resident had contacted M L about a noise heard from the bridge when crossing it by car. The bridge inspectors have taken a look to see if anything had moved on the bridge. No issues were found. DB advised that with respect to Coastal Erosion he is pushing for a bund on the seaward side of Mights Bridge, as the road cannot be raised.
  - *Traffic Survey Pier Avenue*  
Survey carried out and data forwarded from SCC. The mean average is 22mph. this might fit separate criteria for a 20mph if required as it can be self-enforcing.
6. Update from ESC Ward Cllr Beavan on ESC parking matters;
  - *Parking enforcement – frequency in Southwold.*  
DB will chase the data which had been requested about how much time is spent inspecting car parks compared to the on-street parking.

- *Parking outside Post Office*

DB will feed through the issue of people parking outside of the Post Office (there are no waiting restrictions there so no one should be parking there).

- *ESC Parking machines and payment options*

Complaints are being received about the inability of people to pay at the machines – either due to poor wi fi and not being able to download the parking app, or because they do not offer a cash alternative. ESC advises that new machines will be purchased and installed – which will offer card payments too. DB will check the expected installation dates.

- *Resident parking exemption* has been renewed by ESC.

- *Mobile Homes parking close to seafront.*

Discussion about any issues caused so far this year. The caravans and mobile homes should be parking at the caravan site. There are also spaces in the ESC Pier car park. There is a pilot taking place in Felixstowe re camper vans.

It was suggested that, as part of LGR, perhaps some ESC land could be requested, and additional parking facilities provided for mobile homes.

7. Other matters including;

- *Inspection of Potters Bridge*

SCC advise that the principal inspection has been delayed. A routine inspection will take place in 2026.

DB advised that he would still be keen to have real time electronic signage – and suggested that SCC consider implementing these from the monies saved by not carrying out the principal inspection (approx £100k cost).

- *Signage* – Cllr Davy and the town clerk had met and confirmed the signage which is being requested from SCC. It is hoped that these will be installed for March 2026.

- *Plug in Suffolk – lease agreement.*

The Solicitor report had been circulated to members of the cttee prior to the next meeting. It was felt that in view of the very small income which would be received, any further dialogue through solicitors would not be cost effective. Comments from M and R to be summarised and sent to Plug in Suffolk, as well as the thoughts around negotiation costs. ML is taking the concerns raised by M and R up with SCC.

- *Trade dispensation permits* – it was suggested that the system is complex, and many do not apply.

- *Benches on Highway – Sole Bay Inn* – There has been much discussion on social media about the table/ chairs being removed. Adnams/ DB/ and ML have met to discuss way forward. Adnams are likely to apply for a pavement to be installed, on which they will then seek permission for tables/ chairs. JK will check on the position re the Red Lion.

- *Pot Holes* – Areas including Field Stile Road, outside Adnams, and around church will be added to reporting tool.

Date of next meeting. To receive design for Build Outs – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 10.30am at Town Hall.

