

Draft Minutes of the Roads Committee meeting held Thursday 28th August 2025 at 10.30 am the Town Hall.



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

Also present; SCC ward Cllr Ladd (ML), SCC Highways officer J Kerridge (JK), and Town Clerk.

1. To receive apologies for absence. Nil
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 July 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 Ward Cllr Ladd and Jo Kerridge re local Highways matters, including;
 - *High Street 20mph Application receive update on progress and costs.*
Members were advised that SCC had considered the 20mph application at their meeting on 26th August but that the outcome is not yet known. ML will chase and advise the town clerk.
 - *High Street Build outs/ courtesy crossings– confirm SCC approval and costs.*
Members were advised that a road safety audit will need to be carried out. JK to find out the timescales and costs of the scheme and advise the town clerk.
Discussion about the length of time that this is taking – ML advised that SCC has to follow national policies on highways matters as well as SCC ones. ML advised that there is a process for every project involving a highway and these have to be worked through. However, it is hoped that this project will go through in the New Year/ Easter 2026.
 - *East Cliff – parking spaces/ road resurfacing – receive update.*
The small piece of road outside the houses has been reported and will be done in due course.
 - *East Cliff – consideration of double yellows – update*
ML advised that putting double yellow on only the seaward side of East Cliff could cause issues, as the other side would remain single yellow and might encourage people to park there more, and that this could be dangerous.
 - *Pier Ave mini roundabout – concerns re speeding*
ML had been contacted – no further action required.
 - *Mights Bridge*
A resident had contacted M L about a noise heard from the bridge when crossing it by car. JK to ask the bridge inspectors to have a look to see if anything had moved on the bridge.

- *Potters Bridge Inspection*
JK to find out timescales for the inspection.
6. Update from ESC Ward Cllr Beavan on ESC parking matters;
- *Parking enforcement – frequency in Southwold.*
ESC has advised that the parking enforcers were in the town for an average of 12 hrs 9 mins a week during July (this has to cover all car parks and onstreet parking areas). This should be increased during August.
 - *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. The situation regarding poor wi fi in the town to be placed on the town council agenda.
 - *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;
- *Signage* – Cllr Davy and the town clerk had met and confirmed the signage to be requested from SCC.
 - *Plug in Suffolk – lease agreement.* The lease agreement has been considered by Mills and Reeve solicitors on behalf of the town council. Discussion about the report, in which there were a number of items which the solicitors were suggesting should be altered. Members suggested that if solicitors needed to be involved to ensure the lease was made acceptable, their fees would not be covered by the net income being obtained from Plug in Suffolk as this is very low, and that therefore it might not be viable to go ahead.
- Solicitor report to be sent to all members of the cttee prior to the next meeting in order that a decision can be made at next meeting as to whether to go ahead with Plug in Suffolk or to seek another provider.
- *Denes used for parking over Bank Holiday weekend – Complaints received.*
The denes had been used for parking over the bank holiday weekend – vehicles had entered the ESC land as there is a lack of fencing/ gates/ no parking signs. It was noted by all that the Denes need to be protected to prevent erosion and that ESC should be encouraged to take preventative measures to make sure that this cannot reoccur.
 - *CIL Monies* – STC has received some ESC Cil funding for the Roads projects, but it was noted that Reydon P C will get significantly more than STC due to the number of houses being built – yet Southwold will take much of the volume for people shopping here and needing to park. ML advised that the Millenium Trust will be able to fund more spaces in their car park should Hastoe take on the fire station site, as they are going to pay the Trust for some spaces that they need for their housing scheme.

Date of next meeting. Thursday 9th October 2025 at 10.30am

