

Highways/Footpaths/Police Working Group meeting held on Thursday 5th March 2015 at 10am at the Town Hall

Present: Southwold Town Councillors; Cllr Betts, Cllr Bradbury, Cllr Doy and Cllr Tobin.
Cllr Winter arrived at 10.30am. SCC Cllr Ladd, SCC Officer Mark Kerridge and
PCSO Gary Wallace.
Also present the Town Clerk.

SCC Mark Kerridge apologised that Denise Mortimer would not be available for the meeting.
He advised that Denise had the updates of matters outstanding, and he would therefore
have to refer to her for appropriate responses.

Apologies were received from SCC Officer Denise Mortimer.

Police – *Traffic matters in and around Southwold since previous meeting;*

1. GW advised that the lines have been repainted along Church Street but that the “no waiting” plate by the Co-op is no longer there. MK was asked to arrange its replacement.
2. Junction Hotson Road/Marlborough Road – MK confirmed that this was on the SCC works programme.
3. “Stop” signs at Station Road roundabout – MK said that the criteria for a stop sign is laid down and he will consider whether the junction meets the criteria. MK to advise the Town Clerk of the outcome.
4. Hotson Road/St Edmunds Road – GW advised that the road is usually covered with gravel and stones presumably from Duncan’s. MK advised that this was not something that SCC could regularly monitor but could ask Norse to sweep on an occasional basis. However if it was partly due to the actions of a third party i.e. Duncan’s lorries/vans, a letter should be written to Duncan’s. After full discussion it was agreed that the Town Clerk would write to Duncan’s to ask them to sweep the road on a regular basis as the debris is causing a safety issue.

SCC - *update on matters within Southwold including;*

Tibbys Green TRO – MK will check the TRO Order to see whether the error is due to a typo or whether the restriction has been incorrectly recorded. MK suggested that the plate at Tibbys Green be checked to see what was on the sign.

Hardstanding for St Edmunds Road – a cost has already been notified (£8,800) - MK advised that at present this area is maintained by SCC so there may be a small amount of maintenance monies that could be allocated, however the bulk of the monies would need to be considered by STC. It was suggested that STC should consider this at a future budget

meeting. ST suggested that a second quote be requested from a private contractor – MK advised that any private contractor would have to meet all of SCC's requirements and that he would have to consider whether this was a way forward. MK will email the Town Clerk with an update. ML advised that as highways have a present responsibility to maintain the area, SCC should be asked to look at making immediate maintenance repairs.

Traffic Review including car parks/ parking – MK advised that Andrew Pearce has now left Kier. Kier themselves advise that the criteria for the traffic review is now a too large a project for them to quote for and they have passed this on to an associated company – Aecom – who have been asked to price the work. MK advised that the quote should be received within 2 weeks.

Sign outside school – ML advised that himself and DM had visited the site following the last meeting. There is already one "school" sign by the brewery warning drivers that they are approaching a school but there is not one at the other end. DM and ML suggest that no further signage is necessary. GW advised that cars do occasionally park over the white lines at the front of the primary school. These lines are advisory only, and therefore parking over them cannot be enforced. The school had been made aware that other schools do place A boards over the white lines encouraging drivers to be considerate and the school will be encouraged to purchase their own sign if they are concerned. SD advised that parking outside schools seems to be a problem throughout Suffolk and is regularly mentioned at the local SNT meetings.

Barrier by Queen Street to straighten – MK will chase straightening of the sign.

A Board Policy – MK advised that the memorandum would need to be signed by the Town Council and returned to him. The initial advisory letter can be drawn up and forwarded to all businesses as appropriate. STC to undertake this work.

If a business does not comply, STC would send out the first 2 warning letters as appropriate, informing SCC if there was a need to go to stage 3.

Discussion took place about street furniture in the High Street and who enforces any issues. MK advised that SCC do not have the capacity to enforce restrictions on street furniture and that this would need to be a local policy. Discussion took place about Trinity's, whose furniture obstructs the footpath on occasion. It was felt that such street furniture was inappropriate for many of the Southwold pavements. GW offered to speak to Trinity's to ensure that they were aware of the problems.

TRO - any outstanding / new requests – there are no outstanding or new requests.

Road closure arrangements/ costs – update – MK advised that the situation with regards to marshalling road closures is ongoing.

Online reporting of maintenance issues – there is now a facility for any member of the public to report highways maintenance issues online. The Town Council to publicise the link from the SCC website.

Spinners Lane – IRB had been contacted by a resident who was concerned about the access/parking/road surface along Spinners Lane. Only part of this area is SCC highways, with the majority being a Right of Way. MK advised that the surface of a Right of Way only needs to be appropriate for a pedestrian, and that matters of concern for vehicles is not a problem which Rights of Way would become involved with. The Town Clerk had received a letter from a local resident concerning the issues being encountered along Spinners Lane due to building works and builders vans and a letter to be sent in reply.

20mph zones – MK advised that this would need to be considered as part of the traffic/parking review.

Other matters

Use of Harbour car park - double yellow lines have now been placed along Ferry Road/corner of entrance to the harbour and it was hoped that this would ensure that the public made use of the car parks in this area.

Pot holes of concern – pot holes within the WDC car park at the harbour have been reported.

Pot hole by Tesco's – MK agreed to assess.

There were no other pot holes of concern.

White lines around Southwold – MK advised that the white lines which are faded could be renewed during March and any that are of concern should be reported to him as soon as possible and he will arrange for these to be repainted.

South Green kerbing – MK advised that he has found some extra kerbing. He will advise STC of the cost of the kerbing being laid so that STC can consider whether it wished to go ahead with this work.

Grass verge at top of Gun Hill – GW advised that the tenant of Susie's café drove up Gun Hill and parked their van on the grass by the slope down to the café which was causing damage to the grass. WDC are responsible for the grass in this area. Discussion took place as to what could be done. Councillors advised that in the past tenants of this café had parked on the car park at Ferry Road and had carried any items to the café. It was agreed that WDC would be asked to look at the grass area and perhaps kerb, or place a bollard to prevent the

verge becoming further eroded. Tony Rudd to be asked to confirm whether access to the café is mentioned within the lease.

Shuttle bus – ST advised that he had met with Karen Hester and Emma Hibbert the previous day and that STC can expect to receive a contract from Adnams in due course. This should be a 3 year agreement with appropriate break clauses so that STC could withdraw after year 1 should it still wish to do so. Adnams wish for the bus to be “wrapped” prior to the bus being used by paid drivers using their donation, and this is presently being arranged by ST. ST advised that himself and Cllr Sue Allen had interviewed the applicants for the driver posts, and had chosen successful candidates as advised to STC in February. ST will update Council as more information is received.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.50am.