Minutes of the October Meeting of 2011 of Otford Parish Council Highways Committee held in the Meeting Room, OPC Office, on Thursday 20th October 2011 at 09.15am

Present: Cllrs Richard Knight (Chairman); Doug Cracknell; John Edwards-Winser; Howard Leicester; Martin Whitehead
In attendance: Brenda Hambrook (Parish Clerk); Jeff Lee (Parish Plan Highways Group)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
   1.1 None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
   2.1 None

3. MINUTES
   3.1 The Highways Committee Minutes of 25th August were accepted at the OPC meeting 12th September 2011

4. MATTERS ARISING
   4.1 8.6 Complete (Pickmoss footpath resurfacing requested on Parish Portal) Complete

5. AGENDA ITEMS

5.1. Information on Crashes
   5.1.1 1. Bus Shelter PWW opposite Rye Lane demolished by a car.
   2. High Street, a passing truck damaged a parked car.

5.2 Notes from KHS Meeting 13th October 2011
   5.2.1 Essential to log all problems and requests on the Parish Portal. A reference number will be assigned and the job prioritised.
   5.2.2 New Highways contractor appointed, “Enterprise Co” started 01.09.2011
   5.2.3 Tudor Cres. Paving slabs are to be replaced by tarmac, work expected to start before April 2012
   5.2.4 Pilgrims Way East, road resurfacing, hopefully by April 2012
   5.2.5 Village Gateways will have to be installed by the Highways contractor.
   5.2.6 Signage, removals and replacements are considered as New works & Improvements and are the responsibility of KHS Transportation.
   5.2.7 Speed Sign variations and repositioning, as above 5.2.6. With Police consultation. Unlikely to be sanctioned at the present time.

5.3 Bus Shelters
   5.3.1 A bequest from a local resident for a shelter at the junction of Willow Park and Telston Lane. The cost of the shelter is in the region of 9k. Approval and installation by KHS £4.5k. This may exceed the expectations of the benefactor, who will need to be contacted.
   5.3.2 Norman Catt to quote for replacing the demolished shelter at Rye Lane. Replacement bus stop also required. The bus had been re-routed through Willow park, exiting from Rye Lane. A new hard standing at the edge of the main road is needed for the new stopping area. KHS will not provide one, the bus company is to be approached, either to provide it or revert to the old route.
   5.3.3 Bus Time-tables need clarification.

5.4 Speedwatch
   5.4.1 Those who have completed their training are now able to train the remaining volunteers who attended the initial training. The system is now in use and random checks have been carried out. 4 people are needed to run it, each recording specific features and the time, of any vehicle
travelling over 35mph.

5.5 Car Parking
5.5.1 Main / High Street Car Park.
An extensive discussion was held. A number of ideas were put forward. There is no simple solution. There are too many cars and many people are unwilling to walk, or use public transport. What ever we do will upset sections of the community. If we introduce a regulation, will we be able to enforce it? It was decided that we would meet again, as a sub-committee, on Thursday 3rd November at 09.15 in School House.

5.5.2 Suggestion to remark the approach to Otford along the Sevenoaks Rd. to indicate parking. This may have the benefit of slowing traffic down, but may encourage commuters to park in preference to the station. J.E-W to seek the views of the Joint Transportation Board.

5.5.3 Noted that the Tudors are completely free of commuter parking. Has it moved to the Old Walk?

5.5.4 Andy Bracey SDC is to be contacted about the feasibility of installing Resident’s Parking Permits in Leonard Avenue.

5.6 Village Gateways
5.6.1 A quotation for their Installation is needed and for Planning permission if it is required. Contact Laura Squires at KHS Transportation.

5.6.2 Big Community Grant (£1500) rejected, but is being resubmitted.

5.7 Footpaths & Walkways
None

5.8 Road Signs
5.8.1 The (antique) “Pedestrian Sign” in Shoreham Rd., adjacent to Greenhill Road needs replacing.

5.9 Road Safety
None

5.10 A.O.B.
5.10.1 An “Expression of Interest” has been signed by the Parish Chairman for an EU Grant of £250,000, administered through Defra / SEEDA, for improvements to Pedestrian and Road Safety, as highlighted in the Parish Plan.

Date of next meeting
The date of next meeting was noted as Wednesday 30th November at 09.15 School House.
There being no other business the meeting was closed at 11.45

Signed…………………………………………..Chairman

Dated…………………………………………..