Minutes of the February Meeting of 2012 of Otford Parish Council
Highways Committee held in the Meeting Room, OPC Office, on
Thursday 2nd February 2012 at 09.15am

Present: Cllrs Richard Knight (Chairman); Doug Cracknell;
Howard Leicester; Martin Whitehead; Jackie Howe
In attendance: Brenda Hambrook (Parish Clerk);
Jeff Lee, Derek Buck and Allen Lanceley (Parish Plan Highways Group);
Rod Shelton (Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Group)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
1.1 John Edwards-Winser

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None

3. MINUTES
3.1 The Highways Committee Minutes of 30th November 2012 were accepted as a true record

4. MATTERS ARISING
4.4 Bus Timetables need clarification. Services C
4.8 The “Pedestrian Sign” in Shoreham Rd., adjacent to Greenhill Road has been replaced. Completed
5.2.1 Acrylic windows have been fitted in the bus shelter at Bubblestone Rd. Completed
5.5.2 A tree branch obstructing the pavement in Warham Rd has been cleared. Completed

5. AGENDA ITEMS
5.1. Information on crashes and observed potentially dangerous incidents.
5.1.1 1. Vehicle observed going round the pond in the wrong direction.
2. A double-decker Bus hit demolished the Station awning.

5.2 Bus Shelters
5.2.1 A handsome and well constructed replacement Bus Shelter, opposite Rye Lane, has been built by Norman Catt. It even contains a notice board. The only item missing is a padded seat! Never-the-less, well deserved thanks to Norman.

5.3 Car Parking
5.3.1 A High Street Car Park Survey will be conducted at various intervals commencing Saturday 25th February, though to Friday 2nd March. Details to be planned. Volunteers needed!
5.3.2 Replies from 2 Parking Management Companies were considered.
5.3.3 The marking of a ‘time-limited’ Parking area in Sevenoaks Road, together with the re-alignment of the central marking will be considered by SDC in a few months time. They are unable to give any precise indication when this might be.

5.4 Village Gateways
5.4.1 A report of a meeting held on 11th January at Aylesford with KHS was presented. The KHS staff were helpful and constructive and were willing to allow the “Gateway” project to proceed. OPC had the freedom to design, manufacture and choose suitable sites for the installations,
subject to the guidance given, and **KHS approval** at each stage. A KHS authorised contractor must install them. KHS will conduct inspections from the start, continuing for the next 2 years of the installation. OPC will have total responsibility for them.

**5.4.2 The Parish Plan – Highways and Walkways Group** will manage the Project under the Chairmanship of Jeff Lee. Project Manager, Derek Buck; Fundraiser, Allen Lanceley. OPC Project overseer, Cllr. Richard Knight

**5.4.3** The estimated costs for each Gateway site is £6,000 (3 sites planned) Funds are being sought; £4,250 has been secured. A DEFRA Grant application is being prepared. An application for the SDC Member’s ‘Big Community Fund’ will be amended and represented. (It was rejected the first time.)

**5.4.4** As there is sufficient money for the installation of one “Gateways” site, the Committee recommended that the project group proceed, finding a suitable location, preparing their design, so that the proposal can be considered by KHS and progress.

**5.5 Footpaths & Walkways**

**5.5.1** The path from the Church to the Station requires repair to the wooden fencing. **Continuing**

**5.5.2** Mobility scooters, wheelchairs users and pedestrians are facing a hazard negotiating the narrow, cambered pavement from the old Bridge to the “Pickmoss” step. This topic has been discussed at previous meetings and with KHS. We must persist in finding a practical solution to this problem. **H.L.**

**5.5.3** The Chalkpit fence has been repaired

**5.5.4** Repairs are needed to a fence in Telston Park.

**5.6 Road Signs**

None

**5.7 Road Safety**

None

**5.8 Speedwatch**

**5.8.1** The Speedwatch equipment has been returned to Sevenoaks. It is shared by a number of Parishes. The Committee felt that it should be used on a regular basis. There are strict rules applying to its use and can only be used during daylight hours.

**5.9 Accessibility for Disabilities**

No report.

**5.10 A.O.B.**

**5.10.1** A comment was made that Cycling Groups often cycle 2-a-brest and are inconsiderate to other road users.

**Date of next meeting**

The date of next meeting scheduled is Thursday 2\(^{nd}\) February 2012 at 09.15 School House.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 12.10

Signed………………………………………..Chairman
Dated………………………………………………...