

Notes of **Strengthening Local Relationships** meeting between  
Battle Town Council (BTC) and East Sussex County Council (ESCC)  
Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022 via Zoom (hosted by BTC)

**Present:**

**BTC:** Cllr V Cook (VC)  
Cllr M Howell (MH)  
Jane de Garston, Assistant Town Clerk (JdG) – Note taker

**ESCC:** Ian Johnson (IJ) Traffic & Safety Manager  
Corinne Black (CB) Customer Services Manager  
Darren Bass (DB) Highways Steward  
Cllr K Field (KF) County & District Councillor

**Apologies** – None

**1. Minutes of the last meeting** were agreed.

**2. Updates on items from previous meeting** - see agenda item 3

**3. Information regarding Baseline air quality study/A2100 declassification**

With regard to Air Quality - KF advised Rother District Council (RDC) had access to monitoring equipment and she will ask for details.

For the declassification, IJ suggested BTC contact Jon Wheeler, Infrastructure team at East Sussex Highways.

**4. Update regarding requests for yellow lines on North Trade Road to close the gap**

IJ advised closing yellow lines would be a matter for the parking team.

**5. Request yellow lines are reinstated by the Police Station on North Trade Road (request submitted online for parking protection and keep clear markings to be reinstated)**

DB advised these works have been requested and will be completed shortly

**6. Request for improvement to poor signage for all day parking in Market Road**

VC provided an update on the changes to the parking fees for the Rother area and that it had been requested amended signage be provided to show all day provision. **CB agreed to follow up on any requests**

**7. Request 20 mph signage for Market Road – to make signs match**

IJ suspects that the signs have been moved, DB was asked to investigate and ensure all the signs are matching and facing the correct direction.

**8. Request replacement of speed indicator sign with a sign to show speed with icons on North Trade Road, towards Claverham School**

IJ advised it would not be possible to change the existing static sign however a semi permanent unit can be licenced to allow the speed indicator signs to be used across multiple locations for a maximum period of 3 months in one location. **IJ to offered to send the working practice to JdG to share with Council.**

**9. Request road markings on Hastings Road at Starrs Mead and Glengorse are reinstated**

DB reported these have both been checked today. A works order has been raised for Glengorse but the Starrs Mead junction did not meet criteria for re lining.

**10. Request for 30 mph repeater signs or painted road markings at Battle Hill Tesco**

IJ advised that repeaters, of any kind, are not permitted under national legislation where the lampposts are no more than 187 metres apart as drivers will know this indicates a 30 mph zone.

**11. Request an update on removal of Battle Golf Club signage (from 2020 - CB agreed to speak with Isla as she had been investigating the options during her time as Steward.)**

CB reported a works order has been raised for the removal of the signs, a date for the works is awaited. KF enquired if the road would be closed or the works carried out with traffic control? CB responded she did not have the specific details of the removal.

**12. Receive drainage proposal for Telham Junction from Cllr Howell**

Due to the ongoing issues with flooding after rain at the Telham junction MH advised she was happy to go and cement the back of the drain to prevent weed growth blocking the drain. Due to the repeated flooding concerns DB advised he would investigate further – pictures of the flooding will be sent via CB

**13. Detail of drain clearing programme**

JdG enquired if there is a published timetable of the drain clearing works, CB advised the drains are cleared on a cyclical basis of about 3 months. Any drain issues can be submitted to East Sussex customer services.

**14. Healthy Streets Audit - BTC are very supportive of ensuring that any changes to street infrastructure promotes active travel and a neighbourhood for people. We have agreed that a Healthy Street audit be applied to all our proposals. Is ESCC taking forward this approach with any new infrastructure schemes ?**

The following response was received following the meeting "We are currently applying these principles particularly to more town centre public realm based schemes. However with the impending review of our Local Transport Plan, with an initial consultation in the autumn 2022, we propose to develop a strategy that is more focussed on planning for 'people and places'. If approved, this will provide a much stronger mandate for us to apply approaches such as the 'Healthy Streets Audit' to a wider number of scheme types. This will enable a stronger consideration of health and wellbeing indicators from the outset of transport scheme development. Through the new East Sussex Highways contract, we will also be exploring the opportunities for the professional services provider who will lead on scheme design, alongside ESCC officers, to undertake 'Healthy Street Audit' training."

**15. Highways update**

CB reported there are 28 open cases and 186 safety repairs have been carried out in the past 6 months – the details are:

<p>Open cases – 28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 carriageway</li> <li>• 6 drainage</li> <li>• 2 dropped kerbs</li> <li>• 1 grass</li> <li>• 1 our roadworks</li> <li>• 1 pavements</li> <li>• 1 signs</li> <li>• 1 surface dressing</li> <li>• 2 trees</li> </ul>	<p>Safety repairs carried out in the last 6 months – 186</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 barriers</li> <li>• 56 road/pavement</li> <li>• 23 drainage</li> <li>• 17 emergency</li> <li>• 30 road markings</li> <li>• 13 signs</li> <li>• 10 street furniture</li> <li>• 3 traffic management</li> <li>• 13 vegetation</li> <li>• 1 winter</li> <li>• 19 street lighting</li> </ul>
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**16. Any other business**

I.KF requested an update on S106 funding scheduled to provide a pedestrian refuge on south side of Virgins Lane  
**CB agreed to investigate and provide an update**

II.KF raised concerns regarding the kerb stones being knocked out again at Virgins Lane. DB advised these have been replaced again and he has removed works signs which had been left behind.

III.KF notified the meeting that there are complaints about traffic lights in the High Street and the pedestrian crossing not being within the lights so the whole area is at a standstill with trapped traffic.

- IV.KF requested an update on the Battle Hill Crossing as this is not recorded on the capital programme. **IJ agreed to make enquiries and report back**
- V.Can Highways confirm that the verges along North Trade Road will be repaired following all the building works as these areas have been and are being destroyed by works traffic. There is nowhere for people to cross safely and with the opening of the new care home it is anticipated the negative impact on pedestrian thoroughfare will increase. **DB advised he has reported this and is awaiting a response.**
- VI.VC enquired regarding the outcome of the parking consultation and whether this has affected the parking in Marley Gardens as no parking signs were removed some time ago but residents are reporting receiving parking fines. **The lines in the turning circle are due to be reinstated, signs will only be installed where the parking restriction is not applicable 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. CB agreed to confirm the restrictions with the parking team.**
- VII.VC reported the kerb stones in the lower area of the High Street are regularly being knocked out by heavy delivery lorries. **DB reported he is speaking with the contractors to ensure the stones are being set in more strongly. He advised if there is a protrusion greater than 40mm this would gain an immediate response to fix.**
- VIII.VC has been approached with a request for the bus stop outside the Abbey Hotel be shortened to provide a further loading/unloading bay for retailers to use. **IJ advised this would be a matter for the parking team.**

**17.Date and time of next meeting – March 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, 2.30 p.m, via Zoom**