ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

**TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**The Traffic Management Sub-Committee was held on Monday 17th August 2020 at 19:00, held remotely via Zoom.**

**Present:**

Cllr Jen Watkins – Alfriston Parish Council

Cllr Nick Beechey - Alfriston Parish Council

Cllr Stephen Rabagliati - Alfriston Parish Council

Mr Neil Parkinson – Conserve Alfriston

Mr Graham Clarke – Conserve Alfriston

Mrs Maria Caulfield - MP

Mr Alex Pringle – SDNPA

Mr Nick Giles – Cuckmere Valley Parish Council

Mrs Victoria Rutt – Alfriston Parish Council

Two members of the public were present.

**1.Welcome**

Cllr Watkins welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Public Questions**

No public questions.

**3. Discussion on ESCC report**

Cllr Watkins asked for someone to start with their comments on the ESCC report.

* Mr Parkinson - it seemed that APC had read the report and given a good response to ESCC, to which Conserve Alfriston agreed to most items. However, it seems a lot of items have been pushed aside and not considered.
* Cllr Beechey explained that APC had one evening to read the ESCC report ahead of the meeting. The feeling that was given from Mr Karl Taylor is proposals ‘dismissed’ would be put back into the list as long as APC paid for them and they passed a safety audit. Items such as gateways, roundels and resurfacing will be left to us to fund. Costings have been promised and requested again recently but still no sight of them. It was agreed that need to go back to ESCC for the costings again.
* Mr Parkinson – when he read the ESCC minutes it did feel like it was an open bid for the other items which is positive. The proposals agreed are very much ‘highways’ oriented and we require the costings for these and to find out what is and is not allowed.
* Cllr Beechey – ESCC still seem against the mirror but APC did ask them to take it to safety audit as they believe it would be a good measure to install. A trial, at the very least, had been requested. He also raised the matter of the weighbridge with ESCC again, but they said it is very much down to Sussex Police, so unlikely. Cllr Beechey was surprised that 100 HGV’s come through the village daily, he knew it was a lot but not that many.
* Mr Graham Clarke – the matter of the white lines being removed at the South end of the village were for the driver to ensure they pay more attention, yet the lines at the North end will not be removed. This seems a strange rule. Also the previous proposals were for the Cuckmere Valley and to assist other villages.
* Mr Parkinson – previously Mrs Caulfield MP has said she would assist in getting permission from Secretary of State for a mirror. It is a cheap measure and should be trialed to see if it would assist. They also commented on the removal of the yellow lines but no enforcement.
* Cllr Beechey – ESCC stated that the yellow lines would not be removed up Kings Ride and Deans Road as they say the road is too narrow. Yet the the unmarked parts of those roads are no wider than the marked parts. A short and precise report back to ESCC is needed.
* Mrs Maria Caulfield MP – there is some money coming in from central government to ESCC which is to help villages after Covid, ESCC could bid for some of this money. She also stated that there is a new Chief Constable at Sussex Police now, Jo Shiner, who is pushing for road policing so may have success if ask for a weighbridge now. On the matter of parking and yellow lines, ESCC will push against them as they will install and put out signage but enforcement still comes under the Police and they do not have the resources to do this. WDC still remain the only District Council who have not yet joined CPE, need to continue to apply pressure for them to join.
* Cllr Stephen Rabagliati read in the ESCC report that the mirror could be deemed to be considered if no alternative measures available so should push back for this. Reading the summary on the report, they do make allusions to the village gateway, with a small strip of change and may include a buildout. Confusing if this is something they would fund or APC. We do need to press them again for the costings.
* Mrs Maria Caulfield MP – the Secretary of State relies on the County Council to look into matters so if the mirror is something that APC want and ESCC agree it, then Mrs Caulfield is happy to push for this approval.

**4. Decision on formal response to ESCC report**

* Mr Parkinson – this was a valley wide, ambitious set of proposals and now need to bring to life and build some momentum. Need to liaise with SDNPA and other Parish Councils to get their involvement.

*Clerk ensured that all attendees knew that Mr Nick Giles was attending on behalf of Cuckmere Valley Parish Council and Mr Alex Pringle works for SDNPA and is representing on this project as he recently was passed the project from Mr Andy Beattie, who used to sit on the Sub Committee.*

* Mr Nick Giles – Cuckmere Valley Parish Council are still very happy to remain involved and to receive the information. They are mindful that if traffic reduces in Alfriston it would have a knock on effect on them.
* Cllr Beechey suggested the best way forward is to draw a table up with a column for the proposed measure still wanted, what the costing would be so ESCC can input the data, show who would be responsible for funding either ESCC, APC or both, so we all have a starting point.
* Cllr Beechey – need to look at funding avenues. The Parish Council have access to the Public Works Loan Board [PWLB] which will mean a rise in the Precept and the village being in debt for the next 50 years. There may be money available within the central SDNPA CIL pot. He explained that ESCC gave the impression to APC that no money would be available from the Covid government pot for this project.
* Cllr Watkins asked all present if they were happy with the proposal raised by Cllr Beechey to go forward. Everyone agreed. Cllr Beechey will write something up in due course and circulate.

**5. Public Questions**

* Mrs Mottram wished to make three comments on the ESCC report:

1. There is a loophole in the mirror issue that should be taken advantage of
2. Pedestrian crossing needed at the Willows car park exit
3. Bollard review as placement is critical

* Cllr Watkins – it is believed that a zebra crossing was discussed a few years back but there is a rule around sight lines so it would not work.
* Cllr Beechey – if you have a zebra crossing there may be a requirement for street lights. The roundel for that area has not been taken off the table, ESCC would be content as long as APC pay for it and it passes a safety audit. The bollard issue arose as ESCC did not understand how the bollards had come about, now they are aware it is likely a bollard review for the High Street will be undertaken to look at a rational scheme.
* Mrs Caroline Adcock asked if widening of the pavement in the Market Square is going to be looked at as it would help those businesses there who have vehicles park right outside their shops.
* Mr Neil Parkinson stated that he got the impression that nothing is going to be done about the village gateways. He is happy with the proposal to write a response including a table with all the measures but he feels that Conserve Alfriston will also send a response.
* Cllr Beechey stated that SDNPA have put in permission to put two of their gateway markers at Seaford and off the A27. It is not known if they are proceeding with them.
* Mr Alex Pringle stated these gateways are boundary markers so show when they are entering the SDNP. These would be separate to village gateways. He believes that these are proceeding.
* Cllr Beechey – following the meeting with ESCC when they stated they want to liaise with just one group i.e. APC and APC made it clear they speak on behalf of all the members in the Sub Committee, it may be best to just send one report back following the ESCC report.
* Mr Parkinson understood the points but will raise it with members of Conserve Alfriston as they would be agreeing with APC but another show of support from Conserve Alfriston may be a positive.
* Mr Graham Clarke stated that the SDNPA boundary markers should make drivers act differently when they are in a National Park.
* Mrs Caulfield MP explained that there may be CIL money available at District level that could be bid for and also LEP [Local Enterprise Partnerships] which might fund some projects but need the costings for this. Once details known, Mrs Caulfield is happy to make contact.
* Mr Parkinson asked for an explanation of some of the funding schemes mentioned. The clerk said she would something to the minutes.

Cllr Watkins thanked everyone for attending the meeting and will await the draft response from Cllr Beechey to circulate and agree before it goes to full Parish Council for final approval prior to submitting to ESCC.

MEETING ENDS 19:45

**FUNDING SCHEME GLOSSARY**

Public Works Loan - a loan from the Treasury taken out by the Parish Council, at a relatively cheap interest rate, to be repaid through the precept. Fixed rates loans re-payable over 50 years, variable rate loans re-payable over 10 years. Borrowing requires approval from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

SDNPA CIL - grants available from a central pot held by SNDPA, derived from a proportion of the Community Infrastructure Levy imposed on all new developments in the Park. New applications from a date to be fixed later this year.

LEPs - business led partnerships between local authorities and local private sector businesses. Help determine local economic priorities, drive economic growth and job creation, improve infrastructure and raise workforce skills within the local area. Funding may be available to improve/increase footfall to businesses by re-design of access/High Street etc.

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