

## FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Highways and Road Safety Committee Meeting held on 13 November 2024 at 5:00 pm using the Zoom online platform

**Present:** Councillors Frances Marshall (Chairman), John Moore, Richard Freeman and Alec Fox.  
In attendance: Clare Schorah, Assistant Clerk.

H24/23 **ITEM 1. Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present

H24/24 **ITEM 2. Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

H24/25 **ITEM 3. Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

H24/26 **ITEM 4. Minutes of meeting held on 10 July 024**

The Minutes were approved and would be signed by the Chairman at the next Full Parish Council Meeting.

H24/27 **ITEM 5. Matters arising from the March meeting**

**1 Mobile VAS sign (H24/16.1)** This has been put on the agenda (item 10) after being discussed at the October Full Parish Council Meeting in the public forum (203.3).

**2 Overgrown and uneven footpath surface in Chelmsford Road (H24/16.2)** The Assistant Clerk reported this through the Essex Highways 'report a Problem' webpage and it is still on the repair programme. The Committee noted that the dismantling of the Highways Rangers service was a great loss to Essex.

H24/28 **ITEM 6. Uttlesford Local Highway Panel applications**

[This report was circulated.](#) The Assistant Clerk will continue to investigate how to expedite the application for amended parking restrictions on Stebbing Road.

H24/29 **ITEM 7. Highway maintenance work**

[This report was circulated.](#) The Assistant Clerk will report the damaged reflector signs by the Halt (bridge) not the reflectors near the Primary School at Watch House Green to the Highways Liaison Officer and inform her of the recent road traffic accidents in this area.

On the same bridge on the opposite of the road to the reflectors there is a damaged concrete post with the metal hand rail broken and protruding onto the road (caused by one of the recent accidents there) and the Assistant Clerk will ensure that this is reported.

H24/30 **ITEM 8 a) Parish Paths Partnership Update**

The group has not been able get out and work on the footpaths recently but they are hoping to get out to do more work soon.

**ITEM 8 b) Community SpeedWatch**

The Community SpeedWatch Group are managing approximately one session each week. There needs to be three volunteers for each session and at present the group only has four volunteers with one of the volunteers working full time. A new volunteer has recently undergone training and will start to join sessions soon.

Since the last Highways meeting they have undertaken sessions on Chelmsford Road, Braintree Road/Garnetts Road, Willows Green, Watch House Green and Station Road. The group is noticing speeds in Willows Green and Watch House Green which have been as high as 48 mph. Chelmsford Road has experienced speeds as high as 51 mph.

The requested Speed Survey on Chelmsford Road has still not been undertaken as there is a delay at the moment but it will be added to the list and the Parish Council will be informed when it has taken place.

H24/31 **ITEM 9. Speeding in Bannister Green & Cock Green**

A number of residents have contacted the Parish Council expressing concern about speeding traffic around Bannister Green and Cock Green.

The Assistant Clerk will undertake the following actions;

- Make an application to the Highways Panel for 'Deer Warning' signs on Cock Green Road between Bannister Green and Cock Green,
- Ask the Village Attendant to ascertain whether he is able to remove the vegetation overgrowth around the speed signs approaching Bannister Green,
- Ask the Highways Liaison Officer whether it would be possible to apply for any reduced speed limits or traffic calming measures in these locations in line with the Speed Management Strategy for Essex,
- Encourage residents to petition the County Councillor with their concerns.

H24/32 **ITEM 10. Speed Cameras in Felsted**

The Committee discussed whether it would be possible to plan to fund a mobile VAS sign in the parish at some point. The Assistant Clerk will investigate all the possible options to enable it to be affordable and meet with any restrictions enforced by ECC Highways.

The Highways Committee received correspondence from the Community SpeedWatch Group urging the Parish Council to seriously consider the purchase of a VAS System. The Chairman will contact the group coordinator to inform them that the Parish Council will investigate the issue thoroughly and do what it can within its financial constraints to address this.

H24/33 **ITEM 11. Traffic around Felsted School**

Felsted School's Estate Manager contacted the Highways Committee expressing concern about traffic congestion around the school at peak times of day. The Chairman will contact him discuss and work towards any solutions to this. The Parish Council is still chasing NEPP to alter the timings of no parking on Stebbing Road to reflect the actual timings of Felsted School.

H24/34 **ITEM 12. 20s Plenty Update**

The Assistant Clerk gave an update on the 20's Plenty for Essex campaign. Essex County Council has voted against a motion to reduce speeds to 20mph in residential areas but will consider requests on a case by case basis. There is more information here: <https://www.20splenty.org/>

H24/35 **ITEM 13. Other urgent matters and items for the next Agenda**

It was noted that County Councillor Martin Foley has proposed a review into value for money delivered by contractors undertaking work for ECC Highways.

H24/36 **ITEM 14. Next Meeting 17.59**

The next meeting is online on the 13 March 2025.

..... Committee Chairman 2 April 2025