

## BEECH ROAD SAFETY WORKING GROUP

### MINUTES OF MEETING 22.08 HELD ON 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022

**1) Attendees:**

Charles Cockburn (CC)  
Graham Webb (GW)  
Ian Dumelow (ID)  
Malcolm Ward-Close (MWC)

**2) Apologies for absence:** Ian Gibson (IG)

**3) Approve minutes of the previous meeting:** Minutes 22.07, 15th August 2022 were approved, subject to change to Item 6, para three.

**Declaration of interest:** (in accordance with the National Association of Local Councils Model Code of Conduct adopted July 2018) Councillors and Working Group members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on, or discharge any function related to any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest as defined by regulations made by the Secretary of State under the Localism Act 2011. You must withdraw from the room or chamber when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter.

No interests were declarable.

**4) Recruitment of additional members of BRSWG**

CC introduced Ian Dumelow to the meeting and a motion to approve Ian as a full member of the BRSWG was passed unanimously, for submission to BPC.

**5) Report on meeting with senior police officers from Hampshire Constabulary – Friday 26 August 2022**

CC and GW report a positive and productive meeting with Chief Inspector Habs Rahman, District Commander, Hampshire Constabulary and Inspector Tony Botten, East Hants Sector Commander, Hampshire Constabulary. Other attendees were Cllr Tony Ransley, Beech Parish Council, Cllr Mark Kemp-Gee, Hampshire County Council and Cllr Tony Costigan, East Hampshire District Council. Discussion topics included police enforcement of the speed limit through Beech, speed cameras, SIDs and the prospects for a 20 mph speed limit. Minutes for the meeting, prepared by CC and GW, have been reported to BPC and will be available on the PC web site.

**6) HCC 20 mph consultation by the Task and Finish Group of eight HCC councillors.**

**Action CC:** Post reminder on Nextdoor app. for residents to complete the on-line consultation document by 00:30am on Monday 12 September 2022. It is noted that the consultation asks respondents to prioritise a series of different worthy but seemingly unrelated items. If respondents are in favour of a change to a 20mph speed limit in Beech it is suggested, to be most effective, that they should rate this as their top priority on this occasion.

**7) Update on liaison with Ian Janes of Hampshire Highways regarding on-road footways**

We are still waiting for Ian Janes to complete his designs for the on-road footways. It is hoped that this will be available in time to allow further discussion and adjustments before placing contracts for the work before the end of the year. Allocated CIL funding should ideally be used in this FY.

It is anticipated that further discussion on the design details will take place after we have received the initial plans from Ian Janes.

Effective signage and road markings will be crucial for the on-road footways to work as intended. Only a limited number of road signs and on-road markings are officially approved for use on the highways but we know from our previous experience that temporary permission can be sought for locally designed signs and it has been suggested that there may also be a route for approving experimental trials of new road safety schemes.

It was agreed at the last meeting to add a new on-road section of footway between the Bushy Leaze entrance and the bottom of Kings Hill (see minutes 22.07, 15th August). To avoid further delay, it has been decided that this would not be raised with Ian Janes until we have received his initial design plans for the rest of the on-road scheme. It is most likely that the new section of on-road footway will need another Safety Audit with Hampshire Highways, and it is not known how long this will take or what their response will be. If necessary, the additional section will be progressed separately.

**Action GW:** change the on-road footway plan to include the new proposed section West of Bushy Leaze entrance.

**Action MWC:** consider what signs and road markings might be desirable for the on-road footways and investigate mechanisms are available for approving their use.

**Action: GW:** to contact Ian Janes if nothing is received by the date of the next PC meeting on 19th September.

#### **8) Update on progress with HCC on proposed new off-road footways**

Hampshire Highways have been requested to issue a new contract for the Feasibility Study with the amended scope and lower price as negotiated. This is expected to arrive this week and an order for the work will be placed immediately. The hope is that the study will be completed by Christmas, in time to prepare a submission to EHDC in the first quarter of next year for CIL funds.

**Action CC/GW/ID** It was agreed that CC, GW and ID should meet on Tuesday 6 September to examine potential linking routes from the footway through the privately owned woods to the Bushey Leaze entrance, in order to brief Hampshire Highways about this section with regard to the feasibility study.

#### **9) Update on arrangements to introduce screening through part of privately owned woodland**

An order has been placed for 140 1m high laurel whips. Planting by Beech volunteers is scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of November. GW is chasing the contractors for installation of the temporary screening fence.

#### **10) Date of next meeting: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 10:00 am, West Dene House.**

Malcolm Ward-Close  
7 Sep 2022