

**Notes of the Informal Property and Amenities Meeting Held Remotely
on MS Teams 27 September 2022**

Present Councillor T Ellis (Chair)
Councillors S Abbott, H Belcher, N Brakspear, J Brook, J Roberton
and G Ward.

In Attendance J Whittleton (Head of Technical Services)

1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor A Crockford.

2) Declarations of Interest

Councillor S Abbott declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 10, Requests for Highway Improvements and Traffic Surveys, specifically the request to remodel the A4 junction with Woodlands. He had a family member who lived in the vicinity of the request.

**3) Matters Arising from the Notes of the informal Property & Amenities
Committee meeting held remotely on 27 July 2022**

There were none.

**4) Public Realm Update (*Notes of the informal P&A Meeting 27 July 2022 –
Agenda Item 4*)**

The Head of Technical Services gave an update on the public realm project centred on Newlands Road.

Since the last informal meeting of the Committee, Town Council officers had been in communication with Atkins about the content of the Clients Brief Form for RIBA Stage 2 of the project. A meeting with Atkins had been scheduled for 4 October to define the set of activities and agree deliverables. The Town Council was keen to ensure that the next stage of work contained all the elements necessary to progress the project, but did not include costly superfluous activities.

Agreed:

To note the update.

5) Park Lane Workshop (Notes of the Informal P&A Meeting 27 July 2022 – Agenda Item 5)

The Head of Technical Services gave an update on the workshop project.

It was hoped that a decision on the planning application would be forthcoming soon. Wiltshire Council's consultants had raised three holding objections to the application: the number of parking spaces for the allotments (the original application included two spaces, whereas the Highways Consultant wanted to see five), the need to carry out a biodiversity net-gain assessment, and the need to provide an outside lighting plan that would not adversely affect bats. The Town Council and its architect had submitted a revised plan showing five parking spaces for the allotments (this entailed the loss of some allotment space). A biodiversity net gain assessment had now been completed by Seasons Ecology which showed a net gain across the site, and Max Fordham had been employed to produce a bat-friendly lighting plan.

Issues discussed included whether electric vehicle charging should be provided at the allotments.

Agreed:

To note the update.

6) Site Visits 2022

Councillors noted that the annual site visits had taken place on 2 August and 16 August.

Issues discussed included:

- That it had been a useful exercise, particularly visiting the new play areas to see what kind of condition they were in; and
- That looking to improve Pockeridge A & B should be the priority once the Little Play Area at Katherine Park had been reopened.

Agreed:

To note the update.

7) Katherine Park – The Little Play Area

The Head of Technical Services gave a brief update on efforts to refurbish and reopen the Little Play Area.

A draft specification had been produced inviting quotations to remove the old timber-framed equipment and install six new pieces of play equipment to cater for younger children (aged c.3-7 years of age). The consultation, which had been carried out with residents to determine what pieces of equipment they would like to see, had been used to inform the specification. The document would be placed on the Contract Finder website as soon as the lease for the play area had come through.

Agreed:

To note the update.

8) 20mph Limits in Corsham and Neston (Notes of the informal P&A Meeting 27 July 2022 – Agenda Item 6)

The Committee received an update on efforts to agree 20mph zones in Corsham and Neston.

A meeting had been scheduled with Wiltshire Council's Traffic Engineering Manager on 3 October to discuss Atkins' assessments. The Town Council hoped to make representations about the findings of the assessments, including the omission of Pickwick Road from the Corsham 20mph zone. The Head of Technical Services reported that he would organise an informal members' meeting to discuss the Neston scheme following the meeting with the Traffic Engineering Manager.

Agreed:

To note the update.

9) Update on Local Highway Improvement Group Issues (Notes of the Informal P&A Meeting on 27 July 2022 – Agenda Item 8)

There had not been a meeting of the LHFIG since the last meeting, but there were some updates on some of the items:

Potley Lane Speed Limit Assessment: The Local Highways Officer had been in contact with the Town Council and the extent of the assessment had been agreed.

Park Lane Speed Limit Assessment: The Local Highways Officer had been in contact with the Town Council and the extent of the assessment had been agreed.

Pedestrian Assessment on the A4, near Middlewick Lane: The cost of the pedestrian assessment had gone up from £1,000 to £1,275, which meant that the Town Council's contribution would be £318.75, rather than £250.

Agreed:

To note the update and to agree to the town/parish contribution of £318.75 towards the Pedestrian Assessment on the A4.

10) Requests for Highways Improvements and Traffic Surveys (Notes of the informal P&A Meeting 27 July 2022 – Agenda Item 9)

- i. A4, opposite the junction with Hartham Lane – Request for a dropped kerb opposite the junction with Hartham Lane and for the pedestrian barriers off Queens Avenue to be adjusted.

Issues discussed included:

- That the installation of a dropped kerb might encourage other people to cross at this point and that this could be a dangerous point to cross the busy road; and
- That people already used this point to cross and that a dropped kerb would assist cyclists as well as those in mobility scooters.

Agreed: To send the issue forward to the LHFIG to consider further.

- ii. Cross Keys Road – Request for double yellow lines in front of the estate gates to prevent inconsiderate parking.

Agreed: To fill in the appropriate form and send it on to the LHFIG to consider when they deal with waiting restrictions.

- iii. A4 at the junction with Woodlands – Request to re-model the junction and to provide a wider central refuge.

Agreed: To send the issue forward to the LHFIG to consider further.

11) Update on Speed Indicator Devices (*Notes of the informal P&A Meeting 27 July 2022 – Agenda Item 12*)

Since the last meeting, the SIDs had been deployed in the following locations:

Park Lane 4-17 August: average speeds 27.93 and 28.23mph.

A4, near Dovecote Lane 4-17 August: average speeds 24.35 and 26.97mph.

Leafield 28 August – 13 September: average speeds 24.57 and 23.91mph.

Prospect 24 August – 12 September: average speeds 27.18 and 31.57mph.

A brief discussion on Autospeedwatch took place. The Committee noted that a representative of the Police & Crime Commissioner had confirmed that the Police did use data from Autospeedwatch devices to pinpoint hot spots.

Agreed:

To note the update and to consider the purchase of an Autospeedwatch device at the next meeting.

12) Update on Service Delegation and Asset Transfer (*Notes of the informal P&A Meeting 27 July 2022 – Agenda Item 13*)

The Committee noted that both Corsham Town Council and Wiltshire Council were now happy with the contents of the leases for the play areas. The signing/sealing of the leases was now the only step before the Town Council would take over the management of the play areas.

Agreed:

To note the update.

The meeting began at 7.30pm and ended at 8.34pm. There were no members of the public present.