

## Acton Bridge Parish Council Meeting notes

**Date & time** 2nd October 2023 at 19:00      **Location** Parish Rooms, Acton Bridge

**Attendees** T Brocklebank (Chairperson), D Charlton, D Hall, H Broughton, Councillor G Edwards

**Apologies** R Forbes, L Wakefield. C Fifield

### Absent

**Minutes written by** Councillor Hall

The discussion commenced at 19:00

### Agenda Item

### Notes & Actions

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies for Absence – as noted above

#### 2. Declarations of interest

No pecuniary interests were expressed.

#### 3. PCSO Update

The PCSO Michelle Gillett attended accompanied by her Seargeant.

Concern was expressed about speeding in the village and about the number of accidents on the A49 at the Sandylane Junction. The PCSO advised the meeting that she was only trained to use the speed gun on urban and some rural roads and that she could not use the speed gun on the A49. Councillors asked her to request the speed van be used more frequently on that stretch of road.

#### 4. Public Open Forum

Three members of the public were present.

Concern was expressed regarding the cost of the average speed cameras and the actual benefit to be gained.

One member complained that the consultation was late in the day but was reminded by the Chair that there had been previous consultation in an open meeting but only two residents attended and one resident sent a response by email.

Various other issues were raised such as missing manhole covers, the poor state of the local roads and the failure of CWAC to respond to reported issues in the time laid down in their Code of Practice/Conduct. The speed of tractors passing through the village was also raised but as the tractors aren't actually breaking the speed limit there seemed little that could be done other than speak to local farm owners. It was also noted that the worst offenders are contractors.

#### 5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were accepted as a true and correct record.

#### 6. Planning & Enforcement

##### a. Planning Applications:

i) The planning Application 23/02619/FUL for Yew Tree Farm, Ainsworth Lane had been sent to the Clerk as the address is close to the Acton Bridge Boundary. It was decided that no comment was required.

ii) Additional Applications – The Parish Council was not asked to consult on any further applications.

b. Lawful Development Certificates applied for (the Parish Council has not been asked to comment on): No applications have been brought to the attention of the Parish Council.

c. Planning Decisions No decisions had been received.

d. Planning Enforcement

- i) No Enforcement notices have been received.

**7. Review of the Acton Bridge Consultation re the Proposed Average Speed Cameras.**

It was noted that a small majority of the respondents were against the scheme. The scheme would not therefore proceed. The meeting was reminded that the reason the Parish Council wanted to adopt the scheme was that all other options had been explored with CWaC and rejected by CWAC.

However, the chairman advised the meeting that he had been advised merely a few days before the meeting that Network Rail had applied for the bridge at Acton Bridge Station to be reduced to one lane with traffic flow being controlled by traffic lights.

The Chair and Gillian Edwards have been invited to attend a Teams meeting on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 when further discussion will take place with Network Rail and CWAC.

**Action Cllr Edwards & Trevor Brocklebank**

**8. Review on Co-Option to the Parish Council to fill vacancy**

The Meeting was informed that there had been no applications.

**9. Review of funding for the speed reduction on the A49**

**Cllr Edwards** advised the meeting that currently Weaverham Parish Council were still refusing to contribute to the cost. They have adopted the 6<sup>th</sup> Mth rule which means it won't be reviewed for some time.

**10. Review and approval of the Acton Bridge Parish Council Community Emergency plan.**

**Clr Charlton** presented the updated plan which was approved by the meeting. The meeting thanked Clr Charlton for his ongoing work in keeping the plan updated. It was also decided that the Parish Council should acquire a separate mobile Sim for emergency contact.

**Action: Clr Brocklebank to request the Clerk purchases the Sim.**

**11. Updates from previous meetings.**

**Clr Edwards** reported that she had spoken to the rail operators regarding the replacement but excessively loud Tanoy system on the station platforms.

Millenium Wood: The woodland trust had agreed to improve their schedule of maintenance and would be contacting Clr Forbes again shortly. They had also requested working parties from the village to assist.

Clr Wakefield has expressed some concerns regarding the Parish Rooms lease and would looking into these prior to the renewal date.

**12. Financial Matters**  
**a. Cheques for signature**

There were 3 cheque requests which were approved.  
C Robinson salary July/Aug/Sept £574.98  
HMRC £143.40  
Newsletter Colour printing £42.00

**b. Review of Clerk's Hours/salary**

It was agreed at the meeting that due to the increasing work the Clerks basic standard hrs should be increased to 4 hrs per week.

It was also agreed that Mrs Robinson should be paid for the additional hours she has worked on the preparation of the documents relating to the Average Speed Cameras. It was further agreed that Mrs Robinson should be reimbursed for the extra hours that she spent preparing documents for submission re the Average Speed cameras.

**13, Reports from CW&C Ward Councillors.**

Clr Edwards reported that the desk top exercise had had to be re arranged and that a future date will be agreed in the near future.

**14. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to report

**15. AOB**

No matters raised

**16. Date of Next Meeting**

Date of next meeting Monday  
November 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 1900 hrs.

Signed ..... (Chairperson)    Date.....