

Burwell Parish Council

Safety Group Meeting – 15th November 2022 7.30 pm at the Jubilee Reading Room

Notes from the meeting

Present: Paul Webb (Chair), Gill Miller, Jim Perry, Ian Woodroffe, Liz Swift, and Brenda Wilson.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from the following:
Geraldine Tate, Lea Dodds, and Helen McMenamin-Smith

The Minutes of the 20th of September 2022 and 13th October 2022 were approved.

2. B1102 – Draft Proposal to facilitate the development and delivery of a desktop study to examine the existing transport corridor between the villages of Swaffham Bulbeck and Burwell and through Swaffham Prior.

Liz Swift explained that the A to B1102 Group has put together a draft proposal to develop and deliver a desk top study to examine the existing B1102 corridor between the villages of Swaffham Bulbeck to Burwell and through Swaffham Prior. The main objective being the identification of interventions to assist in the management of traffic speeds and the promotion of highway safety on the B1102. The cost of the study would be payable by the three parish councils. To move the proposal on, the group needs the approval of the three parish councils.

The Safety Group felt that Burwell Parish Council, with the ongoing Safety Campaign, were fully committed financially at the moment. It is good for the parishes to work together, but at this stage, all three parishes are at a different stage where road safety is concerned. It was agreed that the following recommendation should be made to Full Council.

That a positive response is sent to the A to B1102 Group stating that Burwell Parish Council is willing to share knowledge and work together with the A to B1102 Group on the proposal but has no funds available to support the work financially.

3. LHI

a) Buffer Zones 100m Markers

Discussion took place on the lack of 100m countdown markers on the recently installed buffer zones at the three main entrances to the village and how they should have been included. Highways are not prepared to pay for the markers to be installed as they have run out of funding. The Parish Council could pay for them to be installed and this is likely to be in the region of £2000. The cost of the scheme so far is £3,563.13, which is under the £5,000 earmarked. The Group felt that the signs should be installed. Before making any recommendation to Council, the original scheme drawings should be checked to see if the countdown markers were included in the original design.

4. LHI 23/24

The Group had originally agreed to apply for a 20mph zone(s) in the village through the LHI 23/24 scheme, however 20 mph zones are now not being considered under this scheme. More information should be available from Highways in the new year and James Toombs from Highways is willing to meet with members of the Council to talk about zones for Burwell.

5. Email from resident re County Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan
The group noted an email from a resident to Cllr. Joshua Schuman about the County Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. It was also noted that Claire Dickson from West Suffolk Council who is leading the Burwell to Exning Cycleway project is in the process of obtaining a copy of the Sustrans Route Feasibility Report from Sally Bonnett at East Cambs District Council.
6. UK Rural England Prosperity Fund
Funding is available for cycleways and footpaths through the UK Rural England Prosperity Fund. The Council has already submitted an initial application in respect of the Gardiner Memorial Hall to ACRE who are administering the fund. It is unlikely that a second application is an option. The Clerk was asked to find out when the Council is likely to know the outcome of the application for the Gardiner Memorial Hall.
7. Heavy Traffic – North Burwell
Concern was raised about the amount of heavy traffic in the North Street, Toyse Lane, Factory Road area, particularly Mead's vehicles accessing the old pit in Factory Road and Manchetts accessing their premises in the Broads. Vehicles are travelling at speed, particularly at night. Other vehicles also include HE Plant. A lorry uses the route every 6 minutes. The bridge in Factory Road/Dyson Road is not suitable for vehicles over 80 Tonne. Silver Street (Toyse Lane to North Street) is not suitable for larger vehicles. Paul Webb suggested talking to Highways about having traffic restrictions for this part of Silver Street. Paul Webb indicated that the MVAS signs would be situated in Toyse Lane before Christmas. The Clerk to send a polite reminder to Manchetts about speeding, particularly at night-time. Concern was also raised about the Causeway end of Silver Street due to the narrowness of the road and that cars often end up having to drive on the pavement to get passed. This particularly dangerous for pedestrians on the footpath, especially as many of these are likely to be parents with young children heading to school.
8. Safety Campaign Phase 3 – Personal Safety
 - a) Bin Stickers
It was felt that it would be best to purchase two thousand stickers. The stickers need to be of a plain design. The intention is for the stickers to be delivered by group members with an accompanying letter. The Clerk to email options to the group.
 - b) The Safety Charter
The Community Safety Charter is a project where Neighbourhood Watch members, residents, businesses, and organisations, agree to do whatever they can together to provide an environment that is safer for everyone. It is free to join. The following recommendation to be made to Full Council:

That Burwell Parish Council should sign up to the Community Safety Charter

Paul Webb has spoken to the managers at the Co-op in North Street and in Ness Road and they are interested in becoming Safe Places but require further information. The Jubilee Reading Room was also considered but it was felt that due to the office often being staffed by only one person, it would not be suitable.

c) Clunch Insert

It was not possible to get the intended insert for the next edition of Clunch in by the deadline. The Clerk had forwarded an apology to Clunch. It is intended to get an insert focusing on phase 3 and 4 of the Campaign ready for the following edition. This insert will need to be ready before Christmas.

A further village wide safety survey could also be carried out.

d) Any other items

Gill Miller was asked to find out for the next meeting what items are available from the County Council Road Safety Team which could be used as give aways.

Lea Dodds had produced a list of links relating to personal safety that can be added on the website.

Gill Miller has a meeting with the Business Manager at the school week commencing 21st November 2022.

Lea Dodds and Ian Woodrooffe have offered to help with the MVAS signs.

Jim Perry now has an up-to-date list of the Speed Watch volunteers. Robin Dyos is looking to do a Speed Watch session on Thursday. Jim Perry and Paul Webb are looking to set up two more teams.

Gill Miller to ask Helen McMenamin-Smith if she can clean up the original winning poster so that the signs can be ordered.

Jim Perry asked if there was any intention of having a defibrillator at the Gardiner Memorial Hall as Barry Lonsdale had asked about this. It is thought that one could be available from the Rotary Club. If this is the case, the Clerk was asked if she could find out who would be responsible for the installation of the unit and replacing used and out of date components. It was agreed that a letter about the Safety Campaign and speed reduction through the village to Stephenson's, and the school buses, Neals, Jans of Soham and any others that travel through the village.

The Clerk to write to Highways about the puddle outside of the Gardiner Memorial Hall. The drains have already been reported through the 'Report It' webpage.

There is also a blocked drain on the junction of Toyse Lane and North Street.

9. Date of next scheduled Safety Meeting

10. The next meeting will be held on 17th January 2023.