

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES the **Highways and Transport Committee** held on Monday 26th October 2015 at 8.00pm in the Corn Exchange complex, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Brookman, Hudson, Crane, Chicken and Bumbieris
Also present: Geoff Adams, Adviser and residents of Hungerford Newtown

- 1. Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Wilson, Whiting and Colloff
- 2. Declarations of interest.** Cllr Bumbieris lives in Newtown
- 3. Minutes of meeting held on 28th September 2015.** Cllr Crane proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Hudson, 1 abstention, rest in favour.
- 4. Speeding on A338 Hungerford Newtown.** The Chairman handed out a summary of a speed survey commissioned by West Berkshire in 2013. The evidence was taken from one camera located near the crossroads at Newtown over a 7 day period. It concluded that the average speed northbound was 38.2mph and southbound 36.3mph. And as such West Berks deem 40mph speed limit appropriate. The residents of Newtown voiced their serious concerns that there will be a serious accident unless action is taken to make cars and particularly lorries travel slower through the village. The residents whose house is the only one that has access directly on to the A338 and visitors to the increasingly busy Tally Ho find that pulling out on to the A338 is at times terrifying as lorries pick up speed going southbound so they do not lose speed going up the hill. Customers at the Tally Ho refuse to sit at the table in the window frightened that a vehicle will one day come through that window. Drivers make detours so they do not have to pull out from New Haywards Bottom or Radley Bottom and those who do feel they are doing so at great risk. It is frustrating for the residents to see a police presence regularly at Upper Eddington where the road is not dangerous and never at Newtown. Residents offered to be trained to use SID (speed indicator devices), in order to gather evidence of the increasing problem.

Many suggestions were made regarding signage, improving visibility, speed cameras, speed reactive signs, ensuring that the crossroads reactive sign is always in working order but the main request is to reduce the speed limit to 30mph and for that to be enforced.

Action: Cllr Brookman will arrange to meet Glyn Davies, WBC for him to assess the sight lines of traffic turning on to the A338. Bill Acworth was very willing to cut back hedges to improve the sight lines.

- 5. Budget 2016/17.** Deferred to next meeting.
- 6. Bus Stop in Priory Road- update.** Still awaiting responses from contractors.

7. Speeding on the Common – update. Sgt Morgan has no control where speed wagon is positioned. Inspector Warren McKeown came back from Cllr Brookman's request to say he will see what he can do. Glyn Davies, WBC said that no chicanes or speed humps would be allowed and there are rumble strips at every entrance. If there is money in the budget next year roundles could be marked on the road.

8. Speed reactive sign update and traffic survey. Cllr Brookman has requested by email cameras to be sited on Salisbury Road and A4 eastern and western ends. To do a speed check on Salisbury Road it will take 4 officers, 2 to stop and 2 to do detection. Cllr Brookman is going to request at 40mph sign to be placed on A4 westbound before the 30mph to encourage drivers to slow down earlier. Speed reactive sign – await a response from Glyn and go from there.

9. Christmas Lights update. All the lights have been tested – 335 strings (approx. 15,000 individual bulbs). Testing needs to be done on the lampposts and Steve Skipworth, Lewis Electrical will help with this. This is not in the budget but needs to be done. The programme for the switch on has been organised with entertainment starting at 4.30pm. There is a Christmas Market taking place at the Town Hall on the same day, but should be clear by then. Penny Brookman is stage manager and Adam Winslet is doing the PA system.

10. Consider Parish Plan grant. Defer to next meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm