

# BORDEN HIGHWAYS GROUP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Baldock and Cllr Tumber  
In attendance: Cllr Bolas, Cllr Sims and Cllr Small

2. To agree on the minutes from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 (Appx 1).  
The minutes from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 were agreed and duly signed by the Chair

3. Business Items

- a) Danaway speed limit consultation:

At their April meeting, the Full Council agreed to a speed limit consultation for Danaway of 40mph as recommended by KCC Highways and Kent Police, and also to ascertain the appetite for a further reduction to 30mph if possible. The consultation has been completed and the results are to be reviewed in readiness to share with the Full Council at their next meeting and with KCC Highways.

88 letters were delivered to Danaway residents 44 of which responded to the consultation (51%). The consultation results were 82% in favour of a 40mph speed limit, and 50% were in favour of a further reduction to a 30mph speed limit.

40mph		30mph	
Yes	No	Yes	No
36	8	22	22
82%	18%	50%	50%

**Following the review of the Danaway speed limit consultation results, it was agreed to recommend that the full council approve the 40mph speed limit for Danaway. Once approved by the full council, the results will be forwarded to KCC Highways for discussion at the next HIP meeting.**

4. Correspondence: To receive an update on outstanding responses to letters sent to KCC as agreed by the Full Council (FC):

- a. At the February full council meeting it was agreed to send a letter regarding the DEFRA Environmental Land Management Schemes and Grants.

On 14<sup>th</sup> March 24, the council wrote to KCC regarding their collaboration with landowners to use the DEFRA Environmental Land Management Schemes and Grants. KCC responded stating that while they do work with landowners to alleviate flood risk, particularly when there would be an impact on public highways, they were unable to locate any records relating to such work being conducted through DEFRA.

**It was agreed to recommend that the full council write to KCC encouraging them to collaborate with DEFRA on the Environmental Land Management Schemes. This would help mitigate flood risks while providing financial support to the landowner**

- b. At the February FC meeting it was agreed to send a letter regarding the Wises Lane 3-month road closure.

A response was received from KCC dated 8<sup>th</sup> April 24, and there is no further action to be taken at this time.

- c. At the April FC meeting it was agreed to ask that speed check signs be incorporated as part of the design for the 20mph speed limit deterrent.

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A response was received from KCC Highways on 17<sup>th</sup> May stating that the interactive VAS and SIDs can't be used in a 20mph speed limit. There is no further action to be taken at this time. Information can be found in the Highway Information Pack from KCC.

5. To review the updated Highway Information Pack (HIP) from KCC Highways.  
The HIP was reviewed and updated in readiness for the next HIP meeting with KCC Highways and will be shared with the full council with this report for their September meeting.

**It was agreed to recommend the full council approve the 20 mph speed limit for Borden, as previously agreed with KCC Highways and the 40mph speed limit for Danaway, as per the recent resident consultation.**

**It is also recommended that any further discussion on the KCC Highways Information pack should be postponed until the Government reviews of highways policy and enforcement are available, which is expected later this year.**

6. KCC Highways
  - a. To agree on the next meeting date with KCC Highways from the dates supplied.  
The Clerk will ask KCC Highways to supply new meeting dates in October.
  - b. To agree on agenda topics for meeting with KCC Highways.  
The Committee reviewed the Borden Highways Improvement Plan (HIP), which had been shared by KCC Highways with their comments added.

The committee discussed concerns about Oad Street being used as a rat run to Tunstall, with issues related to speeding and traffic volumes needing to be addressed. It was noted that the sightline on the motorway bridge is inadequate for the speed of the road, and the Committee will urge KCC to address this issue urgently, at their expense, as the problems stem from design faults related to the J5 improvements. This matter has been added as a priority on the Hip.

**It was agreed to present the updated HIP to the full council for approval at their September meeting.**

**It was agreed to recommend that the full council approve reporting the damaged chicanes on Oad Street to KCC Highways, both online and in writing, requesting immediate repair.**

7. Correspondence received.  
Oad Street chaos – the below email and pictures have been received from a resident;-  
*Attached are photos from earlier today when two HGVs hit each other in Oad Street causing chaos.*  
*Yet another example of the dire situation we are faced with every day. The level of traffic is totally unsustainable and just cannot be ignored.*  
*The police caught in the chaos completely agreed that there is a disaster waiting to happen.*  
*Please forward to Cllr Bolas and your KCC Highways contact.*

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**It was agreed to recommend that the full council approve reporting the damaged chicanes on Oad Street to KCC Highways, both online and in writing, requesting immediate repair.**

It was agreed that once the Oad Street proposals on the HIP have been agreed by the full council a response is sent to the resident to advise of new Oad Street proposals for KCC Highways along with the request for immediate repair of the chicane.

8. New and emerging Highway issues.

a. Whipstakes Hill speed limit.

This was discussed under item 6b HIP review and recommendations to be put forward to the full council.

b. At the request of the Grahams Project Manager, Cllr Bolas met with him regarding signage and strategic diversions.

Signage on J5 and at the Oad Street and /Maidstone Road junction – the new signs can only have 5 locations added and have missed Borden off. Tunstall will now be removed with Borden and Chestnut Street added. Width restrictions will also be made clearer.

c. Item 73aii- Wises Lane defective road surface

On 23<sup>rd</sup> July 24, the council wrote to KCC Highways regarding the defective road surface outside of the BDW construction site on Wises Lane, this was then forwarded to their Operations Team to respond. As no response has been received, the matter has been followed up.

**It was agreed to recommend that the full council request that KCC Highways repair the dip in the road.**

**The meeting ended at 21:20**

**The next meeting date TBC**

**Minutes agreed and signed by;-**

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