

**Committee, Group or Sub Group :** Road Safety Group

**Meeting Date & Venue:** Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 at 6.30pm via Zoom

**Report Author:** Adele Sharp - Chairman

## **Report**

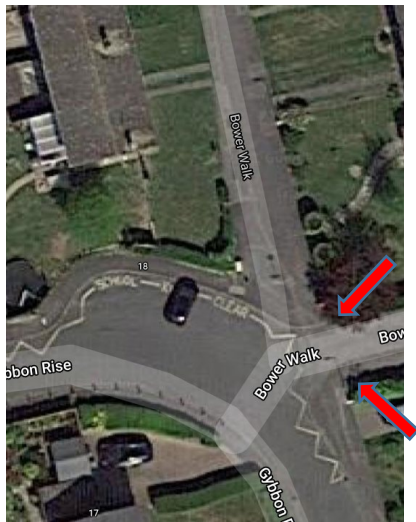
**Present were:** A Sharp (AS), J Buller (JB), Cllr Paddy Riordan (PR), M Buller (MB) Speed Watch Rep ,

**Apologies:** C Bowden (CB),

Welcome to the group Kelly

2 Gybbon Rise - dropped kerbs - yellow lines – consultation

JB has delivered consultation letters office did yesterday. Dropped curbs – Not been done yet. MB will chase Jenni. School seemed keen for the dble yellow lines.



3 Hen and Duckhurst Gateway

Dragons teeth and new gateway. MB emailed Jenni Watson to have an update on the projects.

During Covid Jenni promised a meeting with us after covid to look at this dangerous road area. The markings seem to slow traffic. There was discussion about the Staplehurst sign being a bit out of the Village area. The cross roads are dangerous and we would be keen to make it safer.

- Dragon teeth – recommend this is done as its been seen to work well elsewhere.
- Moving the Staplehurst sign is a concern about moving it further out of the 'envelope' into rural Staplehurst area. We would follow what the council previously agreed to leave it where it is.
- 

4 Speedwatch report – none done over winter period.

5 Sainsbury's roundabout sign – It has now been replaced (often facing in the wrong direction).

Surgery raised their concerns that there is not enough signage on the Maidstone side of the railway bridge. Any car parked to go into the Station or Sainsburys could have an accident. KCC Highways and Jenni Watson - MB

6 Headcorn Road survey

The extra one we did as evidence if an application came up for that area. To help avoid more traffic coming onto the crossroads and steer it through existing Pile Lane. Potential new developments avoid Pile Lane. 54 / 53% speeding out / in to the village. Ignoring the speed limit signs basically. Nearly 1/5 (20%) would be stopped by police along this road due to excessive speed earning them points on their licence

7 Fishers Road/Newlyn Drive - any reaction

CB there was some road strips survey on the Headcorn Road – Jenni Watson not aware so not Highways. S106 re Arriva – traffic displacement money Redrow / Bovis to fund to deter rat running have to do surveys first to determine if anything was necessary. May be that? Connectivity and choices of route is a major thing on the Neighbourhood Plan.

#### 8 HIP

Nothing new today, next meeting hopefully have an update.

#### 9 A229 traffic survey

2018 – 2021 figure comparisons now. We regard it was a very worthwhile expense looking at the figures and will be reported in the Village update. Message that we have managed to slow traffic down significantly, although still room for improvement.

#### 10 Hedges – no letter been required.

11 Accidents/incident reportd – nothing reported even the one on the Headcorn road on the corner recently. Police did attend but seem not to have reported it. Only record fatalities and major injury – not minor prangs or injuries – avoiding paperwork? PR will remind on his Chairman video report. [staplehurstroadinfo@gmail.com](mailto:staplehurstroadinfo@gmail.com)

#### 12 Hawkenbury Bridge - Freedom of Information

Based on when incidents logged and how much KCC had to spend to repair, how long closed to do repairs which could be interesting to know. PR to ask clerk to do.

#### 13 Condition of estate roads

Can we do a survey to check which roads need work and take photos. PR has done 2 near Surrenden Field and Surrenden Road. Highways report a problem is very easy to do. Previous reports about Surrenden pavement near school was patched within the month. MB will ask volunteers for Speedwatch to have a look too.

#### 14 Ratification of new members at Full Council – done welcome to Kelly

#### 15 AOB

\* Petrol site redevelopment – if a development goes ahead would the CIL money be able to be used at the Quarter crossing. Highways Jenni said not in 40mph area but would be easy to move the mph sign 100 yards to other side of Pinnock Lane enabling the crossing to happen although we'd be looking at £40,000 – 60,000.

20 Plenty – ask clerk for an update on being considered for the pilot. MB

Would he be a potential speaker KALC minutes Adrian Burent for May. Ask clerk to contact.

\* Marden Road layby – path MB emailed Jenni about this already – awaiting

\* 16a 16b Bower Walk and parking space appeared at end of garage area. Land is owned by houseowner. Planning dept was enquired – matter of enforcement. Have to wait for finish the development. Open Plan garden area – should there a fence?

#### 16 Dates of forthcoming meetings

If you want Tuesdays . . . suggested dates, totally moveable

T 29.3.22, T26.4.22, T 24.5.22, T 21.6.22

#### Group membership

AS Adele Sharp cllr  
CB Colin Bowden cllr

JB Joan Buller cllr  
MB Malcolm Buller speed watch rep

PR cllr Paddy Riordan  
K? Kelly cllr

Note – kept on minutes FYI

**Fisher Road.** We do not recommend closing off this road due to it being the only 'bypass' should the high street between the crossroads and Sainsburys be blocked (e.g. RTA). Speed bumps and chicanes seem little help as it's quite a winding road with parked cars already. It seems to be the last section of Hurst Close to Headcorn Rd that is where the concern about speeding traffic has originated from. More evidence is needed of this so we invite the residents to join Speedwatch, train and log the concerning traffic.

**'The Quarter' High street down the hill towards Pinnock Lane (Garage & Morrison shop)**

: Zebra crossing = £17,000 , puffin crossing £38,200.

We would need to lobby for the 30mph to extend to past Pinnock Lane, Iden Manor, as they have to be installed in a 20 – 30 mph area to have a crossing. **Action:** On the HIP

\* Picture below (courtesy of Google) current 30mph starts at Frittenden Rd area. On that side of the road (East) is the Cricket Lodge, which flows onto to the garage / Morrison shop / car wash site

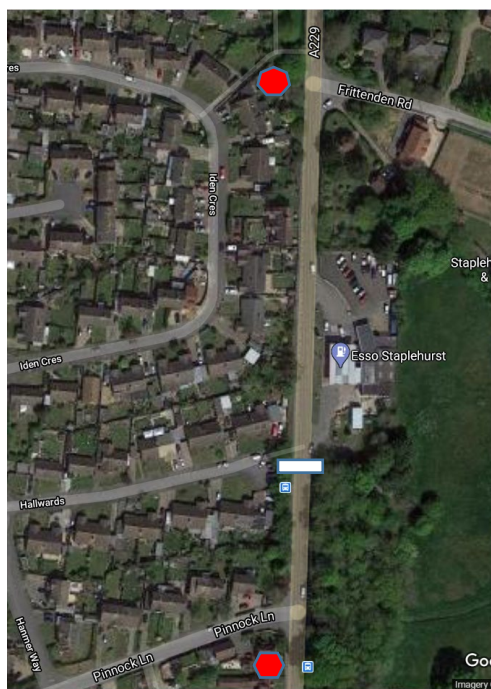
\* Bus stop on both sides of the road - opposite the garage & on the garage side it's past the Pinnock Lane turn off towards Cranbrook.

\* This is used by children in the properties (West) who have to cross this busy main road during rush hour to be able to go to school in Cranbrook. We are all concerned about potential fatalities.

\* Our suggestion would be to:

a) extend the 30mph at least to Pinnock Lane where the built up properties extend to, ideally to where the 50mph threshold is (Fuller House) and

b) install a crossing between the Hallwards pedestrian walkway and the bus top (West side)



Red shows where the 30mph is (top / North) and could be (bottom / South).

White = suggested crossing placement

Note the 2 bus tops

Group membership

AS Adele Sharp cllr  
CB Colin Bowden cllr

JB Joan Buller cllr  
MB Malcolm Buller speed watch rep

PR cllr Paddy Riordan  
K? Kelly cllr