

**A meeting of the Traffic Committee of Halberton Parish Council will be held at
Halberton Village Hall on Wednesday, 6 September 2023 at 7.30pm**

All members of the Traffic Committee are summonsed to attend for the purpose of transacting the business specified in the Agenda below.

**Sue McGeever
Clerk for Halberton Parish Council
31/08/2023**

AGENDA

Item		Report Page
1	Apologies	N/A
2	Declaration of Interest	N/A
3	Public Forum	N/A
4	Approval of the Minutes of 7 June 2023	2 to 6
5	Update of Vision Zero South West	7
6	Discussion on a new action plan for the Traffic Committee	8-10
7	Update on lorries and potential action on weight limits	11
8	20mph speed limits	12
9	Joint speed limit committee	13
11	Date of next meeting	N/A

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Page
4	Approval of the Minutes of 7 June 2023	2 to 6

Halberton Parish Council

Minutes of the Traffic Committee of Halberton Parish Council held at Halberton Village Hall On Wednesday, 7 June 2023

Present: Councillors Batchelor, Browse and Graham together with Liz Brooks, Georgie Fice, Jerry Mahany and Terry Payne. The Clerk was also in attendance.

Councillor Batchelor chaired the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Margaret Anderson, Christina Curee e Couto and Neil Purves.

2. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Forum

There was no-one present for the public forum. Georgie Fice raised the Newsletter article and asked that her name be withheld.

4. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 5 April 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

5. Update of Vision Zero South West

VAS posts

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk would contact David Williams to install the posts and it was hoped this would be done within 3 weeks. Full instructions had been received from James Anstee.

The placing of the posts was discussed and it was noted that one of the sites could not be used. It was suggested that a site close to the village hall may be considered although cars would be slowing down at this point. The possibility if this site would be looked at directly after the meeting.

The possibility of putting a post near the farm shop was also considered given the number of pedestrians and the speed of vehicles.

The Clerk was in the process of drawing up a simple contract between the Parish Council and the landowners to allow for the placement of the posts on the land and the continued maintenance of the VAS units. One month's notice would be given on other side.

Action on above points: Councillor Browse together with Liz Brooks/Georgie Fice and Clerk

VAS signs

The signs had been delivered to Councillor Browse and it was agreed that George Fice would pick up one of the units to run through the manual to see how easy it was to use and move the signs.

Georgie Fice undertook to produce a maintenance schedule and this could then be set up as a rota to cover changing batteries, moving the units etc.

The Clerk would identify the correct volunteer forms and look to identify a suitable Health and Safety Risk Assessment to cover the work to be undertaken. Hi-viz jackets should be worn by volunteers.

Action: Georgie Fice/Clerk

Other Action points:

- Press Release upon receipt of VAS units (GF)
- Press Release when VAS units in place (GF)

Road Signs

A delivery date for the pedestrian signs was still awaited. Regular follow up emails copying in Councillor Slade were undertaken.

Action: Clerk in contact with DCC

Flashing lights at school

A response had been received in April and the Clerk was looking to set up a site visit. A response was awaited from DCC to move the project forward. Councillor Slade was kept informed.

Action: Clerk in contact with DCC

Accounts

The Parish Council has still not been invoiced for works by DCC – this is likely to occur in the next financial year. This is understood to be acceptable to Vision Zero.

Action: Clerk to monitor

Given the delay in responses, the Clerk would email again copying in James Anstee, Meg Booth and Alison Hernandez. Councillor Batchelor undertook to speak to Councillor Slade.

Action: Councillor Batchelor/ Clerk

6. Update on actions resulting from the Petition

Councillor Batchelor expressed his concern that these actions were still outstanding one year after the petition had been handed in and following the meeting with Tom Vaughan. The slow response from DCC was concerning and the question was asked if this could be raised with the Scrutiny Committee.

Action: Clerk

The outstanding items were:

Speed limits

At present there is no intention to bring speed limits within the parish into alignment.
(Joint Parish Meeting to co-ordinate action)

Pedestrian Crossing at the Village Hall

It had been agreed at the last meeting that a call for support for a pedestrian crossing would be put into the Newsletter, on the website and social media. If sufficient people were in favour, this would give the Parish Council greater strength to push the matter with DCC.

It was noted that another position may be considered more suitable.

Action: Clerk to remain in contact with DCC and contact Councillor Furmedge re the website and social media.

Local Traffic Only

The wording 'Local Traffic Only' on the exit sign to Sampford Peverell at the first junction of the A361 heading towards Tiverton had not been implemented by DCC,

Action: Clerk to follow up

Temporary Traffic Lights

DCC had not responded to the suggestion that temporary traffic lights in Halberton when the A361 is closed might lessen delays.

Action: Clerk to follow

Average Speed Cameras

The question was also asked of DCC as to whether they felt average speed cameras through the 20mph limit would encourage people not to speed?

Action: Clerk to follow

Bridge at Rose Cottage

The work had been completed and a request had gone in for priority signage, better road narrows signs and new traffic layout ahead.

Councillor Bachelor felt that this agenda item should be removed from the agenda and replaced with an action plan.

It was agreed that the Traffic Committee would re-assess its objectives and re-focus on proposals that were achievable.

Action: All

Whilst it was noted that there had been a raised crossing at the Village Hall which had been part of the original traffic calming work, it was now highly unlikely that it would be re-instated.

It was noted that there had been no more signatories to the petition.

The strategy to re-focus may result in a new petition.

7. Update on ways to submit traffic incidents/submissions

Report from Councillor Furmedge.

There have been no further submissions online or via SMS in the past months.

It was RESOLVED to leave the forms on the website but remove the item from the agenda.

8. Update on lorries and potential action on weight limits

The Parish Council was awaiting feedback from the police on the HGV traffic on the Willand/Halberton road.

The moving of weight signs was ongoing.

Action: Clerk

Other Actions to be completed:

9. Update on 20mph extension submission

Expression of Interest for 20mph speed limit

The Halberton bid had been unsuccessful as there had been no major accidents in Lower Town.

Pavement at Lower Town

Feedback was still awaited from DCC.

Action: Clerk to remain in contact with DCC

20's plenty campaign

Halberton Parish Council is signed up to the campaign.

The Clerk advised that an email had been received asking Parish Council's to write to DCC asking them to change their policy to 20mph and to make 20mph zones more affordable for local communities.

Whilst in favour of 20mph limits, the Parish Council felt that it should not be a question of it being affordable for local communities, DCC should put the funds in place.

It was agreed that the 20's Plenty signs could be displayed throughout the parish.

Seddon signs

No requests for Seddon signs had been received by the Clerk.

10. Joint speed limit committee

Councillor Batchelor asked that the next meeting be scheduled after the summer period.

Action: Clerk

11. Other traffic related items

Overgrown hedges

A second resident has advised that they will be getting their hedge cut back.

Action: Clerk to monitor.

Pavement at The Hickory Inn

The Parish Council together with the new Ward Councillor were looking to identify why the parking spaces changed from a community benefit to car parking places for sale given the only access was a private road.

If the car parking spaces became a community benefit then establishing a pavement would be supported by DCC.

The Traffic Committee considered that any increase in traffic would be detrimental to the village and cause further damage to the roads which were already unable to cope with the volume of traffic.

Mirror at the top of Orpington

It was suggested that a mirror at the top of Orpington would be beneficial to traffic users.

Traffic Counting on the Halberton to Tiverton road

It appeared that traffic counting was going on along the road from Tiverton Golf Course to Red Linhay.

Action: Clerk to ascertain its purpose

12. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday, 6 September at 7.30pm when a new agenda would be set

Action: Councillor Graham to book the Jubilee Room

Signed _____ Date _____
Chairman

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

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5	Update of Vision Zero South West	7

VAS posts

DCC have provided the specifications for the posts that will go on private land.

Action: Parish Council to organise installation

VAS signs

Delivered

Other Action points:

- Press Release upon receipt of VAS units (GF)
- Press Release when VAS units in place (GF)
- H&S documentation for volunteers
- Forms for volunteers

Signs

A delivery date for the pedestrian signs is awaited.

Action: Clerk in contact with DCC

Flashing lights at school

Following the meeting with DCC in June 2023, the sites for the flashing lights have been agreed and purchase of the signs is underway with the Parish Council having confirmed that the funds are available.

DCC's recommendation is Simmons signs

www.simmons signs.co.uk/road-safety-solutions/school-patrol-warning-lights/solar-pulsa-4x4-school-warning/

which would cost approx. £5700 inc VAT for two signs.

Councillor Furmedge has also found

www.roadsignsdirect.co.uk/led-signs/microtima-school-patrol-signal-plate-mounted

which would cost £1600 inc VAT for two signs.

Other options – awaiting quotes

<https://www.mallatite.co.uk/traffic-products/pedestrian-crossing-equipment/safeway-led-school-sign/>

<https://www.messagemaker.co.uk/products/led-school-warning-signs/>

Action: Decision to be taken on which ones to purchase

Accounts

Information has been received that the Parish Council may not be invoiced for works by DCC until the next financial year. This is understood to be acceptable to Vision Zero.

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6	Discussion on a new action plan for the Traffic Committee	8-10

It was agreed at the last meeting that the Traffic Committee would re-assess its priorities and create an action plan. It was agreed that items 6 and 7 would be removed from the agenda.

It should be noted that no further Traffic Issues or entries in the Traffic Petition for a number of months.

A meeting took place in June with DCC. The following items were discussed:

1. Flashing lights at the school in Lower Town

It was agreed that the best location for the lights would be a) on Jubilee Corner facing down the hill towards Lower Town and b) by the existing school sign heading from Pethertons towards the car park and Church Lane. The Council is keen to improve its green credentials and we are looking to install solar operated lights.

Steve Short has said that DCC use Simmons signs and it would make sense to go with a model that DCC are used to. The cost of the programmable, yellow background light show in the link below is approximately £2700 with a 12-week lead in time. This would appear to be within the funds the Parish Council have available through Vision Zero.

[Solar Palsa 4x4 - School Crossing & Patrol Warning Light & Signal \(simmons signs.co.uk\)](https://simmons signs.co.uk)

As you know the school sign that is halfway down the hill from Jubilee Corner is not very visible and does get overgrown. On that note, many thanks for cutting back the overhanging branches, Willy - so, the combined approach could be the best way forward subject to Parish Council approval. The next meeting is 11 July 2023.

It would make sense to place the order as soon as possible as this would mean the lights could be in and operational before the clocks go back for the winter.

2. The pavement at Church Lane

The Parish Council is still keen to acquire a small section of land from a parish resident to allow for a pavement to be put in to link up with the existing pavement keeping children off the road.

The agreed action was for DCC to draw up a legal document to allow the Parish Council to acquire the land and provide drawings of the proposed pavement.

Other actions: Parish Council to ask another resident to cut back their hedge to the edge of the road to improve width and visibility.

3. The Mead Playing Field to Cordwents

The Parish Council is awaiting the new Heads of Terms for The Mead which will allow a pathway from the Mead to the car park – again allowing pedestrians safe access.

4. Signage through Vision Zero grant
The Parish Council is awaiting a delivery date of the new signs that show pedestrians in the road from Church Lane to Jubilee Corner. The area is too narrow for a pavement and, at present, no alternative exists.
5. VAS units
DCC confirmed that provided the VAS unit posts are on private land, approval to change a position is not required.
6. Flooding at the Farm Shop
It is understood that this will be looked at as part of the work to re-surface the road currently scheduled for the autumn.
7. Pedestrian Crossing at the Village Hall
The Parish Council is currently consulting with parishioners as to the need for a pedestrian crossing.
8. Railings at the pond
It is understood that the railings are scheduled to be replaced.
9. Potential pavement at The Hickory Bridge
Work is scheduled to take place to rebuild the broken metal barrier.

The suggestion has been made that the Parish Council approach Councillor Slade to make a bid for the section from the existing pavement to the road junction double yellow lines – this will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Once cars are no longer parking in the area then the possibility of installing a pavement could be moved forward.

Work is ongoing with respect to the neighbourhood parking that was supposed to be part of The Orchard development.

10. Lorries on the Halberton to Willand road
The Parish Council is currently working with the police who have identified that most of the lorries have foreign number plates.

Thank you to DCC for moving the lorry restriction sign as you come in from Sampford Peverell to Halberton.

The majority of the problem appears to be from Willand and it would be most helpful if the 7.5 ton restriction sign was moved back to the roundabout rather than being visible once the lorries are actually on the road to Halberton.

Is there a possibility it could be on the back of the large signs leading in to the roundabout?

The Parish Council is concerned that residents' walls and the telegraph pole are hit on a regular basis.

11. Rose Cottage Bridge

It is understood that there is no current plan for a priority system to be put in place but when the road is re-surfaced, additional road marks may be put in place

12. Lorries between Halberton and Brithem Bottom

The number of long vehicles attempting to travel from Halberton to Cullompton via Brithem Bottom is increasing with them having to back up along the lanes on reaching the T Junction.

There are weight restrictions on the road and one 'unsuitable for long vehicles' sign heading up the road to Crossparks from Crow Green.

Could more be done?

Community Speed Watch

The Parish Council has taken the decision to re-introduce the Community Speed Watch scheme.

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7	Update on lorries and potential action on weight limits	11

The Clerk met with Tim Walsh of Devon and Cornwall police on 30 August 2023.

A report will be written by the police to outline all the traffic problems within the parish and the wider area and sent to DCC.

The police were unaware that there were planning applications/appeals ongoing that could significantly increase traffic levels especially HGVs and agricultural vehicles along the road from Sampford Peverell to Tiverton.

Actions: Clerk to liaise

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9	20mph speed limits	12

Expression of Interest for 20mph speed limit

A new application to be submitted when they re-open in 2024.

Action: Clerk to monitor

20's plenty campaign

Halberton Parish Council is signed up to the campaign.

Signs for windows, bins and cars are available from the Village Hall.

Seddon signs

It was agreed that these signs would not be used in the existing 20mph area.

One or two signs have appeared in the 30mph areas.

Should a note be put in the Newsletter to say they are available for Brithem Bottom, Crossparks, Lower Town etc.

Information would suggest that provided they are on private land, Highways is happy for them to be displayed.

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10	Joint speed limit committee	13

The application for a landfill site at Greenway has sparked community meetings involving Tiverton Town Council, Craze Lowman, Halberton and Sampford Peverell.

A traffic survey is being commissioned.

This information could be useful to the joint speed limit committee.

An email asking for dates has been sent out.

Action: Clerk