

A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Held on	Tuesday 1 October 2024 at 3.30pm Room 6, Crispin Community Centre, Leigh Road, Street.
Members Summoned and Present:	Cllrs Simon Carswell (Chairman), Peter Goater, Jean Howard, Nina Swift (Vice-Chairman) and Laura Wolfers
Apologies:	Cllrs Pam Birch and Terry Napper
Officers Present:	Zoe Leach, Deputy Clerk/RFO
In attendance:	One resident and the Leader Member for Transport and Waste Services at Somerset council s and the Service Manager Traffic Engineering at Somerset Council

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public question time

Parishioners were invited to make representations to the Highways Committee on any matters relating to the work of the Highways Committee or to raise any issues of concern. Please note that the Committee is unable to make formal decisions under this item.

A resident spoke in support of the proposed consolidation and enlargement of Street's network of 20mph speed-limited roads.

The meeting commenced at 3.37pm

MINUTES

24/25HC.029 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Birch and Napper.
Apologies were noted. LGA 1972 s85(1).

24/25HC.030 Declaration of interests and grant of dispensations

Councillors were reminded of their duty to declare any interests in the business to be transacted.

24/25HC.031 Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED – The minutes of the Highways Committee meeting held on 6th August 2024 were approved for signing as a true record of the decisions taken subject to amending the name of the Church in Cllr Leyshon's update to Holy Trinity Church and not St John's Church.

24/25HC.032 20mph Zone Expansion

The Committee received input from the Lead Member for Transport and Waste Services at Somerset Council and the Service Manager- Traffic Engineering at Somerset Council on the feasibility of the proposal to consolidate and enlarge Streets 20mph network.

Discussion took place around the process, 20mph criteria, legal orders, projected costs and timescales.

No funds are available through Somerset Council; if Somerset Council ratify plans the project would have to be funded by the Parish Council. There will be an initial cost to Somerset Council of approximately £500 to detail the site. A Traffic Regulation Order would cost approximately £2,000. Additional costs are dependent on the number of signs, posts and road markings required.

If ratified, works can be completed by Somerset Council at an estimated cost of £10,000 within a 12 to 18 month period. Alternatively the Parish Council can appoint its own contractor; who must be Chapter 8 accredited and approved by the Highways Authority and they must undertake all of the associated traffic management.

Somerset Council will view any 20mph submission in line with the Department for Transport criteria. Strict guidelines exist on where 20mph zones can and cannot be implemented. Average speeds must be below 24mph on these roads.

As part of the submission process a 21-day consultation phase goes out to the public domain where members of the public can make representations. Police are also a statutory consultee.

A discussion took place on the feasibility of extending the current 20mph Zone on Somerton Road - the Service Manager for Traffic Engineering advised that this did not meet the Department for Transport 20mph criteria as the average speeds were too fast at 26mph.
Officer to submit data from the Somerton Road SID to Traffic Management at Somerset Council for further consideration.

RESOLVED

To **RECOMMEND** Full Council progress the proposal to consolidate Street's network of 20mph at an estimated cost of £12k to include an upfront cost to Somerset Council of £500 to cover the initial exploratory work and costings.

The meeting was closed at 4.25pm.

Cllr Liz Leyshon (Deputy Leader of Somerset Council and Lead Member for Resources and Performance) provided an update. This included discussion on:

- Highways safety in the area of Higher Brooks and Middle Brooks.
- Speed limits and speed zones
- Delay to Mendip Order.

At 4.32pm the Chairman reopened the meeting.

24/25HC.033 Speed Indication Devices (SID)

The Committee received an update from the Deputy Clerk/RFO on the progress of the SID enhancement project in Street:

RESOLVED – to RECOMMEND Full Council approve a contingency fund of £1000 from the Council Reform: Staffing/Assets/Services budget to fund additional SID posts and alterations required to meet the updated Somerset Council SID guidelines in order to advance the SID enhancement project.
Deputy Clerk to progress.

24/25HC.034 Correspondence

Correspondence received from Somerset Council who would like to provide funding to enhance the roundabout at the entrance to street.

RESOLVED - To respond to Somerset Council and register Parish Council interest in direct involvement in Somerset Councils desire to provide funding to enhance the roundabout at the entrance to street.

24/25HC.035 Items to raise for consideration at the next meeting.

i. Items scheduled:

- Bus Partnership update- Cllr Howard.

ii Proposed items:

- Woodbatch flooding – Cllr Goater to provide motion request form.

24/25HC.036 Date of Next Meeting

The next Highways Committee meeting date to be advised.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 4.55pm.

These minutes were adopted on 1 October 2024 under minute reference
decisions taken and are duly signed below by the chair of that meeting.

as a true record of the

Signed: _____