

LACKFORD PARISH COUNCIL

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

PARISH COUNCILLORS NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Lackford Parish Councillors are called upon to attend a meeting of the Council that will take place on Monday 17 September 2018 at 7:30pm in Lackford Church.

John F. Sadler – Clerk to the Council

Councillors called to attend

Stan Green (Chairman)
Steve Jones (Vice-Chairman)
Harry Lidster
Colin Smith
Jan Betley
Naomi Palmer
Roland van Wijk

Invitations to attend also sent to

Parish Clerks & Councillors of:
Icklingham
Flempton cum Hengrave
Fornham all Saints

Notice also sent to

Rebecca Hopfensperger (County Councillor)
Susan Glossop (Borough Councillor)
Safer Neighbourhood Team

Apologies for absence received

Statutory matters

The Chairman to ascertain that the statutory requirements for holding the meeting have been observed, there is a quorum (*minimum 2 for the APM and 3 for the Council meeting*), and to determine if any Councillors wish to declare an interest in any matters on the Agenda

Apologies for absence not already received

AGENDA

Safety Review of the A1101

1. **To consider the proposals and questions, as set out below in an email from David Chenery dated 30 July 2018. Together with his summary of a telephone discussion with John Sadler, also set out below.** (Both previously forwarded to you, with attachments – A1101 Collision Study Draft Report for Review and Gateway Construction Details and now included again with this agenda as an attachment.)

Dear Clerk,

In 2017 Suffolk County Council commissioned a study to assess the safety of the A1101 between Bury St Edmunds and Shippea Hill. The consultant's report is attached.

Our safety engineers studied the report to identify the most effective safety improvements and the likelihood of them being funded as the total cost of the recommendations would have been unaffordable.

From this we submitted a bid for £150k to an SCC/Police Board that manages the allocation of monies from speed awareness course surpluses. The bid identified the schemes with good rates

of return and formed a mix of schemes that would focus on creating a corridor improvement with consistent layouts to influence driver behaviour. We also included bids to improve an accident cluster site at West Stow and the removal of a layby between Icklingham and the A11. The overall bid also showed that Suffolk Highways intend to invest some £270k over the next 3 years in resurfacing several sections of the road. The bid also reflected our previous experience of bidding to the Board, the other bids being submitted and our chances of the bid being accepted.

The Board looked carefully at the bid and in light of all the bids were able to allocate £55k. Where needed this allocation can be used to support the provision of new or enhanced village gateways, Think Bike posters, support for new or additional vehicle activated signs (parish owned speed indicator devices (SID's)) and community speed watch (CSW) schemes where these don't exist and the parish is keen to promote. These are offered to the parishes of Fornham, Flempton cum Hengrave, Lackford and Icklingham

This is good news, in that we have secured sufficient funds to progress some of the schemes and make a positive improvement towards road safety. If further local funds were secured we would look at increasing the size of the project.

We now need to find out what each parish would like. If a parish wanted to inform drivers of speeds but don't want to do it themselves, we could buy additional TVAS and add the new locations to the schedule (TVAS is the SCC owned temporary VAS's that we rotate around Suffolk to parishes on a schedule – an additional TVAS will ensure the frequency of deployment isn't eroded by just adding more parishes).

To move this forward can I ask the following:

1. Would your council want to take up the options of financial support to help you run new or additional SID or CSW schemes? The link below provides more information <http://www.suffolkroadsafe.net/assets/Road-Safety-in-Suffolk/Speeding/TVAS/pdf/Working-together-to-reduce-speed-Jan-2018.pdf>
2. Would your council want new or enhanced gateways? (I'm aware that some parishes already have a form of gateway and in places there is insufficient width for a new one). Please see attached for a typical gateway design and see paras 5.3.5 to 5.3.8 of the report for suggested layouts (although we'd not permit a red surfacing or rumble strips)

SCC would manage the provision of Think Bike posters along the corridor.

Based on the above feedback I would draft a design brief for Suffolk Highways Professional Services (our designers) to price against. Their brief would include a site visit and where required the production of outline designs for gateways to either side of the villages and locations for new posts for SID or TVAS sites. The brief would also include working up a works estimate.

We would want to update your council at each stage of the project. Our design engineers may wish to meet parishes on site to assess the suitability of each location.

I look forward to your reply and can be contacted via the email address below.

Regards

David Chenery

Safety and Speed Management Engineer

Dear John,

Many thanks for our helpful phone call this morning in response to my letter offering certain safety features along this route.

I was pleased to hear your long-standing desire to improve road safety along this road and your council's efforts to run the SID signs.

I advised the funding has come from surpluses from speed awareness courses and that SCC and the police bid for monies each year.

We discussed the following:

- Hedges close to the road edge – I advised that the majority of hedges belong to the adjacent landowner and it's his obligation to keep them trimmed. I can confirm that we still can issue hedge cutting notices to landowners if they fail to maintain. Our staff will act themselves if they see something that's of immediate concern but we also rely heavily on parish clerks reporting such problems – via the SCC on-line reporting tool
- Think Bike signs – SCC would erect and maintain these. We'd access the available budget to buy new signs specifically for the A1101
- Accident Black spot signs – these are not permitted on the highway as are not an approved sign. They could be erected on private land or SCC could apply for special government authorisation but know we won't get it.
- rumble strips – we are less inclined to provide these now as there would be no maintenance budget to restore them if/as and when they wear out
- SID signs – you advised you have 6 posts to locate SID signs on. It might be your parish requests that SCC buys its own flashing sign and we'd deploy it on your posts at times of the year in conjunction with yours.
- gateways – whilst we have no evidence of the effects of these we know anecdotally from other parishes that they like these and feel they can remind drivers that they are entering a village community and need to drive with consideration
- Fatalities on the road involving motorcyclists – I haven't looked at the specific reports on these but you advised the A1101 is a popular route for motorcyclists. There is a hard-to-get-to group of risk-taking motorcyclists so any measures we install need to reflect this challenge.

You advised your Council only meets 4 times a year and the next meeting is on 10th October. I suggested you might want to call an extraordinary meeting to discuss my letter sooner, perhaps in conjunction with a neighbouring parish? I'm now keen to make some progress and I'll need to report back to the funders that (a) progress is being made (b) whether other options, such as a 50mph speed limit, could form part of a second funding bid.

Happy to keep in touch

Regards

David Chenery

Safety and Speed Management Engineer

2. To form a consensus view with proposals to put back to David Chenery, from the parish councils along the A1101 corridor.

3. **Questions from members and registered electors of the Parish attending the meeting on: Matters of concern, for report or for information only, by permission of the Chairman.** *(Note: the Parish Council cannot make decisions on any matter not on the agenda)*
4. **To confirm the next and future meetings of Lackford Parish Council**

The next Parish Council Meeting (Meeting No 2) will be as previously proposed:

Monday 08 October 2018 at 7:30pm in Lackford Church.

Proposed dates for future meetings:

- Monday 10 December 2018 (Meeting No 4) - 2nd Monday in March
- Monday 11 March 2019 (Meeting No 4) - 2nd Monday in March
- Monday 13 May 2019 (APM & AGM) - 2nd Monday in May
- Monday 14 October 2019 (Meeting No 2) - 2nd Monday in October
- Monday 19 December 2019 (Meeting No 3) - 2nd Monday in December