



Established 1894

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NOTES OF THE DAPPERS LANE WORKING GROUP MEETING ON FRIDAY 23RD APRIL 2021 AT 2 PM

1. Present: -

Councillor Verrinder SV
Graham Liddell GL
Diana Hannant DH
Peter Slowe PS

SV thanked GL for hosting this meeting during such a national and personal stressful time, it is very much appreciated and hoped that this would be the last meeting to be held on Zoom.

2. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Bicknell did not attend, nothing heard from him.

ACTION: SV to find out if he intends to remain an active member of the Group

3. Approval of the Notes

Approval of the Notes of the Zoom meeting held on 15th October 2020. No notes were produced, but an interim report was written by Graham Liddell, approved by the Group, and sent to HTP Committee.

4. Comments from last HTP Meetings

Update on the HTP Meetings held on 30th March 2021 and 20th April 2021.

The group members felt unhappy about the response from HTP because of the e-mail from WSCC in response to the Interim Report from the Working Group. It felt that the response in support of the Group could have been more robust, but would comply with the directive from the Committee to revisit Option1 of the interim report, which was to "do nothing", but: -

- a) Look further into Enforcement methods at the Bridge and
- b) Look further into the Compass R3 bus route that uses Dappers Lane.

The Group were pleased with the support given to the project by Angmering's County Councillor Deborah Urquhart at the Full Council meeting on 12th April 2021. Her interest is very much appreciated and would follow up her suggestion to have a meeting with the Highways Department at WSCC and Patching Parish Council in due course.

ACTION: - SV to investigate with the Parish Clerk and Chair of HTP about

- a) forwarding copies of all communications to Councillor Urquhart, if she so wished, after the 6th May to keep her informed as to the process of the project.
- b) Setting up a meeting with Highways and Patching PC and other relevant Stakeholders.

The Group felt that it had complied with all the aims and objectives in its terms of reference, and that the interim report had covered all. It also felt that it was not in their power to contact various stakeholders as this was the responsibility of the Parish Council to set up meetings and invite stakeholders to those meetings. The Group were quite happy to attend such meetings and to investigate anything further after such meetings if the need arose. Also, to write reports and draft letters.

5. Comments on WSCC Interim Report Response e-mail by Mike Dare (MD)

The Group were very unhappy about the e-mail reply from MD to the Interim Report which had taken a lot of work and effort by the Group to produce. It felt there was a lot of “buck passing” and that by the answers/reasons given the report had not been read properly or in fact read at all, this is backed up by MD’s comments “...I cannot say for certain without knowing the precise nature of the request ...”. The report explained in full detail the nature of the request.

Whilst SV was also not happy with the response, she did point out that Covid-19 may have had a lot to do with it and the fact that Authorities were waiting to see what impact the completion of the A259 upgrade would have on the Lane, however, this could take up to another 2 years to complete, and then to assess its full effect throughout the District. SV also pointed out, that she made it quite clear to the HTP Committee that this was understandable but in the meantime the ecology, environment and users of the Lane were in ever increasing danger from increasing legal and illegal vehicular use of the Lane, not to mention the pressure developments, still to be constructed within the Parish, will bring to the Lane.

ACTION: SV to ask the HTP Committee and Parish Clerk if they would be replying to this e-mail.

6. Compass R3 Bus Route

SV said that she had investigated the route that this bus (Sainsbury’s Shopper) run by Compass took from Westergate to Sainsbury’s Rustington. There are three points on this route that were causing a problem, which are at:

- a) Worlds End Public House (2 stops),
- b) The Fox Inn (2 stops) and
- c) Dappers Lane outside Culberry Nursery

This bus only operates twice a week on a Tuesday and Thursday, it starts from Westergate at 0947 passing through these three stops from about 1015 reaching Rustington at 1030. The bus then returns along the same route at 1200 back to Westergate. There are questions that need to be asked of the bus company

- a) What is the usage of the bus at these three stops?
- b) If the usage is very few passengers, then is this part of the route necessary, especially as it is only two trips twice a week.
- c) Would the bus company consider using another route, for example – after Poling Corner take the route off the A27 to the A280, then into Water Lane, Dappers Lane (from the South) and then using the normal route to Arundel Road and then Station Road to Sainsbury’s

The Group stated that as they use the Lane quite often, they have never seen a bus stop in Dappers Lane. It was agreed that a survey of the residents along that part of the route including Clapham and Patching would be the only way to find out from the residents themselves if they use that bus.

ACTION: SV to speak to Parish Council to include such questions in the next survey.

SV said that she had drafted a letter to the Bus Company. The Group agreed with the draft and asked that an alternate route be given, they also suggested that a copy of the letter be sent to Sainsbury’s putting the situation to them and asking them to recommend to the bus company to change the route – it was felt that Sainsbury’s pay for this bus trip, but this needs to be investigated further.

ACTION: SV to forward draft letter to HTP, Chair of PC and Parish Clerk, for comment/amendment if necessary and to forward to the bus company and Sainsbury’s by the Parish Council.

7. Option 1 of the Interim Report

Although this Option was labelled “Do Nothing”, it was felt that this could have been worded better, otherwise by being requested to investigate enforcement and the bus route, there would be no point in the Group continuing or wait until the completion of the A259.

Enforcement of the No Entry to motor vehicles – How?

The Group felt that despite having made recommendation to WSCC regarding improved signage along the route to the Bridge from the A280, there was nothing further they can do to stop drivers taking that route into the village, ignoring the signs, otherwise the only other legal enforcement at this point can only be done by the police who, despite occasional appearances at the site, cannot be there all the time. With their resources they are unable to commit to that. It was also suggested that WSCC (or whoever) could set up a camera, but again what are the resources for this to be successful in catching those that break the law and indeed prevent it happening.

Would the Parish Council commit to setting up the occasional survey at the junction, this could be run by Group members, Parish Councillors, and other Residents. However, what effect would this have with WSCC and Arun District Council (ADC).

The Group suggested that the use of social media to highlight the problem with the Lane and illegal use might be a way forward. It was also suggested that posters be placed on lampposts, in shop windows etc could also be a way forward, however, the legality and cost of doing this would need to be investigated.

ACTION:

- a) SV to discuss with Parish Council and HTP Committee and
- b) DH & PS to work on posters and social media.

8. Participation of CPRE

A copy of letters from Michael Warden of the Campaign for Rural England (CPRE) had been sent to Group Members regarding a resurgence of interest in Quiet Lanes. The members thought this was a good idea and that the Group should contact him for more information and how CPRE could help the Group move forward despite the setback by WSCC.

ACTION: SV to contact MW through the Parish Council to discuss the situation and how CPRE can help us.

9. Initial Thoughts on Consultations and Surveys

It is understood by the Group, that many Stakeholders will not co-operate unless there has been a consultation or survey of the feelings of the Parish Residents. The Group are aware that the Parish Council is currently drafting a Survey and wondered how close to publication this is. They would like to pose some questions in that survey if it is not too late. GL said that he would gladly assist with this by providing some suggested wording for the survey.

ACTION: GL to draft generic questions for inclusion in a survey.

10. Date of the Next Meeting by either Zoom or Face to Face

PS has agreed that the Group may hold the next meeting at his home – outside weather permitting on Thursday 27th May 2021 at 1400 hours.

Sylvia Verrinder

Councillor Sylvia Verrinder
Lead Dappers Lane Working Group
28th April 2021

LIST OF ACTIONS:

Para 2	SV to find out if he intends to remain an active member of the Group	
Para 4	SV to investigate with the Parish Clerk and Chair of HTP about a) forwarding copies of all communications to Councillor Urquhart, if she so wished, after the 6 th May to keep her informed as to the process of the project. b) Setting up a meeting with Highways and Patching PC and other relevant Stakeholders	
Para 5	SV to ask the HTP Committee and Parish Clerk if they would be replying to this e-mail	
Para 6	SV to speak to Parish Council to include such questions in the next survey SV to forward draft letter to HTP, Chair of PC and Parish Clerk, for comment/amendment if necessary and to forward to the bus company and Sainsbury's by the Parish Council	
Para 7	a) SV to discuss with Parish Council and HTP Committee and b) DH & PS to work on posters and social media.	
Para 8	SV to contact MW through the Parish Council to discuss the situation and how CPRE can help us.	
Para 9	GL to draft generic questions for inclusion in a survey.	