**Coleford Town Council**

**Highways and Public Safety Committee**

**Tuesday 24 January 2023**

**3.00pm – 5.00pm**

**Council Chamber**

**Present: Cllrs. M Cox, S Cox, Elsmore, Lusty & Getgood**

**Nathan Choat, GCC Highways**

**PCSOs Dawn Teague & Tom Oliver**

**Greg Daniel, Member of the Public**

1. Apologies received from GCC Cllr. Allaway-Martin, and Dist. Cllr. Whitburn
2. No interests declared re: Items on the agenda
3. No dispensation requests
4. The minutes of 22 November 22 were proposed, and unanimously agreed.

**Chair, Cllr. M Cox signed a copy, as a true record**

1. **Matters arising from the 22 November minutes;**

**Item 7, Page 2: Kingsmeade ‘Cattle Grid’:** Cllr. Elsmore confirmed further engagement with Kingsmeade Residents, informing them of CTC position

1. **Public Forum:**

Greg Daniel was invited to speak, and stated that he was in attendance to hear further findings, including from GCC Highways re: St John St and Licensing regulations.

**Cllr. M Cox brought forward Item 8, in light of Member of the Public’s attendance**

**Highways**

1. **To consider consultation letter re: TRO scheme Forest of Dean, also taking account of Street Licensing matters, and make recommendations, as necessary**

Nathan Choat (NC) updated re: St John St and Street Licensing, confirming that under current arrangements GCC continue to object as specific area is considered carriageway, not pavement. FoDDC cannot allow license, even with extension on previous law to Sept 23, as GCC have objected.

NC did offer possible way forward, based on an engineering solution with a new TRO, but with cost of approx.. £10 k for TRO administration, and £15k for engineering works. GCC were not considering any contribution to those costs.

NC explained that TROs must only be prepared allow for one kind of works, so parking and prohibition of traffic cannot be included in the same TRO.

**Note: Cllr. M Cox proposed, and it was unanimously agreed that Standing Orders be suspended to re-engage Greg Daniel in discussion.**

**3.17 pm**

Further discussion between Nathan Choat, Committee, and Greg Daniel~~s~~, with clarification provided regarding proposals, costs, and funding, and willingness to contribute. Cllr. M Cox summarised.

**3.43 pm Cllr. M Cox took meeting back under CTC Standing Orders**

After further discussion, NC proposed asking the expert TRO officer to meet with Coleford, if possible to clarify TRO 2 below. CTC welcomed that and agreed to meet by zoom if needed.

The following was proposed, and unanimously agreed re **TRO Scheme Consultation Letter ”Proposed Parking Restriction Alterations”.**

Comments amending the TRO (with the map attached) to be consulted with St John St traders in short order, and to submit to GCC by Feb 1st as agreed. The main amendments would be:

* to change the loading bay in the north, near to the Tram Road into 1 hour waiting.
* Disability bays in both Market Place and St John St to remain (not as shown on GCC map)
* Exact position of above bays and loading areas/ changed bus clearway to be as marked on map and related to current placement.

**Recommendations:**

1. **To consult traders re a separate, second TRO to prohibit vehicles from a section of limited parking outside Dog House, Scoffs.**
2. **With GCC organisation, to potentially conduct a pilot of same during 2023 to secure further data.**
3. **Subject to findings above, and committed funding, to submit that second TRO to make good that further alteration.**

NB there are possibly 4 routes to funding for both TRO admin and engineering:

* to formally write to GCC Cllr. Allaway-Martin asking for use of some of her GCC Councillor allocation, possibly over two years;
* to further negotiate with GCC, noting the inconsistency re objection when already previously agreed last year, and license went ahead with FoDDC.
* to seek contributions from relevant businesses**;**
* to take to Jan CTC Full Council to consider under budgeting**.**

**3.55pm Greg Daniel~~s~~ left the meeting**

1. **To receive updates from GCC Highways, and to make recommendations as necessary (also referring to tracker)**

Nathan Choat updated, and stated that he would forward his ‘Tracker’ comments immediately after this meeting. Using the main tracker, the following were discussed and progressed:

**Staunton Road Yellow Lines**

Nathan Choat confirmed lines to be restored as before and have been scheduled.

**Gloucester Road White Lines / Barrier Damage**

Nathan Choat confirmed that the white line removal work had been scheduled to complete this area’s work.

**Spirit of the Forest**

Nathan Choat confirmed that GCC Highways have no defined specifications for such lighting, and no objection to lighting. The Town Council can proceed with installation of uplighting as agreed. Town Clerk confirmed that he is actively seeking quotes from 3 Contractors, and liaising further with Western Power.

**Atkins Report**

Nathan Choat acknowledged this request outstanding and confirmed that he will contact BW to gain costings for Sonoco to Tufthorn Lights cycle/foot way again

**Whitecliff/Newland Street**

Cllr Cox thanked NC for his prompt action re the safety issue arising out of the subsidence at Whitecliff. Nathan Choat confirmed that he had assessed, and temporary warning barriers had been installed. He had applied for works to be continued in next financial year, but was aiming for April 1. He was liaising with Peter Siret, and Joe Baker, given the water concerns. Town Clerk confirmed that he has further informed resident who had raised concerns.

**Lords Hill Trees**

Nathan Choat confirmed that these trees had been sourced, and he would advise as to types, and indicate planting schedule.

**Coalway Rd Trees**

Nathan Choat to further clarify re: exact locations, size (likely to be whips) and schedule/ system for planting. Forestry England may be involved. Liaison with Coalway Schools is needed. NC to report back and MG to connect with planting and with schools.

**South Road**

Cllr. Elsmore asked whether there were any plans to resurface, and Nathan Choat confirmed that there is a major road surfacing schedule under consideration in County, but could not confirm specific locations, as not yet confirmed along with money allocated.

1. **To receive update re: Grit Bin and grit provision, and make recommendations, as necessary**

MC thanked NC for completing grit bin provision originally requested. NC further confirmed arrangements regarding requesting new bins, and had noted additional request from Town Council which would be further considered by GCC, as to whether they met the criteria. To report back. If not, for Town Council to consider funding.

Town Clerk sought clarification whether annual filling of grit bins had been undertaken, and Nathan Choat confirmed that, to his knowledge Further clarification was provided regarding logistics, and availability to more grit, on CTC request. To contact NC if needed, but to be aware that it depended on stock at Cannop. All were aware of some misuse by people on occasion.

1. **To receive update re: Road Safety issues and make recommendations, as necessary**

VAS Road Signs awarded

PCSO Teague was thanked for data on speed on Staunton Rd, The Gorse. She also mentioned that Old Station Way (and possibly The Gorse) were not considered suitable for signs in Police terms. MC showed the data and pictures/locations identified for sending to Matt Parker GCC Highways. NC clarified that a minimum of 3 locations were needed. It was agreed to modify that to include Edenwall, but to ask MP to attend to agree the exact locations. The redirection/ moving round of the camera/sign would be the responsibility of CTC. PCSOs were asked to urgently secure Police letter in support, especially of Staunton Rd. Coalway Road: near Holcot Rd, near Bells Field, and Arthur Cooper Way

**Action:** Once letter from Police secured, for Town Council to send all documents to Matt Parker, GCC, urgently.

***Note: Police letter has since been received. Documents prepared for sending to MP cc NC.***

PCSO Dawn Teague further stated that she had applied for 5 ANPR Cameras for the area, including potentially: Staunton Rd; near the Pike/top of ~~the~~ the Gorse; Mile End and Newland Street. It was agreed that as these had not been confirmed to proceed with the VAS signs above, and she would report back if / when the~~se~~ ANPR cameras have been secured.

Portable Speedwatch cameras were further discussed, and PCSO Tom Oliver stated that he would make Speedwatch cameras available to trained volunteers, and train further volunteers by arrangement.

**Trained Councillors to decide timing for camera’s use and Town Clerk to arrange with PCSO**

* **Volunteers to be identified for training (e.g. Edenwall) through Newsletter**

MC noted request made to Road Safety Partnership regarding the use of mobility scooters on carriageways for any advice/information/ recommendations from communities and agencies to address this, given these vehicles are fundamental to wellbeing for their owners.

MC also noted possible issues with certain key junctions in terms of safety, but after discussion, and consideration of collision statistics, it was agreed that for example, junctions like Coalway Cross, are well known for issues so people treat it very carefully. It was agreed that might be an area for exploration as & when the NDP is being reviewed.

**11. To review roadworks in the Parish**

Cllr. M Cox raised concerns that roadworks notifications were being received late, and irregularly, showing the outdated schedule on GCC Highways website. and Nathan Choat stated that he would check, and report back, to ensure that notifications were sent more effectively, and timely. He noted the One Network site which is well up to date.

Concerns were further raised regarding the safety of directions when road works were in centre of town, and also temporary traffic lights which are not tailored to react to maximise flow, especially at Bank St/Gloucester Road, Town Centre. Nathan Choat to explore whether Coleford is classed as “sensitive” with regard to frequency/timing/ planning of works, and report back.

1. **To review current Highway Tracker, following GCC Highways updates**

See Items above.

**4.42pm Nathan Choat left the meeting**

**Public Safety**

1. **To receive update from Police including crime statistics (in attendance) and make recommendations as necessary**.

Cllr. M Cox welcomed PCSOs Dawn Teague, and Tom Oliver, and they provided a summary,report on Coleford activity. It was noted that the anti-social behaviour (ASB) activity which had increased,had now reduced compared to 12 months ago, with effective results including the engagement of parents as well as schools. Police working more closely with identified families, and minority group of young people disproportionately active in anti-social behaviour.

NB Another community meeting with all partners is scheduled in February.

Targeted crimes were also noted, including targeted burglaries at Chinese take-aways recently. PCSO Dawn Teague confirmed that CCTV evidence had assisted this surveillance, although out of area offenders had not been apprehended. It was also reported that violent crime figures had reduced.MC displayed the Police website info, which still looked high in the area.

1. **To receive update on Resilience, and to make recommendations, as necessary**

Police asked for Defibrillator information, e.g. locations, and codes across the Parish, and for Town Clerk to provide.

Action: to try to map all locations and obtain type of defibrillator and thus code/ means of access where possible. This to be attached to Resilience Plan restricted version, and copy to Police.

Action: Town Clerk to look up times for access of Foodbank and Salvation Army sources from Resilience Plan, check no changes, and convey to Police.

**Meeting closed at 5.00pm.**