**Coleford Town Council**

**Highways and Public Safety Committee**

**Tuesday 24 May 6.30pm – 8.30pm**

**Council Chamber**

**Present: Cllrs N Holloway (Chair); N Penny; C Elsmore; M Cox; H Lusty**

1. **Apologies:** Georgiana Jayne (Police); Stuart Budd (GCC Highways); C Haine (Town Clerk)
2. **No interests were declared.**
3. **No dispensations were noted.**
4. **The minutes of 22 March 22 were agreed and the Chair signed a copy.**
5. **Matters arising:** 
   1. An email was received from George Jayne giving apologies from herself and Dawn, but reiterating that they were available by email, could be contacted in their working hours.
   2. H Lusty noted the request in last minutes for use of her experience in topple testing training. As she had recently rejoined the Council she had not been aware of this, but was happy to lead with CE at an arranged cemetery visit with Councillors in order to do the check, and train others. Clerk to arrange the date, and to inform M Beard as part of the training programme.
6. **No members of the public** were present.
7. **The tracker was updated as attached.** Associated were the following

**recommendations to give robust system:**

* 1. **As the Staff will lead on update and allocation through trackers, they will record decision start date, person with allocation, record comment/ report on action, complete and close, or note follow-up actions**. Proposed NH seconded NP
  2. **In the week following the meeting, the Chair of the Committee should check the actions are allocated, and being done.** Proposed CE seconded NH. (Soon, the tracker should be available through the website).

Some actions were not noted, see tracker update and the following.

1. **Highways update, by email report from S Budd**: see tracker and the following key points for Clerk to refer back to GCC Highways as follow-up actions:
   1. Staunton Rd (not Staunton as in email): the yellow lines from Sparrow Hill toward Sunny Bank are 2m too long. When redrawn after surface works, they went back to a previous plan, not as agreed
   2. Cattle grid at Kingsmeade: please can we have detail here, is it the roadway or the pavement which has insufficient width for this?
   3. With regard to Active Travel changes, is it possible to move the existing lights toward the cycle path to connect by the Main Place, or have some other, additional cycle crossing there? See active travel details sent again attached
   4. Barrier damage on Gloucester Road was reported online about 2-3 months ago. Could that barrier be at the end of the path to allow for effective protection but accessibility?
   5. With regard to Arthur Cooper Way and the works along the “pavements” clearing a pedestrian path, please can we have detail on what is intended here, will there be a surface dressing?
   6. With regard to St John Street, we have several options we want to discuss to try to increase footfall in a safe way: that could include reorganisation of loading bays, trial closure, but it would be useful to have a site meeting to see what if any are feasible. This is follow up to the query re licence, which we accept is the current case (though Govt are processing consultation at the moment re that, and it may change depending on findings.) When roads are closed for events eg Faddle Fair, Music Festival, road space can be utilised for tables/chairs in agreement with event organiser who has obtained temporary closure notice.
   7. Re Spirit of the Forest, FoDDC as Planning Authority have said no permission is required for uplighting as long as GCC Highways are happy with the specification, so we are asking GCC Highways for their preferred spec and any installation requirements. (NB Western Power have informed us it needs to be below 500 watts.) We can then go back again to Western Power. We will also need costings.
   8. Re Atkins report, yes we have had break down, but omitted was the cost of path/cycle way for the section of road from the construction site on Tufthorn Ave (St Hilaire Way and Sion Avenue) to the Tufthorn Lights. Please could GCC give us estimate.
   9. Outstanding is the rationalisation of on street parking duration to 1 hour for all spaces in Town Centre. Agreed with BW, but signs not yet altered.
   10. Thank you to GCC for works re Rock Lane and PROWs, and pavement by Angel. We look forward to progress on barrier at Clearwell.
   11. Grit bins still not installed as agreed by GCC, Blakes Way etc

**Recommendation**

* 1. **to gain detailed costings on the spec from GCC Highways and thence Western Power, for uplighting Spirit of the Forest and for those costings to be taken to the next most suitable meeting to inform a reconsideration of progress on the project.**
  2. **to urgently convene the site meeting GCC has been asked for, to discuss and address the Highways matters which have followed on from the useful meeting in January, including those above. County Councillor Alloway-Martin , Wendy Jackson/Alastair Chapman FoDDC, and if possible Mark Harper MP to also attend.**

1. **Upcoming works:**

Cllr Alloway-Martin has allocated £5000 to improve PROWs around Coleford. Coleford Welcomes Walkers has been informed.

**for sending to GCC Highways as queries:**

1. With regard to the works recently notified on Newland St which closes the road for two days, whilst most traffic can be redirected, this is not possible for the lorry traffic which is housed at Whitecliff Quarry as there is a weight restriction which prevents use of the diversion. What action is being taken to minimise disruption, and are companies being consulted?
2. With regard to the subsidence work by Dwr Cymru, near the Suntory sewer connection with Newland St, we believe the area marked on the map is not accurate. Please check also with Joe Baker GCC who leads on the water modelling currently being carried out by County as Flood Authority. Clerk to respond to Newland PC as previous sentence. MC to connect with JB at proposed meeting.
3. Are there any intended roadworks in the Town Centre, probably related to water utilities (Severn Trent (works re infrastructure) /Welsh Water (new sewer?)) or Gigaclear, in the near future, that will require temporary signals/ closures/ give and take? This area is economically and historically vital, and information well in advance will allow discussion especially re timescales/scheduling.

**Recommendation**

* 1. **CTC to apply to UK Shared Prosperity Fund, investigate opportunities including for a holistic approach to traffic management in the town.** Proposed NP seconded NH**.** This to include signage, related also to active travel; community safety; regeneration. Specifically add signage from Angus Buchanan to town centre; maps in car parks etc.

1. **Community Speedwatch Safety Fund**: £600,000 from GCC to allow for such measures.

**Recommendation**

* 1. **CTC to apply to fund to support different safety measures as appropriate**. Proposed NP, seconded NH:

the following roads to go forward as hotspots, with enforcement to follow:

* 1. **Staunton Rd\***
  2. **Old Station Way\***
  3. **Palmers Flat**
  4. **Arthur Cooper Way**
  5. **Coalway Rd**

\*Denotes potential locations for speed signs to make drivers aware of their speed. Costs investigated and funding applied for. The Police have noted Staunton Rd in particular. Advice on other measures for remainder e.g. traffic calming, chicanes to be investigated as appropriate.

Wider pavement/ crossing points in Town Centre are deteriorating: reconsider as part of holistic traffic management.

Potential application for one set of speed detection cameras.

NP is happy to distribute 20 is plenty signs at Lawdley Rd, but still waiting for GCC to supply. Clerk to add to GCC Highways list.

1. **Police concerns** **re speeding** Staunton Rd following recent accident and road closure. See above, location for speed detection van: can van do both directions from same location? Clerk to ask.
2. **Police concerns** As above, but also for Clerk to follow up on police liaison meeting with Inspector/Sergeant as still not happened.
3. **Lawdley Rd safety concerns**: (see item 10 above). Also, there have been concerns raised about noise/disturbance in the Play Area. Our Youth Workers are investigating to assess situation before reporting back.

Clerk to ascertain RSL (probably Two Rivers) and inform them re Youth Workers in area, offer cooperative approach to minimise antisocial activity.

Clerk to get in touch with resident to advise keeping specific log for recording incidents/ noise levels at times as evidence, and advise them of Environmental Health who have responsibilities re noise problems.

Ask Youth Association (AD) to formally update CTC about this after appropriate time.

Meeting closed 8.30pm.