

WESTERHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Highways and Lighting Committee held on
Monday 16th June 2025 at 7.00 pm at Russell House,
Market Square, Westerham

Present: Councillors: Mr M Bortolozzo - Chair (MB)
Mrs L Bird (LB)
Mr I Breminer (IB)
Mr N Proudfoot (NP)

In attendance: Asst Clerk: Mrs J O'Sullivan (JO)
One member of the public

Item		Action
1.	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Thompson – unwell.	
2.	<u>Declarations of Interest not previously declared</u> None.	
3.	<u>Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th April 2025</u> Were approved at the Council meeting on 19 th May 2025.	
4.	<u>Information items arising from the minutes of the previous meeting not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda</u> Cllr Proudfoot asked about the speed strips that had been positioned around Westerham over the last month. The Assistant Clerk had contacted KCC who reported that they had not ordered them, but a permit had been obtained by a consultancy, presumed to be working on behalf of a private client. The Assistant Clerk had contacted the consultancy, but they had not responded and would contact again. Cllr Proudfoot asked if there had been any further update regarding Beggars Lane. The Chair reported that there had not been any further communication on this matter since the meeting with KCC Highways in March.	JO
5.	<u>Highways</u> 5.1 Community Speedwatch Campaign – Five Speedwatch sessions had taken place since April: two in Hosey Hill, two in Westerham and one in	

	Crockham Hill. Further Speedwatch sessions were planned in London Road and Croydon Road, Westerham, as well as at Crockham Hill. It was noted that a couple of sessions had been cancelled due to a lack of volunteers and the Committee would encourage fellow Councillors to consider volunteering. 5.2 Kent Police Speed Checks – Kent Police reported the following visits from the mobile unit (sited at junction of Hosey Hill and French Street, all visits 1hr 20 mins): March 2025: 3 visits – 24 offences. April 2025: 4 visits – 40 offences. May 2025: 3 visits – 27 offences. 5.3 Highways Improvement Plan (HiP) 2025/2026 - The Committee noted the updates to the HiP, and following discussion agreed: • <i>Westerham Hill/Pilgrims Way</i> – The Assistant Clerk had been notified by KCC that highway improvements had been ordered, including improved signage/road markings and vegetation cut back. The Committee expressed disappointment that the speed limit would not be reduced. The Chair would write to KCC. • <i>Westerham 20mph improvements (Croydon Road)</i> – The Assistant Clerk reported that the design was still within the 90-day window and expected to be installed in July. The Assistant Clerk would notify the Committee when the date had been confirmed. • <i>Extension of 20mph in Westerham</i> – Cllr Bird suggested that the Chair meet with Cllr Irene Roy who had provided advice when WTC introduced the current 20mph zone. • <i>Croydon Road (Marlborough Court)</i> – The one-day traffic survey had taken place on 3rd June and feedback was awaited from KCC. The Assistant Clerk would continue to encourage residents to report any traffic related incidents to WTC. • <i>Main Road/Church Road, Crockham Hill</i> – The Assistant Clerk reported that an ATC survey (automatic traffic count) had been ordered by KCC for Main Road to ascertain current speeds around the junction with Church Road. The Assistant Clerk would notify the Committee when the date had been confirmed. A member of public attended the meeting and asked whether a pedestrian crossing could be installed on Croydon Road close to the junction of the A25. The Chair outlined the Council's role in lobbying KCC for Highway Improvements and the improved signage that would be installed in Croydon Road. The issue of a pedestrian crossing along Croydon Road had recently been revisited with KCC but would not be possible due to the location (close to the junction and a bend). The member of the public also reported concerns regarding vehicles speeding along Farley Lane and subsequent difficulty exiting his property. Cllr Bird explained that the limit of the current 20mph zone did not include Farley Lane, but that the Council continued to lobby KCC to extend the 20mph zone. Cllr Bird suggested that residents could consider	MB JO JO/MB JO JO
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	placing 'Concealed Entrance' or mirrors on their own private land. The resident expressed interest in volunteering for Speedwatch and the Assistant Clerk would forward details. 5.4 To consider the installation of a staggered junction sign (Farley Lane / Goodley Stock) – Following various concerns raised about safety around the Farley Lane and Goodley Stock junctions with the A25, KCC had suggested the installation of a staggered junction warning sign on Westerham Road to the west of Farley Lane. KCC had asked WTC to fund the sign; however, the Chair had noticed that a sign was already insitu (albeit obscured by vegetation). The Assistant Clerk to contact KCC for clarification. 5.5 To note speeding issue on London Road – The Committee noted that a resident on London Road had been in touch with Cllr Maskell (SDC Councillor) regarding traffic speeds and the lack of police presence around this stretch of road. Cllr Maskell had contacted Cllr Nigel Williams (KCC Councillor) who would be exploring any options for traffic calming measures with KCC. 5.6 Update on the proposed bus shelter at London Road – Quotes to install a bus shelter had been forwarded to KCC Public Transport who had offered to review them and provide advice. Despite various attempts to contact KCC the Assistant Clerk had been unable to obtain any feedback. Cllr Bird offered to email the contact at KCC.	JO JO LB
6.	<u>Street Lighting</u> 6.1 Repairs and responses – The following repairs / work had been undertaken: • Replacement light on Granville Road installed on 3rd June. The Assistant Clerk reported that WTC's streetlighting maintenance contract had increased by 4% and payment one (of two) for 2025/26 had been paid (£2,807.76). The Assistant Clerk reported that a resident had been in touch requesting a shade for a streetlight outside their property in Crockham Hill. This streetlight did not belong to WTC and KCC had stated that it was not their responsibility either. The Assistant Clerk was investigating ownership. The Committee agreed that they were willing to pay for the shade subject to the cost and further research as to ownership. 6.2 Renewal of Electricity Contract – The invoice for May 2025 had been received and continued to be comparable to the monthly fixed rate the Council had previously paid. 6.3 Church Floodlights – The four floodlights had been installed at a cost of £2,920 (as previously agreed by the Committee).	JO

7.	<u>Sevenoaks District Council</u> 7.1 Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board – A meeting was held on 11 June 2025. The Committee noted the KCC Highway Works Forward Programme 2024/25 and 2025/26 and items relevant to Westerham: • Surface dressing - Mapleton Road, Hosey Common Road to Pootings – programmed 2025. • Members Highway Fund Programme: Pootings 30mph – B269 Pootings reduction in speed limit from 40 mph to 30mph – ordered Q2 2025.	
8.	<u>Public Transport Issues</u> The Committee noted the bus routes that served Westerham. Cllr Proudfoot reported that he had been asked why there was no dedicated, direct service from Sevenoaks to Oxted. The Chair would write to GoCoach and Metrobus to explore this option.	MB
9.	<u>Financial</u> 9.1 To receive the Financial Statement up to 31st May 2025 – Noted by the Committee.	
10.	<u>Review of Committee Scope</u> Following discussion, the Committee agreed that to include the following within the terms of reference: • To refer any problems with public footpaths to KCC; and • To maintain the cycle stands in Westerham The Terms of Reference included the maintenance of the two WTC owned bus shelters in Westerham. The Committee asked how much budget had been allocated for their maintenance and how much had been spent in the past 3-5 years. The Assistant Clerk would find out.	JO
11.	<u>Action Plan from Strategic Business Plan – update</u> The Committee approved the updates to the Action Plan with some minor amendments.	
12.	<u>Eco Policy Action Plan</u> The Committee noted the items raised in the Action Plan and agreed that the 'LED lights at the Church' could be marked as completed.	JO
13.	<u>Correspondence</u> None.	
14.	<u>Reports from Councillors</u> Cllr Breminer reported overgrown weeds on the footpath in Granville	

	Road. The Assistant Clerk would report to KCC. Cllr Bird had spoken to Squerryes / Westerham Brewery about pedestrian safety around crossing Beggars Lane. Cllr Proudfoot had attended one day of the Covers Farm appeal. Cllr Proudfoot had cycled along Pilgrims Way recently and noted the large number of potholes. Cllr Proudfoot stressed the importance of signposting residents to where to report issues (e.g. KCC reporting tool).	JO
15.	<u>TN16, Edenbridge Magazine, Website, Social Media and Crockham Hill Newsletter</u> None.	
16.	<u>Matters for District and County Councillors</u> None.	
17.	<u>Further matters for consideration at the next meeting</u> None.	
18.	<u>Date of next meeting</u> Monday 22nd September 2025.	

The meeting was concluded at 8.55pm

Minutes confirmed as a correct record:

Chair