Discussions at APC on Firs Road traffic safety

Please find extracts from minutes from May 2022 to the present.

There is a valid criticism that this matter was not always introduced on the agenda as *Firs Road traffic…..* but it appeared directly as that on many occasions.

May 2022

1. **Reports from Outside Bodies**

……

(2) Cllr Fuller reported on the outcome of a stakeholder meeting to address safety concerns at the school in Firs Road. The road surfacing works were now underway following a slight hold-up due to the poor sub strata. The new school pedestrian access has now been agreed and this will improve safety of children entering and egressing the site. A speed ramp will be provided to slow traffic speeds and a 20mph speed limit is being investigated for the whole length of Firs Road. He reported that Vistry Homes Ltd had been working with the Football Club with a view to completing the club car park but that details were yet to be confirmed. Cllr Fuller stated that Vistry had indicated that the part of the site behind the football pitches to the south was part of a drainage scheme. The requirement for this car parking had not been part of the approved plans. He reported that with one or two minor issues the site supervision was now in place and operating effectively and liaison between the school and the developer was positive. Several other issues had been raised including a request for a copy of the final approved biodiversity plan.

**RESOLVED:** That Alderbury Football Club be invited to the next meeting to discuss progress with the club house and car park.

November 2022 Public time

**Public question time**

Emma Burton and Dan Molland (Alderbury Football Club)  
……. Cllr Fuller explained the proposed parking arrangements at the school and asked if the Club might be prepared to allow school vehicle turning in its new car park to mitigate the parking and turning issues in Firs Road. ……

December 2022

# 6305. Parking Issues – Firs Road

Cllr Fuller reported that the Police had attended Firs Road and undertaken enforcement action to address illegal parking. It was agreed that Wiltshire Council be asked to provide details of the road markings and traffic calming measures proposed for Firs Road.

February 2023

1. **UPDATE on Alderbury School traffic meeting 1st February**

Cllrs Hughes and Fuller joined WCC Highways representative Paul Shaddock (PS), the head teacher of the school and the secretary of the football club

Cllr Fuller reported: PS has visited more than once and had a good understanding of the location and issues. All agreed that the aim should be to bring all issues together for a comprehensive solution including the roads still owned by the developers, WCC Highways and the football club car park. PS will make another proposal which will include extending markings onto roads owned by the developers, pinchpoints added, coloured tarmac and bollards. He reconfirmed that the 20mph speed limit will be introduced at the entrance to Firs Road. Further meetings are needed including between the school and the football club. **ACTION: clerk to arrange a meeting with Highways development control (Julie Cleave).**

January 2023

1. **Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary School - Traffic Issues**

Councillors debated a number of ideas in response to the proposed Highways changes on Firs Road. They noted a petition signed by 175 people supporting the installation of a zebra crossing near the school. **ACTION: The clerk was asked to**

* + 1. **Request clarification from Paul Shaddock Highways, (PS), whether any traffic calming measures are still due to be provided along the new section of Firs Road that runs along the boundary of the school and past the football club and new guide hut (as originally indicated on the planning documents)**
    2. **Inform PS his proposals in an email dated 30/12/22 are a good basis for further discussion but need extending to the new pupil entrance**
    3. **Inform PS that consideration needs to be given to the safety of children/adults crossing the road at the crossing where the footpath on the south side of the road ends, including the petition requesting a zebra crossing at this point**
    4. **Ask PS for a meeting with him to discuss further (as he offered). Invitees – AH, KD, JF,**

**MH, the football club, the head of Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary School, Laura Reeves (representing the petitioners)**

March 2023

# 6354. UPDATE on Alderbury School traffic meeting 20th February

Cllr Fuller met Julie Cleave (JC) from WC Highways enforcement who confirmed all the traffic calming measures agreed with the developers will be going ahead. She is pushing for this to happen ahead of the housing development itself being complete. JF also reported that the Head of the primary school had met the Football Club and the club car park will become available for school parking & turning on term time mornings and afternoons as soon as it is properly surfaced. **ACTION: clerk and JF to email JC and Paul Shaddock (WC Highways) to say how pleased the council is with plans and actions so far and inform them about the FC car park.**

April 2023

1. **UPDATE** on proposed traffic/parking regulations along Firs Road and the school boundary – Cllr Fuller said that Paul Shaddock at Wiltshire Highways has nearly completed his final proposal for the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and that should go out for public consultation this month.

July 2023

1. **Highways** 
   1. The Firs Road TRO was **ACCEPTED.** The Clarendon Road TRO needs amending to take off the lines proposed across Old Road. **ACTION: clerk to notify Highways**

August 2023

1. **HIGHWAYS**
2. The **PROPOSAL** to approach LHFIG with additional road safety measures at Firs Road near the school was **REJECTED.** A meeting is planned between the school, APC, the developers and WC enforcement in September. Cllrs will wait to see what the developers will pay for and only go to LHFIG for anything still needed. **ACTION; agenda**

October 2023

1. **Highways**

……..

**b. UPDATE** on Firs Road road improvements **POSTPONED** as the meeting with interested parties is Thursday 5th October**. ACTION: agenda**

November 2023

# 6520. Highways

Firs Road: Cllr Fuller reported: he had met 2 officers from WC Highways, the headteacher and 2 reps from the developers. Road markings cannot be put down until the surface is finished. Likely January but the TRO has not been issued yet. The developer has been asked to fund safety measures at the school pupil entrance and at the dropped curb crossing from the pavements but there is no reply yet. In response Cllrs Hughes and Wilkinson said the situation at the school is currently very dangerous,

exacerbated by the football club car park not yet being available. The clerk was asked to try to see if things can be moved on any quicker. **ACTION: clerk**

November 2023 Extraordinary meeting

1. **REPORTS** from Councillors
   1. Cllr Fuller – reported on recent communication regarding Firs Road from Andy Thompson and Julie Cleave, both at WC. He noted that the Football Club (FC) car park remains too muddy to be used at present, with ponding occurring at the car park entrance during periods of heavy rain. This is due to be dealt with when the final road surface is completed (scheduled for January). Further discussion will then be needed with the FC to confirm the arrangements for using the car park for turning/parking during school drop off and pick up times.
   2. Cllr Hartford – reported that the TRO for Clarendon Road and Firs Road has not been issued yet but is expected in December. There will be a statutory consultation of 23/30 days and, if no objections are received, the work can then be scheduled

February 2024

1. **Highways**
   1. **NOTED** receipt of Traffic Regulation Order for Firs Road & Clarendon Road
      1. Cllr Fuller gave a further update – the drainage work on Firs Road has been improved. The request that the developer contribute towards the costs of additional safety features was turned down. We may pursue LHFIG funding to help later.