**BRIDPORT WEST AND ALLINGTON WARD MATTERS**

**NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19th September 2024**

**Present:** Cllr Sarah Carney, Cllr Jonathan Bourbon, Cllr Julian Jones, Cllr Thornton, 5 x members of the public. Ward Clerk Amy Stephenson made notes

**Apologies:** Cllr Steve Williams

1. **Introduction**

Cllr Thornton introduced herself and all other Cllrs and Clerk to the members of the public present. Cllr Jones explained how the Wards have come to be and how we as a Ward wish to engage with the public. Cllr Thornton expanded on this further to reiterate that Cllrs want to work with the public on any issues or concerns that they may have within their Ward. All the Cllrs and the Ward Clerk are contactable at any time – not just at meetings.

Cllr Thornton went over the points that were raised by members of the public at the last meeting in terms of where we are at with them now. This has also been advertised on the Noticeboards and the Facebook page.

* 20mph Zone – The areas being looked at are North Allington, West Allington, St Swithin’s Road, Hospital Lane, Magdalen Lane and also Alexandra Road. This requires a lot of information to be collated and sent to Dorset Council who will then decide if these roads are suitable for a 20mph limit. All this information has been gathered but the one area currently outstanding before submission is information on any road traffic data. Dorset Council have explained that they have no up to date traffic data for these roads so will look at undertaking surveys in potentially October this year. Once this information is received back from Dorset Council then this can be included in the application.
* Hospital Lane to Allington Mead (road not resurfaced when the rest of North Allington was) – Dorset Council have stated that they: ‘cannot give an answer at this time as to why a small section was not resurfaced, however any defects that have occurred on the stretch in question have been repaired. Resurfacing does have to begin and end at point, so not all roads will be in best condition.’
* Drains all up through North Allington are either blocked or have weeds growing out of them – Dorset Council Highways have stated: ‘The majority of gullies in North Allington are NOT blocked and when blockages do occur and we are notified, they are generally cleared within 28 days. Any specific reports of blockages are always dealt with in as prompt a manner as possible’. Cllr Thornton advised those present that they can contact us regarding matters such as these but also they can report directly to Dorset Council via the Dorset Council portal on the internet which allows you to pinpoint the exact location of a problem on a map. This portal has a range of items that can be reported on directly including footpaths, verges, potholes, road issues etc
* St Swithin’s Road is in a poor state and required resurfacing – Dorset Councils Highways have stated that this area is provisionally on the list for potential resurfacing in 2025
* Defibrillator would be of great benefit in or near Court Orchard Community Park – this is ongoing and not straightforward. Potential sites were looked at but none are suitable meaning the Town Council may look at providing a portable defibrillator but this also needs looking into.
* Weeds in North Allington – Awaiting investigation by Dorset Council. Cllr Thornton reiterated about using the portal to pinpoint exact locations of any problems
* Weeds on corner of Mead Fields – Dorset Council Highways have stated: ‘There is no risk to Highways users at this time but I will monitor this as on site visit today (23/07/24) and it does appear that they may have already been sprayed with weed killer)

1. **Ward Issues / Topics / Information**

The Ward Clerk read out information from Dorset Council regarding parking restrictions that will be taking place on St Swithin’s Road from 28th October until 29 November. This will be from its junction with the B3162 and its junction with Fulbrooks Close. This is so TUC Ltd will be able to excavate for duct installation.

Weeds have been sprayed but have not been swept afterwards on the Mead Fields junction. The usual protocol used to be that they would be sprayed and then 2-3 weeks later they would be swept. Is this still the case?

With regards to the traffic data being collated for the proposed 20mph limit roads – it was queried how Dorset Council would undertake this traffic survey e.g road strips/radar?

Top of Hospital Lane there is reoccurrence of drug use happening again. Cars are coming and going in the late afternoon/tea time and even more so in the school holidays. People have witnessed money changing hands.

North Mills footpath to St Swithin’s Road (known locally as the Cinder Track) – this is not being upkept properly and is overgrown.

An item that was raised between the last meeting and this meeting was the potential for double yellow lines being installed in Hospital Lane from the bus stop to just past the telegraph pole on side so as to restrict parking which will then make it easier for larger traffic who need to try and access the Hospital. Also the potential for double yellow lines either side of the Mead Fields junction in order to aid the safe passage of those vehicles trying to exit Mead Fields. This is something that Allington Parish Council tried to tackle when it was in existence. Dorset Council Highways were not in agreement with regards to double yellow lines either side of the Mead Fields junction and therefore they would not take this forward. The suggestion of double yellow lines at the entrance of Hospital Lane has been talked about with the current Councillors and the majority are not in favour of this due to then pushing the parking problem elsewhere.

Details of upcoming public meetings that may be of interest to residents were given. These were Bridport Town Council Planning Meeting which is taking place at Mountfield (Rax Lane) on Monday 23rd September 7pm. There are various items of planning to be discussed which include the application for the expansion of a Slaughterhouse.

On Tuesday 24th September there will be the Full Council Meeting of Bridport Town Council which is being held at Bridport Town Hall at 7pm. The topic for the Open Forum is care in Bridport, in particular Sidney Gale House and the Care Village (Flood Lane).

1. **Elect Chair for next meeting**

It was agreed that Cllr Carney would chair the next meeting

1. **Details of next meeting**

Friday 15th November at St Swithun’s Church (North Allington)

Meeting closed at 7.12pm