

## **Open Spaces & Highways Strategy Working Group Update**

### **1.0 Background**

This group was re-convened since the new council was elected in May 2021. Previously a strategy group was set prior to May 2021 following the establishment of the Open Spaces and Highways committee in early 2021.

This group is made up of Cllrs Matthews (Chair), Brown (Chair OS&H), Mills, Sullivan, Stanhope, Beary, Cook, Kinchin and Bacchu to join from the next meeting.

The Group have met twice, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August and 9<sup>th</sup> September.

### **2.0 Terms of Reference**

The previously created Terms of Reference were revisited and agreed:

#### Membership

The working group will consist of up to 7 members from the Open Spaces and Highways committee and the Deputy Clerk who has responsibility for all open spaces in the Parish.

#### Meetings

Meetings will be held at least quarterly regular as required. Notes of the meeting will be taken by the Deputy Clerk.

#### Scope

1. To make recommendations to the Open Space and Highways for the following areas looked after and/or owned by the council.
2. To make recommendations to the Open Space and Highways for the following assets looked after and/or owned by the council.

#### Duties

- To make recommendations that improve
  - a) accessibility and expansion of use of open spaces for recreation and other leisure pursuits
  - b) maintenance and improvement of our assets on the public highway.
- To work with the Deputy Clerk to produce a strategic plan (1-10 years) for all areas and assets.

### **3.0 Project Opportunities – Open Spaces & Highways**

Potential projects were identified in either the Open Spaces or Highways buckets and then prioritised as below

### **4.0 Prioritisation**

#### Open Spaces

- **Priority 1** - Iver Recreation Ground Perimeter Path - underway

- **Priority 2** – Survey residents / users – MS Forms is an option. Cllr Cook to work on the questions for circulation to the group alongside the DC supporting.
- It was noted that a potential path at Iver Heath Rec could be the next priority depending on the survey results
- Other items to remain on the bucket list and prioritised in the future – this would potentially support the strategic direction for recs item.

### **Highways**

- **Priority 1** – Streetlight Replacement Programme – continuation of existing programme
- **Priority 2** – Road Speed Limits – continue to drive forward with Community Speedwatch and other relevant stakeholders. (Cllr Brown leading)
- HGV strategy – continues to be a priority with potential opportunity for work in 2022.
- Air Quality Management remains as a bucket in priority list and consideration of carbon sink planting should be addressed. There is potential opportunity to replace bollards at Richings Park with planters containing carbon sinks
- It was also highlighted that we should keep pavement safety as a priority in an advocacy capacity. It was noted that there are very unsafe pavements across the Parish. An example being very narrow pavements around the roundabout area near St Peter's Church (Cllr Beary leading)

### **5.0 Partnership Working**

It was agreed that for a particular activity the key stakeholders should be identified, and their involvement sought at the start of the activity. We should identify a wide range of stakeholders including residents (i.e. Resident Associations / groups)

### **6.0 Tesco Bags of Help fund**

It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk would develop a draft proposal for bidding for support with engaging play area equipment.

### **7.0 Future Meetings**

To be arranged as required and the Deputy Clerk will facilitate all meetings including those addressing particular priorities.

**Jeremy Day**  
**Deputy Clerk**  
 September 2021