

**Midlothian Traffic Roads and Paths Meeting**  
**Monday 24 October, 2022, 6.00 to 7.30pm**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**Present:**

Diane Easton (DE)	Bonnyrigg and Lasswade
Ann Stewart-Kmicha (ASK)	Dalkeith
Constance Newbould (CN)	Damhead and District
Robert Hogg (RH)	Mayfield and Easthouses
Judy Thomson (JT)	Mayfield and Easthouses
Mark Whitham (MW)	Tynewater

**In Attendance**

Dianne Alexander (DA)	Elected Member (Ward 2)
Wayne Clark (WC)	Midlothian Council - Operations & Asset Manager Roads
Alan Heatley (AH)	Midlothian Council - Network & Structures Manager
Paul Johnson (PJ)	Midlothian Council - Communities and Lifelong Learning

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

- No apologies have been received.
- RH welcomed those present to the meeting

**2. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- Moved by JT, Seconded by CN

**3. COUNCILLOR DIANNE ALEXANDER – PORTFOLIO OF ‘COMMUNITY FACILITIES, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT’**

Councillor Alexander gave a brief overview of the portfolio she currently holds and thanked MTRaP for their invitation to the meeting

**4. PREVIOUS MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING**

- I. Footways: Loanhead (Fountain Green, Clerk Street)
- II. Winter Service Policy and Operation Plan

### **Capital Works Programme – Joint Priority Scheme**

- i AH provided an update on the scheme. 55% of the budget has been spent on carriageways and 44% on Footway schemes.
- ii AH will update the document circulated in 2020.
- iii Residential Streets Programme – WC provide an update on the programme. Phase 2 of Gorebridge and Phase of 2 are underway.
- iv Construction of 6.7 miles of new carriageway has been completed and all of the work has been undertaken by Midlothian Council staff.

### **Winter Service Policy and Operation Plan**

- i WC reported that revisions have been made to the 22/23 Plan and the Maintenance team are prepared and ready for Winter Service provision.
- ii Two new gritters will be available for use by the end of November.
- iii Gully cleaning vehicles will be available by winter rather than next year as previously expected.
- iv Has had clearance to purchase a Pothole Pro vehicle (discussed at an earlier MTRaP meeting). The vehicle should in service within the current financial year. WC thanked members of the MTRaP group for their support when the purchase of the vehicle was being considered.
- v Midlothian Council has also purchased a new Road Planer.

### **Job Vacancies**

- i WC is currently recruiting new members of staff. Regretfully although positions are available, uptake in applications has been problematic.
- ii WC noted that although agencies pay £5 an hour more, Midlothian Council provide better working conditions and benefits.
- iii There was agreement that MTRaP and MFCC members could support the Council by promoting these vacancies.

### **'Damhead Triple Junction'**

- i CN enquired as to whether Traffic Light modelling had been undertaken when considering the installation of Signals at the junction. AH advised that Transport Scotland will be designing and installing the system. AH will discuss with colleagues to see what further information can be provided. He also noted Midlothian Council will be improving the road up to the Ski Centre, including the installation of a set of travel signals and that this may contribute to controlling traffic speed in the area.

### **Footways**

- i RH enquired about repairs to footways where tree roots were having an adverse impact on footway surfaces. AH noted that repairs will be undertaken using the Minor repairs schemes and will be dependent on resources held by WC.

### **Road Markings**

- i DE highlighted that road markings on the Hardengreen Roundabout were badly faded. WC noted that Midlothian Council is aware of this, repairs are on the agenda and it is anticipated that they will be undertaken within the next few weeks.
- ii Road Marking – the current contract has been reviewed and as a result, service delivery provided by the Contractor has improved.

### **Burnside Road - Damhead**

- i CN (Damhead) noted that on Burnside Road, near the Armco barrier, the road is being eroded due to water overflowing. AH has sent an Inspector to check but request another inspection of the site be made

**Action – AH to organise an inspection of the site on Burnside Road**

### **Street Lighting**

- i New LED lighting elements have been installed at Skeltiemuir Avenue in Bonnyrigg. There are some issues however.
- ii Developments are adopted by Midlothian Council after a period of 5 / 6 years. Midlothian Council also adopts street lighting eventually.

**Action – Email [craig.king@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:craig.king@midlothian.gov.uk) or [wayne.clark@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:wayne.clark@midlothian.gov.uk) with details of issues in Skeltiemuir Avenue**

### **Footway on Clerk Street, Loanhead**

- i Discussion has been undertaken with architect and the team are still waiting to hear about the decision re the pavement.

### **Grit Bins**

- i WC reported that there is new reporting system where jobs that have been entered on to the system sends a job card and should go through to the operative. Feedback should be improved and provide further information.
- ii JT requested information about provision given by private contractors.
- iii There are now reference numbers for each Grit Bin so filling and replacement should be much more effective. Midlothian Council is examining purchasing a system for Asset Management, which should improve delivery of service.

### **Electric Vehicle Charging Points**

- i In Edgehead, a letter drop has been undertaken to every Household in the village. As a result of consultation with residents, the proposed site of the installation has been moved to a more suitable location.
- ii Currently there are 35 EV charging locations in Midlothian. Any new development must have a charging point.

### **Core Paths**

- i Noted that Rhona Matthews has moved away from the Bonnyrigg area.

### **Speed Limit Consultation**

- i Will be going ahead with reduced funding available. PJ will circulate information and meeting dates re the initiative

### **Contact Services**

- i Ability to submit pictures alongside requests for maintenance. JT has raised this with elected members.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 5 December, 6.00 – 7.30, Zoom