



Minutes of the Strengthening Local Relationships [SLR] Meetings

Catsfield Parish Council and East Sussex Highways

Tuesday 25th August 2026, 14:00 via Teams

Present:

Cllr Keith Robertson, Chairman of Catsfield Parish Council [*Chair*]

Vicki Rutt, Clerk to Catsfield Parish Council [*Minutes*]

Sam Crowhurst, Stakeholder Liaison Officer

Neil Warman, Steward

1. Welcome, apologies for absence and introductions.

Keith welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of previous meeting [11th September 2024]

The minutes were approved and the actions have been completed or carried over to the agenda today.

3. Update on the 30mpg speed limit changes

Sam updated that the below timeline has been previously communicated to the Parish Council:

- *Detailed design and surveys: May – September 2026*
- *Road Safety Audit: June – July 2026*
- *Statutory consultation: July – August 2026*
- *Traffic Regulation Orders (if required): late August – September 2026*
- *Pre-construction and handover: late September – early October 2026*

This was noted by the Council but there is clearly a delay as no consultation has come out as yet. Sam is going to go back to clarify with the team. **Action 1.** Keith asked what the design means, what is included in the process and although the Parish Council have recently agreed the nearly £3k increase in design costs, can we receive a breakdown of how that is made up as a considerable amount of amount to design moving a speed sign. **Action 2.**

4. Options for additional measures to slow traffic.

Sam reported that Jo Reed, in her absence, reported that if the Council let her know what they are thinking i.e. speed surveys or speed indicator devices, this can be looked into. Clerk will email Jo and copy Sam in to find out the options for SIDs so can report back to PC. **Action 3.** The red SLOW sign that has been installed at the start of the S bends by a resident, on their private property does seem to be working and Neil agreed that it is working and as no safety obstruction, there is no issues from Highways.

5. Data on speed islands in the stream

Keith reported that following a recent fatality and a near miss where a car landed on a driveway, the speeds at The Stream have increased and are resulting in discussions. Highways confirmed that a

lower speed limit from 50mph to 40mph was introduced in 2010. The islands were introduced at the same time as the speed limit and '40' roundels were introduced further down the line.

The most recent survey was carried out in 2017 which showed the average speed to be 37.5mph.

Their system which gives us data from in car telematics shows the average speed to be 38.8mph.

The Clerk asked that as this is nearly 10 years old, could a new review be undertaken due to the increase in risks and the definite increase in speeds. Sam will raise this and report back. **Action 4.**

6. Clear pedestrian paths North of the village

Keith raised the state of the pavement at the North of the village, if there is a pavement it is narrow with overgrown hedges, or car parts that have been left following cars coming off the road or there is no pavement at all. Sam asked the Clerk to put all the information into a report so the steward can investigate. **Action 5.** The Clerk also asked if there is a way to make the pavement safer on the first bend where vehicles come off i.e. bollards/fencing. Clerk to email Jo Reed to enquire. **Action 6.**

7. Refresh markings on the pedestrian crossings

Keith reported that the pedestrian crossing has faded and it is not clear it is there, so it is dangerous to cross as you are not seen. Neil reported that he did report this recently. He asked Sam to raise an enquiry to get the markings refreshed on a 28-day turnaround. **Action 7.** They also agreed to look if there is anything else that can be done to make drivers aware of the pedestrian crossing

8. Do the deaths on the stream count towards 2KSI?

Jo Reed reported to Sam that at The Stream it is showing as one fatality. The Clerk asked Sam if she could double check this record as she has been told that the recent fatality would not count as they were 'racing' which does not seem right. Sam believes this has been recorded but will double check. **Action 8.**

9. Potholes in Church Lane

Keith reported that the potholes in Church Lane are always being reported and patched. It is believed that there is a spring under the road which constantly causes these issues. Can anything be done? Neil confirmed that springs are not the responsibility of Highways, but the water course can be re-diverted if causing issues. As it is causing issues with constant repairs this can be looked into. Sam will speak to the drainage manager to see historically what has happened and look at next steps. **Action 9.**

10. Speed limit by the school

Keith reported that speeding has been reported at the school and they have requested if speed can be reduced to 20mph. There is no speed data to back this though. Report from Jo Reed was as follows: *We hope to have a new afternoon school crossing patrol starting in September 2026. The County Councils Community Match initiative has been operating since 2014 and has delivered 31 schemes of importance to local communities, such as new footways or revised parking restrictions, which otherwise would not have been implemented through our capital programme of local transport improvements. However, due to fewer schemes than anticipated being taken forward to construction, an underspend had accrued within the allocated budget.*

At the 21 February 2022 the former Lead Member for Transport and Environment meeting, Councillor Claire Dowling approved the allocation of £750,000 from the current Community Match underspend to a 3-year programme which will deliver community focused road safety interventions. Extra funding has now been made available to continue this programme. The Road Safety Team have now completed this year's assessment of concerns that have been raised by Members, residents and MP's.

However, request for an advisory 20mph speed limit during school hours has been added to our Community Funded Focused Schemes (CFSS) to be considered next financial year.

The below update was noted by the Council, and the Clerk will liaise with Jo Reed to find out how we get Catsfield School on the list for the next financial year. **Action 10.** It was requested if Sam could look to see if any speed data has been done outside the school previously and if not, could any be done soon? Sam will look into this. **Action 11.**

11. Any other business

None.

12. Next meeting – date, time, and location

2nd, 9th or 16th February 2027 at 13:00 on Teams.