

ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Notes of a meeting of the Highways Improvement Working Group held on Wednesday 10 March 2026 by Teams commencing at 10.00am.

Present: Cllr M Fothergill – Kent County Councillor
Cllr C Gorton
Cllr P Kirtley
Mr N Rowe – Community Engagement Officer (West), Kent Highways

In attendance A de Jager (Clerk)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr F Cottee.

2. Declaration of Interests

None

3. Notes of Previous Meeting

The notes of the meeting of 10 December 2025 were RECEIVED and NOTED.

4. Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)

Update on:

- Ash Road/The Street – there has been no progress on the positioning and installation of a corresponding information sign indicating that the route is unsuitable for wide vehicles.
- Ash Road Pedestrian Crossing (Olivers Mill to Penenden) - The pedestrian survey confirmed that there were insufficient crossings for Kent Highways to install a pedestrian crossing. The cost of installing a crossing at this point would be in excess of £50,000 should the Parish Council want to fund it.
- Ash Road Pedestrian Crossing (Millfield to Shopping Centre) - Kent Highways confirmed that the crossing already has pole lights, beacon lights and overhead lights and therefore no further lighting improvements can be made. The Village Association will be approached to see if anything can be done to increase natural light on both sides of the crossing. This will be added to the HIP.

The HIP will be updated accordingly.

5. Hip Concerns:

Consideration was given to the following:

- The Street, Ash – the request for the speed limit on The Street, Ash to be reduced from 30mph to 20mph was discussed and advised that it does not meet the required criteria for the following reasons:
 - 85% of vehicles travelling on this road travel at 27mph and there for does not meeting the threshold requirement of 85% of vehicles travelling over 35mph.

5.2 Other Matters for Consideration

- North Ash Road resurfacing and white line marking – Kent Highways have advised that this should be reported again in the spring for consideration.

- Potholes on Hartley Bottom Road – it is difficult to identify the locations of potholes on the map, an email will be sent to the Highways Manager – Sevenoaks.

6. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was set for Wednesday 17 June 2026 at 10am via Teams.

The meeting closed at 10.32am