Agenda Item 13:

To note responses from other Town and Parish Council's on how they dealt with the issue of School Crossing Patrol Officers.

Response one –

[redacted] crossing cost is covered by a local business. The business donates the money to the PC and then the PC guarantees payment. It is ESCC who advertises, and train School Crossing Patrol staff. The PC pays ESCC.

Currently we have no patrol. The PC does also advertise the position to help. Bexhill should find it easier where there are loads more people needing to work.

Response two –

[redacted] where I am based had employed a very nice crossing warden, but they didn't last long. There is the money and the willingness to employ a crossing warden but there are no takers.

It seems the problem is drivers abuse and drivers not stopping even though required to when the crossing warden is in the road. Until problems like this are sorted out, I don't think many people will take on this type of employment.

Interestingly, I know [redacted] has had the same crossing warden for years and it sems to work there.

Response three -

Hi. Our county no longer funds this facility, but it is considered a high priority for the local community as the school in one of our villages is located on a very busy, A road. For the past few years, the PC has been contributing to the cost of a SCP person via its donations/grants policy. A request is made each year. In parallel, the PC is campaigning for school crossing safety improvements, at which point the PC may decide that provision of this service is no longer necessary, especially if the PC has to contribute financially to the upgrade of the crossing. I'm not sure this is helpful to your situation, but it is what we are doing!

Response four -

We also are working on this at the minute. In our area the Local Authority will not provide a SCP based on a traffic risk assessment that they have carried out although they will not provide a copy of this. We have a split site primary school,

so children and teachers are crossing the road during the day, especially for whole school assemblies, and at the start and end of the day it is chaos as parents have to collect children from both sites. We have been told that it will cost in the region of £6,500 per year to employ an SCP, and this is an option that the Local Authority would consider, they would employ and we would then be invoiced the costs, but my PC are currently exploring whether we can have a signal-controlled crossing installed. We have a large housing development going on and we are trying to see whether this can be added to the Phase 2 planning application. The thought is that a pelican crossing would negate the ongoing employment costs and be a longer-term solution.