

LOWER WAITES LANE ROAD MAINTENANCE

ASSOCIATION

lowerwaiteslane@gmail.com

April 2021

Dear Friends and Neighbours

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOW DUE – IF YOU’VE ALREADY PAID THANK YOU!

However, as you will be aware this Association exists to maintain and repair Lower Waites Lane and the spur roads in Fairlight Cove. The roads are “unadopted” and we cannot look to East Sussex County Council, Rother District Council or Fairlight Parish Council to spend any money on them.

The legal and practical responsibility to keep the roads in good order is ours - and ours alone.

This last year has of course been an exceptionally difficult time for all of us but in fact the roads have seen more use than ever before.

We did a traffic survey on 18th and 19th March and found that 403 cars, 108 vans and 39 trucks **entered** the Cove area. Double that figure for total movements.

So, you can see what our roads must contend with, even in lockdown, without social movements.

As result of this increased usage – and the appalling rain – the roads are now in need of general repair and maintenance. On top of that there is a very major problem with drainage that has been caused by water running down the steep slope from the new house at the rear of the junction of Lower Waites Lane and Broadway. The water has undermined the Lane and ruined the road surface and the sub-strata below it. **It will have to be dealt with and that involves completely rebuilding that section of road and laying drainage at an estimated cost of £3,000.**

But repairs cannot take place without **YOUR** contribution. The annual contribution per household has been £25 since the start of this Association some 20 years ago. As the contribution has remained the same for many years and costs have risen substantially, we now need to raise it to **£30 per household** per calendar year to meet our basic running costs. That works out at less than 60p per week.

Compare that cost with the cost of a new tyre on your car!

The Association has a reserve of **just £9,115** which will be nowhere near enough to meet all the costs we now face..... or any emergencies. **The lowest re-surfacing quote for the roads was**

costed at around £36,000 in March 2020 and now possibly a lot more. In due course, when that job must be done, we will have to raise extra funds.

We **ALL** need the roads to be kept in good condition.

This is a shared responsibility and a shared cost. Disappointingly, In 2020 fewer than 50% of households made their contribution. This cannot continue if we are to keep the roads serviceable and safe, and our association to survive.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION OF £30 as soon as possible.

This payment can be done in one of three ways: -

1. Making a bank transfer to our Lloyds Bank PLC, account:

LOWER WAITES LANE ROAD MAINTENANCE FUND

Sort Code: 30-97-66

Account number 01035738

Please put the first line of your address as the reference.

2. Putting a cheque made out to LOWER WAITES LANE ROAD MAINTENANCE FUND or CASH in an envelope marked "For LWLRMA" and leave it with Graham at the Post Office Stores. Please put your name and address on the back of your envelope.

3. Alternatively, your cheque to LOWER WAITES LANE ROAD MAINTENANCE FUND or CASH in an envelope marked "For LWLRMA" can be hand delivered to the Treasurer: Lyn Cooke at 'Hedgerows', 72 Lower Waites Lane, Fairlight, TN35 4DD
Please put your name and address on the back of your envelope.

We welcome, and encourage, anyone willing to pay by standing order from their bank to do so. Then you can just set it up and forget it.

We want to keep Lower Waites Lane and its spur roads properly maintained.

But we can only keep the roads in a good state of repair if **EVERYONE** contributes.

Please help us to help YOU.

Thank you in advance for your contribution.

Regards,

Lower Waites Lane Road Maintenance Association Committee