

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
COMMITTEE****RESPONSES TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Council of decisions made by the Transport and Highways Committee concerning issues raised in petitions presented to the County Council on 14th May, 9th July and 17th September 2015.
- A. **Petition Regarding Parking Problems at Orchard Close, Sutton Bonington (Ref 2015/0117)**
2. Councillor Andrew Brown presented a petition of 16 signatures to County Council on 14th May 2015 from residents of Orchard Close, Sutton Bonington who requested that the Doctors Surgery be relocated. This following an extension of the surgeries opening hours, increasing the volume of patients and staff, which is causing parking problems on the road. Parked vehicles were stated to be blocking accesses and making it difficult for residents to park on the road. Vehicles are also reported to be parking on pavements, causing a hazard to pedestrian who are forced into the road.
3. Rushcliffe Borough Council, the Planning Authority, reports that the Doctors Surgery has operated from 45 Orchard Close with Planning Permission since 1977. There were no restrictions put on the opening hours of the surgery and the extended opening hours do not require further planning permission. The County Council has no powers to relocate the surgery and since the current Planning Permission is valid, Rushcliffe Borough Council cannot take any further action regarding this.
4. The County Council has no powers to control parking on the pavements as this is within the remit of the Police. In terms of a safety hazard, there have been no accidents resulting in injury reported within the lengths of Orchard Close in the three years leading up to 31st January 2015. Generally traffic flows are low and travel at low speed.
5. The County Council has powers to restrict parking, but this small residential estate would not be a high priority for a residents' parking scheme and the surgery would be entitled to a number of parking permits as it is within the area. It may also be the case that visitors to the surgery would be less able to walk from further away and the Council has to consider

impacts on the mobility impaired due to the Equality Act. Additionally, parking for the surgery would be likely to transfer onto surrounding roads. Double or single yellow lines would restrict parking for all parties and be likely to inconvenience residents as much as the surgery's visitors.

6. The Council offers the installation of white 'H-Bar' road markings to residents who wish to purchase them to deter obstructive parking across their accesses at a cost of £178 each. Application letters will be sent out to any residents who request them.

B. Petition Regarding the Warsop to Worksop Bus Service (Ref 2014/0118)

7. A petition signed by 432 residents regarding the Edwinstowe to Warsop bus service was presented to the County Council on 9th July 2015 by Councillor John Allin.
8. The Worksop – Warsop – Edwinstowe service 209 was introduced in August 2014 following a countywide review of local bus services as part of the budget efficiencies programme. This involved a reduction in the frequency of poorly used services in the area. Passenger figures for the 209 service are being assessed and further discussions will be held with Councillor John Allin to assess how the needs of the local community can be met. Any increase in the services will be dependent on usage and the availability of funding from the Local Bus Service budget. Any recommendations regarding the future funding of local bus services in the area will be brought to the Transport and Highways Committee later this year.

C. Request for a Bus Shelter on Ilkeston Road (Hicklins Lane), Stapleford (Ref 2014/0119)

9. A petition signed by 34 residents was presented to the County Council on 9th July 2015 by Councillor Jacky Williams.
10. The request for a shelter at Ilkeston Road, Stapleford was received in June 2015 followed shortly after by the petition. A site visit has been undertaken together with an assessment of the passenger numbers using the stop and a safety audit of the site. The location meets the criteria for a bus shelter which can be provided and funded from the bus shelter programme. Residents living near the bus stop site will be contacted about the proposed shelter and upon completion of this consultation, the bus shelter will be ordered. It is expected that a two panel polycarbonate bus shelter with half end panels will be installed by spring 2016.

D. Petition Regarding Bus Services in Beeston North (Ref 2014/0120)

11. A 323 signature petition was presented to the County Council on 9th July 2015 by Councillor Steve Carr. The petition asked the County Council to ensure that North Beeston continues to get a frequent bus service.
12. The new Beeston Tram and Bus Interchange opened on 12th July 2015 with a number of changes being made to commercially provided bus services. Yourbus have introduced a new X36 and S1 service which operates along Bramcote Avenue, Park Street and Wollaton Road every 30 minutes. The peak time X36 journeys extends to Nottingham and the off peak S1 service connects at the new Interchange with a number of high frequency bus services and the tram to Nottingham and Chilwell. All previous stops in Beeston are covered by the new routes.

E. Petition Regarding Inappropriate Short Cuts by Vehicles in the Beeston North Area (Ref 2015/121)

13. A 26 signature petition was presented to the 9th July 2015 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Steve Carr. The petitioners were concerned about vehicles using inappropriate short cuts to avoid congestion on the A52.
14. There are no access restrictions or traffic calming in the area, however construction works for the tram are close to completion and it is accepted that with any major works on the highway there is a tendency for traffic movements around the area to alter and those movements should change on completion of these works. Contact has been made with the manager of the local depot of UPS (a nationwide parcels delivery firm) requesting that their vans use more appropriate routes although it is possible that the company will have legitimate reason for accessing the area to deliver parcels to residents and shops.
15. The accident history for the area does not justify any improvements. However, the carriageway markings in the area need refreshing and this work will be added to the future programme.

F. Petition Requesting Improvements to the Carriageway Condition on Carlingford Road, Hucknall (Ref 2015/122)

16. An 85 signature petition was presented to the 9th July 2015 meeting of the County Council by Councillor John Wilmott. The petitioners requested improvements be undertaken to the carriageway on Carlingford Road, Hucknall.
17. The carriageway has been inspected recently and it has numerous areas of surface course fretting and old utility reinstatements. The issues are compounded by double parking along the road, thus all traffic takes the same centre line. Notwithstanding this, no actionable defects were found during the inspection.
18. In the meantime, the condition of the carriageway will be monitored via the routine annual inspections and any defects repaired which jeopardise the safety of road users. Although not included in the original 2015/16 resurfacing programme the road is being assessed for inclusion in the programme should the opportunity arise.

G. Petition Requesting the Resurfacing of a Grassed Area on Knoll Avenue, Hucknall (Ref: 2014/0123)

19. A 29 signature petition was presented to the 9th July 2015 meeting of the County Council by Councillor John Wilmott. The petitioners requested the large grassed area of adopted highway in front of properties 9 to 27 on Knoll Avenue, Hucknall be turned into a car park for local residents.
20. Soft landscape areas within the highway enhance the local environment and the grass is well maintained with two well established trees and utility services in the area. The creation of a car parking area would necessitate the removal of these features. It is accepted that on occasion residents may not be able to park directly outside their properties but are able to park within a reasonable distance. It is not considered that the creation of a parking area is warranted.
21. It should be noted that the recent tragic fatality in this vicinity was not related to the issues contained within the petition.

H. Petition Requesting Reduction in Speed Limit on B6325 (Ref 2015/0124)

22. A 118 signature petition was presented to County Council on 17th September 2015 by Councillor Sue Saddington on behalf of residents of South Muskham. The petition requested a reduction in the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph on the B6325 through the village in the interest of road safety and noise reduction. In addition, the petition requested consideration of traffic slowing measures on all approaches.
23. The requested speed limit reduction on the B6325 will be incorporated into the proposed speed limit reduction on the A616 Ollerton Road (Debdale Hill to South Muskham island) that was included in the draft 2016/17 integrated transport capital programme approved by Transport and Highways Committee on 8th October 2015. The speed limit alterations are subject to statutory process. It is not considered appropriate to introduce traffic calming features along this route.

I. Petition Requesting Return of All Night Operation Lighting in Radcliffe-on-Trent (Ref 2015/0125)

24. A 25 signature petition from the residents of Orford Avenue, Water Lane, Hogg Lane and Hall Close, Radcliffe-on-Trent was presented by Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts to the County Council on the 17th September 2015.
25. Residents have concerns about the part night lighting on these roads and are requesting that the lighting is returned to full night operation.
26. There are plans to address the lighting in the whole of the Rushcliffe area in 2016. Works will involve a bulk clean and change to existing newer equipment and replacement of older lanterns with LED's alternatives. The LED's will dim at night rather than switch off and are more efficient than the old part night lit lanterns.
27. In response to the petition, Radcliffe-on-Trent will be programmed first to address the concerns raised by residents. Works are hoped to start in January 2016.

J. Petition Opposing the Proposed Parking Restrictions at St Peter's School Bellamy Road, Mansfield (Ref 2015/0126)

28. A 29 signature petition was presented to County Council on 17th September 2015 by Councillor Colleen Harwood. The petition is a result of consultation undertaken proposing the introduction of parking restrictions in the vicinity of St Peter's School at Bellamy Road Mansfield. The parking restrictions are being proposed to enhance pedestrian safety outside the School. The proposed improvements include double yellow lines along sections of Bellamy Road and double yellow lines to protect the junctions of Bellamy Road/Thorpe Road and Bellamy Road/School Car Park. It is also proposed to make the existing Bus Stop marking a Bus Stop Clearway.
29. The petition opposes the proposed parking restrictions. The petition raises concern that the reduction in on-street parking will cause displacement of parents' vehicles into Thorney Court which provides parking for Thorney Court residents only.
30. The consultation on the changes to the Traffic Regulation Orders ended on Wednesday 6th May 2015 and the petition will be considered as an objection to the scheme. The outcome of the consultation, including the objections contained in the petition (and any

other comments/objections received), were considered and reported to Transport and Highways Committee at its meeting on 12th November 2015 and it was agreed that the restriction be implemented as advertised.

K. Petition Requesting Residents' Parking on Tudor Road, West Bridgford (Ref 2015/0127)

31. A 44 signature petition was presented to County Council on 17th September 2015 by Councillor Liz Plant on behalf of residents of Tudor Road, West Bridgford and three residents of other nearby roads. The petition requested that a residents' parking scheme be introduced on this road.
32. The road is a residential street located near to the town centre. The adjacent junior school has a pedestrian access from Tudor Road. Residents complain that commuter parking and parents waiting at dropping off and collection time make it difficult to park near their properties.
33. Several properties within the area already have the benefit of an existing residents' parking scheme and properties on the remainder of the road have off-street parking either in the form of garages to the rear served by shared driveways or a row of garages with forecourts along the western side of the road.
34. Given that most properties that would benefit from a residents' parking scheme have off-street parking, it is not considered that a residents' parking scheme on Tudor Road would be considered a priority and so no further action is intended at this time.

L. Petition Requesting One Way System at King Edward School, St Andrew's Street, Mansfield (Ref 2015/0128)

35. Councillor Andy Sissons presented a 30 signature petition to County Council on 17th September 2015 asking that a one way system be introduced around St Andrew Street and St Catherine Street in Mansfield to combat obstruction and safety issues due to high levels of parking for King Edward School.
36. This pattern of parking is commonplace outside all schools in the County and although it causes congestion, it also significantly slows vehicle speeds. The Police have stated that school parking acts as natural traffic calming in effect. One way systems have been shown to increase average vehicle speeds due to their being no opposing flow of traffic, so this would not improve safety. Accident records show that there have been no recorded accidents resulting in personal injury in the last three years on either road.
37. In recent years the County Council has introduced two ongoing Countywide Programmes to improve safety outside schools. The School Keep Clear Enforcement Programme will make all school entrance zig zag markings in the County legally enforceable by the end of March 2016 and this improvement has been completed at this location. From early 2016 the Council will be operating an enforcement vehicle which will target school zig zags in particular. In addition, the 20mph School Zones Programme will introduce 20mph speed limits around all schools and the specific scheme outside King Edward School was completed on 21st September 2015. This 20mph zone covers a wide area around the school including parts of the two adjacent main roads, Littleworth and Baums Lane. These measures outline the Council's strategy to improve safety outside schools by reducing vehicle speeds and keeping the critical points where child pedestrians emerge onto the highway clear, whilst not attempting to displace parking unnecessarily which would lose

the natural traffic calming effect and spread child pedestrian movements over a wider area.

M. Petition Requesting Resurfacing of Chapel Lane and Church Street, Costock (Ref 2015/0129)

38. On 17th September 2015 Councillor Reg Adair presented a petition of 89 signatures to Full Council asking that Chapel Lane and Church Lane in Costock be resurfaced as both are in poor condition and one resident had received injuries in a fall.
39. Church Lane and Chapel Lane are very narrow residential roads with no footways for the most part. Both are inspected annually as part of the Council's standard maintenance regime, but Chapel Lane has also had two ad hoc inspections in the last 12 months following pothole reports from residents which were repaired. It is accepted that the condition of both roads is generally poor and both have been considered for previous annual maintenance Programmes accordingly. However, neither road has yet been prioritised.

N. Petition Requesting Surfacing of Grass Areas on Riverside Road, Newark (Ref 2015/0130)

40. At the County Council meeting on 17th September 2015 a petition of 35 signatures was presented by Councillor Tony Roberts. The petition predominantly from residents, requests that Nottinghamshire County Council "tarmac grass verges on Riverside Road" in order to create parking areas.
41. Most of the properties in this area have off-street parking and it is not considered that the area suffers from intrusive parking by non-residents. Soft landscaping areas enhance the local environment. It is accepted that on occasion residents are not able to park directly outside their properties but can park within a reasonable distance. It is not considered that the creation of parking areas is warranted.

Other Options Considered

42. Each petition response sets out any other options that may be considered.

Statutory and Policy Implications

43. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the contents of the report, and the actions approved, be noted.

**Report of Councillor Kevin Greaves
Chairman of the Transport & Highways Committee**

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Jas Hundal
Service Director – Transport, Property and Environment
Tel 0115 977 4257

Neil Hodgson
Service Director – Highways
Tel 0115 977 4681

Background Papers and Published Documents

Minutes of County Council meetings on 14th May, 9th July and 17th September 2015.

Electoral Division(s) Affected

Soar Valley, Warsop, Bramcote and Stapleford, Beeston North, Hucknall, Farndon & Muskham, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Mansfield East, West Bridgford Central & South, Mansfield South, Ruddington, Newark West.