

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE**RESPONSES TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend to Committee the responses to the issues raised in petitions to the County Council.

A. Petition regarding parking issues outside Kirklington Primary School, Kirklington (Ref: 2018/0299)

2. An 18 signature petition was presented to the 12 July 2018 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Bruce Laughton on behalf of residents of Kirklington. The concerns of local residents are noted. They have raised a number of suggestions in relation to the provision of parking at the school and the control of traffic entering and leaving it which will be investigated and reported back on in due course.
3. In the meantime it is highlighted that the road safety of children travelling to and from school is a key concern across the county and consequently on 19 March 2018 Children & Young People's Committee approved the establishment of a cross-party working group. Key objectives of this working group will include reviewing all of the reported injury road traffic accidents between 2012 and 2018 in Nottinghamshire and to explore ways of working with schools, parents and the wider community to improve road safety for all children on Nottinghamshire's roads, particularly in and around schools. It is currently anticipated that the working group will present the outcomes and recommendations from its work to Children's and Young People's Committee in early 2019.
4. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

B. Petition requesting that action is taken to stop the operation of a recycling facility located on Cockett Lane, Farnsfield from adversely impacting on the lives of residents (Ref: 2018/0300)

5. A 49 signature petition was presented to the 12 July 2018 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Bruce Laughton on behalf of residents of Farnsfield requesting that action is taken to stop the adverse effects on residents arising from the operation of a recycling facility on land off Cockett Lane, Farnsfield.
6. The recycling operation lies to the east of Cockett Lane immediately to the rear of Dalestorth Nursery and is located approximately 120m north of the nearest residential properties to the south on Station Road. The Southwell Trail is also located around 100m to the south and

the site is bounded to the east by a bridleway. The waste recycling operation is located on land defined as countryside in the Development Plan.

7. The operation of the waste recycling site has been the subject of individual complaints. These have been investigated and meetings have taken place with the operator of the facility. The operator has submitted two Lawful Development Certificates for the land to Newark and Sherwood District Council, the first an existing use as a haulage of plant and machinery, sorting of aggregates, storage of plant and haulage vehicles and the second for the sorting and storage of aggregates. The first application was refused on 8 June 2018 and a decision is expected shortly on the second application.
8. It is not considered that the waste recycling facility has planning permission or that such development would be acceptable in planning terms at this location. An enforcement notice was issued by the Council on 28 June 2018 requiring the unauthorised waste transfer operations to stop and for the waste materials to be removed from the land. The notice was served on relevant landowners and interested parties. The notice was due to take effect on 3 August 2018, but an appeal has been lodged.
9. The Council will defend its decision to serve the notice at the appeal with a view to bringing about the cessation of the waste transfer operations at the earliest opportunity. The start date for the appeal has yet to be confirmed and the requirements of the enforcement notice are suspended until the appeal is determined.
10. It is recommended that the lead petitioner is informed accordingly.

C. Petition requesting that Nottinghamshire County Council re-consider the application made by Leahurst Road Pre-School for funding under the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) (Ref: 2018/0301)

11. A 110 signature petition was presented to the 12 July 2018 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Gordon Wheeler requesting that the County Council reconsiders the applications for funding made by Leahurst Road Pre-school.
12. Prior to the presentation of the petition officers from the Communities Team at the County Council were able to meet with three representatives of the Pre-school on 27 June 2018. The meeting had two main purposes, firstly to provide feedback on their unsuccessful applications and secondly to explore how the County Council could offer assistance with funding applications in the future.
13. Officers provided some context to the LIS programme – that there had been over £7million applied for with a final budget allocation of £2.2million. The fact that their application was unsuccessful did not mean that the funding they sought, and the purpose it was for, was seen as unimportant; it was in competition with incredible demand and the quality of their application fell short of the standard required to be recommended.
14. Positive feedback has been received about the meeting, with the representatives from Leahurst Road stating that they found the meeting hugely beneficial.

15. Following the meeting on 27 June 2018, Leahurst have also been provided with links to specialist resources for Early Years Providers and access to the Nottinghamshire 4 Community funding search website.
16. Officers have also booked a half-day session to visit Leahurst Road in September to help them identify potential sources of funding and improve the quality of future applications.
17. It is recommended that the lead petitioner is reassured that the County Council is committed to offering practical assistance with future funding applications.
18. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

D. Petition requesting residents parking scheme for Balderton Gate, Newark (Ref: 2016/0302)

19. A 10 signature petition was presented to the 12 July 2018 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Stuart Wallace on behalf of Balderton Gate residents requesting a residents parking scheme.
20. Balderton Gate runs south-east from the town centre. The north-western section of the road already has parking restrictions (double yellow lines and a residents' parking scheme). There are no restrictions on the majority of the south-eastern section of the road; and it is residents of the properties on this section that are seeking a residents parking scheme.
21. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or vehicle speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking throughout the day.
22. A parking survey will be undertaken to determine whether a residents' parking scheme should be considered a priority for possible inclusion in a future year's integrated transport programme.

E. Petition requesting footway repairs on Carwood Road, Nicholas Road, Windrush Close and Wimple Road (Ref: 2018/0303)

23. A 36 signature petition was presented to the 19 July 2018 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Steve Carr. The petition requests footway repairs on Carwood Road, Nicholas Road, Windrush Close and Wimpole Road in Beeston.
24. **Carwood Road:** This footway is inspected on an annual basis with the last programmed inspection being undertaken on 13 April 2018. No actionable defects were identified at this stage and there have been no specific complaints/claims in the last 12 months concerning the footway. The footway itself is aesthetically poor, particularly on the side with even numbers from Sandy Lane to David Grove, where there is evidence of fretting and loss of surface course in general. It is likely that within the next year some works will need to be undertaken on the road, be that programmed or reactive.
25. **Nicholas Road:** The footway is aesthetically poor and deteriorating, with much fretting and loss of surface course. The location is inspected on an annual basis, with the last being

undertaken on 13 April 2018. No actionable defects were noted at this time and there have been no specific complaints/claims within the last 12 months. Again, it is likely that some repairs will be issued during the next year.

26. **Wimpole Road:** The footway is inspected on an annual basis with the last taking place on 13 April 2018. No actionable defects were noted at this time and there have been no claims or complaints in respect of the footway within the last year. The side with odd numbered houses is showing particular signs of deterioration, with an obvious loss of surface course material. Again a degree of intervention is likely within the next year and the scale of this will determine whether this is reactive maintenance or a pre-programmed scheme.
27. **Windrush Close:** The footway is inspected on an annual basis, with the last being carried out on 13 April 2018, with no actionable defects being noted at this time. The footway here is very minor and consists primarily of a parking area and vehicle accesses. There have been no complaints or claims in the last year. Overall what footway is present is acceptable and it is likely to remain in its current condition for the foreseeable future.

28. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

F. Petition requesting completion of footway works on Clifton Road, Ruddington (Ref: 2018/0304)

29. An online petition was submitted to the 18 July 2018 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Reg Adair requesting that the County Council and a land owner complete the necessary legal procedures to enable the swift construction of a path adjacent to Clifton Road in Ruddington. At the time of writing, the petition had received 572 signatures.
30. Several years ago the County Council was made aware of public concerns over the safety of pedestrians using the narrow footway alongside Clifton Road on the bridge over the former railway line. It was considered that widening the existing footway was prohibitively expensive as it required widening the bridge but an alternative route was identified at ground level parallel to Clifton Road.
31. The route required the acquisition of land in the ownership of three developers (including one section of land whose ownership was disputed by two potential land owners) as well as passing through a local wildlife site. As a result, purchasing the land and securing the necessary legal permissions has been extremely protracted, and the path has yet to be built. These issues have, however, now been overcome and detailed design work has commenced with a view to constructing the path during the current financial year (2018/19). It is intended that the path will be built to a standard suitable for use by pedestrians and cyclists, and will be signed and lit.
32. It should also be noted that a small number of residents, particularly those living immediately adjacent to the proposed route, have objected to the scheme due to concerns about its impacts on their privacy; and have raised concerns about the siting of the path's lighting, the type of fencing to be used and motorised vehicles using the path. Officers have been in discussion with these residents about their concerns and met with some of the residents in July to discuss their concerns so that mitigation could be incorporated into the scheme design if possible.

33. It is recommended that the lead petitioner is informed.

G. Petition requesting traffic calming measures along Garth Road and Waverley Road, Mapperley (Ref: 2018/0305)

34. A 50 signature petition was presented to the 19 July 2018 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Stephen Garner requesting traffic calming measures or speed cameras to address speeding issues on Garth Road and Waverley Road, Mapperley; and specifically an accident problem at the sharp bend on this route. The petition stated that the police had records of four accidents on the bend which had damaged a wall, that the route is part of a school run and that it is also used for cycle training.

35. Traffic calming and speed cameras are only introduced at locations with a history of road traffic accidents resulting in serious injuries; and only where there are no alternative measures that would address the causes of these accidents. This is due to their controversial nature, the disturbance that can be caused to nearby residents, central government guidelines and the high cost of such schemes. Before any consideration can be given to using these measures, there needs to be evidence that their installation is justified and that all other measures have been tried and failed. Our most recently available accident records show there has not been a recorded accident resulting in injury since 2011 so this location would not currently be prioritised for either speed cameras or , but we do still consider reports of non-injury accidents and property damage for other safety measures.

36. We will add this route to our list for a temporary interactive speed sign to be used on this road for roughly a 6-8 week period in the next available rotation. These signs are moved around the county periodically to remind drivers of 30mph speed limits and will hopefully complement the police's own speed reduction efforts. Regarding the bend highlighted, these roads already feature illuminated bend warning signs with 'SLOW' markings on red surfacing on both approaches to the bend. We will investigate if the bend warnings here might be further enhanced with possibly black and white chevron type boards, although these may be difficult to position given the footway width and driveway accesses present. Any viable works will be considered for inclusion in the 2019/20 highways programmes, subject to further approval.

37. It is recommended that the lead petitioner is informed.

H. Petition requesting the re-instatement of bus service 42/43 to Hemmingfield Road, Worksop (Ref: 2018/0306)

38. A 98 signature petition was presented at 12 July 2018 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Alan Rhodes requesting that the 42/43 bus service reverts to its former route following changes made in November 2017.

39. Bus services in Worksop are primarily operated on a commercial basis with some financial support from the County Council who work in partnership with Stagecoach East Midlands to provide the widest possible coverage of the town.

40. In recent years the funding for supported services has been reduced by nearly 50% with significant changes to supported services in 2014.

41. The Hemmingfields Road area was reviewed by Stagecoach at that time, and subsequently in a review of the town services in 2017. Unfortunately it has not been possible to reintroduce a service to this area with the current resources available and the level of patronage would not be sustainable on a purely commercial basis.
42. The Transport & Travel Services Team are continuing to work with all operators in the area to find alternative solutions to this problem, these could be the wider use of our own fleet or the introduction of more flexible transport initiatives. The Transport & Travel Services Team will continue to liaise with Stagecoach and if any improvements can be identified these will be reported back to Communities & Place Committee.
43. It is recommended that the lead petitioner is informed.

I. Petition requesting a residents parking scheme on Hazel Grove, Digby Avenue and Kent Road, Mapperley (Ref: 2018/0307)

44. A 21 signature petition was submitted to the 18 July 2018 meeting of the County Council by Cllr Muriel Weisz on behalf of residents requesting that a residents' parking scheme is introduced on Hazel Grove, Digby Avenue and Kent Road due to the presence of intrusive non-resident parking on these roads and a proposal to open a nursery nearby.
45. The roads in question are residential, located to the east of the Mapperley Plains district centre. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or traffic speeds.
46. All bar a couple of properties on Kent Road have off-street parking. Given the location and layout of Hazel Grove, it is also likely that the removal of on-street parking would encourage rat running, especially given that residents themselves do not need to park on-street. This is borne out by the presence of traffic calming features which suggest that this has been or remains a problem.
47. As a result, this request would not be considered a priority for inclusion in a future year's integrated transport programme and so no further assessment will be undertaken.
48. It is recommended that the lead petitioner is informed.
- 49. Petition concerning Edwinstowe residents opposition to all stages leading to and including the extraction of oil or gas using the method known as 'fracking' within the boundary of Edwinstowe Parish and the wider Sherwood Forest area (Ref: 2018/308)**
50. A 457 signature petition was presented to the 18 July 2018 County Council meeting by Councillor John Peck. The petition states that the residents of Edwinstowe oppose the exploration and extraction of oil or gas using the method known as 'fracking' within the boundary of Edwinstowe Parish and the wider Sherwood Forest area.
51. Although the County Council is in the process of developing a new Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan this petition was submitted outside of any public consultation being undertaken on the Plan.

52. Government planning guidance in the form of the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) states that Minerals Planning Authorities (the County Council) should recognise the benefits of onshore oil and gas development and put in place planning policies to facilitate their exploration and extraction. Minerals Local Plans should also plan positively for the three phases of development (exploration, appraisal and production) whilst ensuring appropriate monitoring and site restoration is provided for.
53. To ensure the Draft Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan conforms to the NPPF, the minerals plan contains policy MP12: 'Hydrocarbon Minerals' which sets out how planning applications would be assessed at the key stages – exploration, appraisal, extraction and restoration. The draft Plan also contains Development Management planning policies against which planning applications for minerals development would be assessed. These policies cover issues such as protecting local amenity, protection and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity and the historic environment.
54. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

Statutory and Policy Implications

55. 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/S

It is recommended that:

- 1) the proposed actions be approved, and the lead petitioners be informed accordingly;
- 2) the outcome of Committee's consideration be reported to Full Council.

Adrian Smith
Corporate Director, Place

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Sean Parks, Local Transport Plan Manager, Tel: 0115 977 4251

Constitutional Comments [SLB 28/08/2018]

56. Communities and Place Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments [RWK 20/08/2018]

57. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- **Muskham and Farnsfield** – Councillor Bruce Laughton
- **West Bridgford South** – Councillor Jonathan Wheeler
- **Newark East** – Councillor Stuart Wallace
- **Bramcote and Beeston North** – Councillor Steve Carr
- **Leake and Ruddington** – Councillor Reg Adair
- **Mansfield South** – Councillor Stephen Garner
- **Worksop North** – Councillor Alan Rhodes
- **Arnold South** – Councillor Muriel Weisz