



meeting      **HIGHWAYS SELECT COMMITTEE**

date            **27 November 2006**            agenda item number

## **Report of the Service Director (Highways)**

### **Kings Clipstone**

#### **Purpose of the report**

1. To advise on recent discussions with residents regarding highway matters on the B6030 through Kings Clipstone.

#### **Background**

2. In response to a request from Paddy Tipping M.P., the Customer Services Manager (Highways North) met on site in August 2006 with Mr. Tipping and local residents to discuss concerns over traffic matters. The B6030 is a busy local distributor road carrying some 10,000 vehicles per day linking Mansfield to Edwinstowe and Ollerton.

#### **Issues**

3. The key concern expressed was the difficulty for pedestrians and cyclists moving from one end of the village to the other, because of the lack of footways in the centre of the village. Further concerns were the amount, and to a lesser extent speed, of traffic through the village, which exacerbate hazards and create noise/vibration/pollution problems.

#### **Options**

4. The residents concerns were accepted as valid, but it was pointed out that finding an acceptable solution could be very difficult, owing to the narrowness of the highway at pinch points where properties directly abut the road.

The main request was for a bypass. However owing to cost, environmental and sustainability issues it was noted that such a solution was highly unlikely in the foreseeable future. No such proposal currently exists in the Local Transport Plan

A second suggestion was for the road to be narrowed to single lane width in the centre of the village, with traffic signal control. It was

conceded that this may be a possibility, but obvious disadvantages could be:

- Dangers for vehicles exiting drives between the lights
  - Queuing lengths at the signals with associated safety, noise, pollution, driveway access and privacy issues
  - Visual intrusion of signal heads and associated lining/signing in the historic part of the village
  - Cost which could be in the order of £200,000 and for which no current budget exists
5. The Accident Investigation Unit (AIU) advises that whilst there have been 6 accidents (5 slight) in the last 3 years on the B6030 through the village, these were all at junctions or bends. Anti-skid treatment has already been carried out to combat these. No vulnerable road users were involved and inappropriate or excessive speed was not considered by the Police to be a contributing factor to any of the accidents. In view of this, AIU indicate that they could not justify funding further works from Casualty Reduction budgets.
6. Notwithstanding all of the above it was agreed that the County Council would explore further the carriageway narrowing option to see if there was a technical solution to traffic problems in the village. This is currently being carried out. Preliminary results should be available early in the new year, when it was agreed that a further meeting should be held with residents to discuss the findings. If an acceptable solution can be found at that meeting, then possible sources of finance will be explored.
7. It should be noted that one or two other options, such as providing a footpath to the rear of properties, or acquiring land from frontages to allow provision of a footway, were put forward. However there seemed little support for these alternatives, owing to possible crime and disorder issues plus effect on individual properties.

## **Recommendations**

8. It is recommended that the report be noted and the scoping study completed, for further consideration in due course

**Peter Thom**  
**Customer Services Manager (Highways North)**

Background papers: nil.