

21 September 2016**Agenda Item: 7****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 on 4th July 2016.

A. Petition requesting a Residents' Parking Scheme for The Beeches and Birch Court, Tuxford

2. A 17-signature petition was presented to the 4th July meeting of the Full Council by Councillor John Ogle on behalf of residents of The Beeches and Birch Court, Tuxford. The petition requests that a residents parking scheme be introduced.
3. The Beeches/Birch Court is a cul-de-sac located off Newark Road to the southeast of the village centre. Properties do not have off street parking and there are no on street parking restrictions. Petitioners, who are elderly and some of whom have disabilities, state that they have increasing difficulties parking close to their homes due to parking by family members of residents. Alternative parking is available nearby and visitors have been asked to use this.
4. Requests for residents' parking are considered against the current policy for new schemes which states that there should be :
 - a. Significant levels of current requests from residents
 - b. Non-resident parking which is detrimental to the vitality of the local centre or other local Transport Plan objectives, and
 - c. A trip-attractor which causes non-resident intrusive parking
5. This request does not meet these criteria: the alleged parking problems are caused by family members of residents and therefore do not pass tests b and c. Residents living within a permit scheme are entitled to purchase visitor permits for use by family members. It is anticipated that residents would purchase these and the scheme would

not provide the hoped-for benefits. The request is not considered to be an appropriate solution to the problem and so no further action is intended at this time.

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

B. Petition requesting Residents Parking Scheme, Brookfield Road Arnold

7. An 8 signature petition was presented at Full Council on July 4th July 2016 by Councillor Muriel Weisz which requested a residents' parking scheme be introduced on Brookfield Rd between the Gedling Grove and Derby St junctions. The residents complain of parking by shoppers, commuters, market traders, and from residents on the adjacent Gedling Rd, some who fall into the aforementioned parking restrictions. They indicate the problem has worsened since the nearby Friar Tuck Public House introduced pay and display in its car park and point out the car park on Gedling Rd is free after 6pm.
8. Similar requests from residents at the 5 properties represented on the petition have been received in 2009, 2013 and 2015. Requests from the remaining properties on Brookfield Road have not been received. Any residents' parking scheme would need to consider a longer length of the road as a scheme covering these 5 properties would transfer the problem to where there are further terraced houses.
9. Residents from Gedling Rd requested a residents' parking scheme in 2015, but a parking survey carried out in May of that year showed only 63% of its parking capacity was in use at its busiest time. Subsequently, the request is held on file for consideration, but is not considered a high priority and has yet to be approved for an annual Programme. The previous request for Brookfield Rd was added to the same list, but has yet to be surveyed.
10. It is recommended that this request be considered in more detail and a survey conducted as appropriate to determine the feasibility and priority of a possible residents' parking scheme. The 2016/17 Works Programme is currently underway and the 2017/18 Programme will not be finalised until February 2017. If the request is not included in this upcoming programme, the request will be held on file for future consideration.
11. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

C. Petition requesting reintroduction of Residents Parking Scheme, Park Street, Sutton in Ashfield

12. A 44 signature petition was presented to the 4th July meeting of the County Council by Councillor David Kirkham. The petitioners requested the re-introduction of a residents parking scheme in the area which was removed following a consultation in 2011.
13. The County Council has a high number of resident parking scheme requests on record and is unable to support them all. Given this area previously had a scheme that was removed with necessary local support and there has been no change in circumstance to alter parking patterns it is not appropriate to reconsider the reintroduction of the scheme.
14. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

D. Petition requesting parking restrictions on Mill Croft, Sutton in Ashfield (Ref 2016/0183)

15. A petition containing 45 signatures was presented to the 4th July 2016 meeting of the full County Council by Councillor Steve Carroll. The petition requests the introduction of parking restrictions at the junction of Mill Croft and Silk Street Sutton in Ashfield.
16. On occasion obstructive parking is occurring at this junction though at present it does not warrant the introduction of waiting restrictions because it currently does not meet the criteria for the introduction of new restrictions which are, 3 or more personnel injury accidents in last 3 years, obstruction of emergency services or buses on a regular basis.
17. In the absence of formal parking restrictions, the Police can take action against obstructive parking however they have other higher priority issues and may not be able to attend while the offence is occurring. The obstructive parking has been reported to the Police.
18. The request will be kept on file and monitored by officers when in the area. Should the situation become more acute then it may be included in a future years' programme of works.
19. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

E. Petition for Requesting Improvements to Zebra Crossings Victoria Road Netherfield

20. At the Full Council meeting on 4th July 2016 Councillor Nicki Brooks presented a 224 signature petition concerning a number of existing Zebra Crossings on Victoria Road Netherfield. The petitioners requested that the crossings be made safer.
21. The main measure used to objectively assess road safety at a particular location is the number of accidents in which someone was injured. The Police produce reports on these incidents and on behalf of NCC, Via East Midlands receives the reports and maintains a comprehensive database of accidents to enable the safety of the Highway to be assessed.
22. In 2015 there were 1795 Reported Injury Accidents across the County, which resulted in injury to 2370 people. Funding has to be directed to sites where injury accidents are occurring, to ensure it is most effectively used.
23. A study of reported injury accidents at Zebra Crossings across the County was recently carried out by the specialist Accident Investigation team now within Via East Midlands. This included the crossings in Netherfield. As a result of this work a number of improvements have been included in the current Highways Improvement programme, for implementation during 2016/17 financial year.

24. On Victoria Road Netherfield, the crossings outside “Bargain Booze” and “Coral” are to receive upgraded LED belisha Beacons, which are much brighter than the standard units, to make the crossings more conspicuous. These were specified to address accidents identified during the study.
25. No Reported Injury Accidents occurred at the crossings at “Jackie Bells park” and “Good as New” between 01.01.2013 and 31.05.2016 and therefore no improvements are proposed at these sites.
26. The petition also called for a School Crossing Patrol. There is a very high demand for School Crossing Patrols, and only the busiest locations can be served. The provision of a Patrol is dependent on range of criteria being met, primarily the number of school children crossing at the site, and the number of vehicles using the road. Providing a Patrol on a formal crossing such as a zebra is not considered good practice in safety terms, and is only considered at exceptionally busy and complex sites. Netherfield Road will be assessed during the school term to see if it meets the criteria at any other point.
27. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

F. Petition requesting alteration to lanterns at Chartwell Grove, Mapperley (Ref 2016/0185)

28. A 35 signature petition was present to the 4th July 2016 meeting of Full Council by Councillor Michael Payne regard the installation of new street lights on Chartwell Grove, Mapperley. The residents request that the recently installed lanterns be removed and replaced with a style the same as previously in situ as they were in keeping with the design of the residential area.
29. NCC adopted the policy of moving to LED for all new street lighting installation in September 2013 after carrying out various trials on different lanterns and considering feedback from the Police, Road Safety advisors and residents.
30. In June 2016 the street lights on Chartwell Grove were upgraded from low pressure sodium lighting to new LED lanterns as part of the on-going street lighting maintenance programme taking place across The County. Chartwell Grove is public highway and therefore the standard replacement lantern has been used for the classification of road. The same have been installed through-out Ashfield, Broxtowe, Rushcliffe & Gedling.
31. When lanterns are being replaced in places of historical interest or conservation areas consideration is given to using alternative lanterns to be sympathetic to the area however Chartwell Grove does not fall under this category. As the highways authority there is no legal obligation to light the highway, but where it is lit columns and lanterns are procured in order to get best value and make the best use of financial resources.
32. Lighting manufacturers moved away from producing the low pressure sodium lanterns (which were there previously) as these don't meet the current standards of lighting and have become expensive to run and maintain. As a result, costs to replace and repair out

dated lighting system are disproportionately high. The lanterns themselves also cost around 60% more in energy to run than the LED alternative.

33. Investment in the LED programme to date has been £3.2m which has resulted in an annual reduction of 7,000,000kwh. In total £1.5m has been saved on the energy budget and this total will continue to rise each year as the programme progresses.
34. The LED's recently installed are Holophane V Max which is an award winning lantern in the industry. This is due to its flexibility, light weight, ease of fitting and future maintenance requirements, most importantly it came out best for illumination level.
35. For the above reasons it is not proposed to alter the lanterns installed.
36. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

G. Petition requesting the resurfacing of Lime Tree Avenue & Chestnut Grove, Kirby in Ashfield (Ref 2016/0186)

37. A 40-signature petition was presented to the 4th July meeting of the Full Council by Councillor Rachel Madden on behalf of residents of Lime Tree Avenue and Chestnut Grove, Kirby in Ashfield. The petition requests that the road be resurfaced.
38. Lime Tree Avenue and Chestnut Grove, are interconnecting roads off Victoria Road (B6020). Both roads had the sewers replaced a number of years ago with the associated trench reinstatement being undertaken.
39. Whilst the trench has settled, which results in an uneven road surface, this is within acceptable surface parameters for the class of road. The surface condition of both the trench and the existing road surface are showing signs of deterioration in discrete areas, however, these are not excessive and do not currently meet safety intervention levels. The visual appearance of the road is striking as the trench has been repaired in a material that has weathered in stark contrast to the original surface colour.
40. These roads do not feature in the 5-year highway maintenance programme, and inspection of both has confirmed that they do not warrant inclusion. Therefore, the request is not considered to be an appropriate solution at this time, but this will be monitored through the highway planned inspection programme.
41. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

H. Petition requesting replacement of brick Bus Shelter at Warsop Lane, Rainworth (Ref 2016/0187)

42. A 163 signature petition was presented to the 4TH July 2016 Full Council meeting by Councillor Yvonne Woodhead requesting that a brick bus shelter at Warsop Lane Rainworth be replaced with a modern shelter. The petitioners cite anti-social behaviour as the reason for this request.

43. Transport & Travel Services acknowledge the concerns raised by the community and have secured the funding to replace the brick shelter with a polycarbonate shelter. It will be replaced by 31st March 2017. It has also been arranged for the existing bus shelter to be cleaned out on a monthly basis until it is replaced, and for Newark and Sherwood District Council to install a bin at the bus stop.
44. In order to deal with the underlying issue of anti-social behaviour, Transport & Travel Services ask that the local community continue to report any antisocial behaviour to the police or Newark & Sherwood District Council.
45. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be advised accordingly.

I. Petition requesting new Bus Shelter at Nottingham Road, Burton Joyce (Ref 2016/0188)

46. A 28 signature petition was presented to the 4th July 2016 Full Council meeting by Councillor John Clarke. The petitioners are requesting a bus shelter be provided at Nottingham Road Burton Joyce where there is no existing shelter.
47. Transport & Travel Services acknowledge the petition requesting the bus shelter, but have to decline the request on this occasion. The bus stop is insufficiently used by passengers to pass the value for money principle for the provision of a bus shelter as set out in our Bus Stop Policy. In addition, the cost of installing a shelter would be prohibitively expensive as land behind the bus stop would need to be purchased in order to accommodate a bus shelter and significant engineering works would be required to construct the hardstanding.
48. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be advised accordingly.

Statutory and Policy Implications

49. 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 proposed actions be approved, the lead petitioners be informed accordingly and a report be presented to Full Council for the actions to be noted.

Tim Gregory
Corporate Director, Place

Background Papers and Published Documents

- None

Electoral Division(s) Affected

Tuxford, Arnold South, Sutton in Ashfield Central, Sutton in Ashfield East, Carlton East, Arnold North, Kirkby in Ashfield South, Blidworth, Carlton East