



23 June 2016

Agenda Item: 13

REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS

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 12th May 2016.

A. Petition requesting a bus shelter at the junction of Musters Road and Malvern Road, West Bridgford (Ref 2016/0163)

2. Councillor Gordon Wheeler presented a petition of 158 signatures to the County Council meeting on 25th February 2016 requesting the installation of a bus shelter at the junction of Musters Road and Malvern Road in West Bridgford.
3. Officers have reviewed the information supplied by the petitioners and assessed the case against the County Council's Bus Stop criteria.
4. It has been concluded that there is a strong case for installing a bus shelter at bus stop RU0083 on Malvern Road, West Bridgford.
5. There is budget available in financial year 2016/17 and the shelter has been added to the Rushcliffe Bus Stop Improvement Programme. The shelter will be installed by 31st March 2017, pending consultation with the adjoining properties.
6. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

B. Petition requesting the retention of car parking spaces on Main Road, Eastwood (Ref 2016/0176)

7. An 86 signature petition from the residents of Eastwood Road, Maws Lane, Jubilee Street, Truman Street and Lawn Mill Road at Kimberley was presented by Councillor Ken Rigby to the 12th May 2016 Full Council meeting.

8. The petition is a direct result of a letter drop on 25/1/16, by the County Councils Collision Investigation Unit, to properties 78 to 92 Eastwood Road. The letter advised residents the County Council is considering removal of 2 on street parking spaces, on road safety grounds, north east of Maws Lane. The petition requests the spaces are not removed.
9. During the 4.4 year period (1-1-11 to 30-5-15) there have been 4 (1 serious, 3 slight) reported injury collisions at the Eastwood Road/Maws Lane junction. The 4 collisions are almost identical and involved a vehicle turning right from Maws Lane colliding with a vehicle travelling south east along Eastwood Road. In all 4 collisions vehicles parked outside the shops, have obscured the road user's view. Having examined the circumstances, it is concluded that, whilst contentious, removal of the parking is necessary on safety grounds and propose to remove the existing small parking bay at this location.
10. The loss of the 2 spaces on Eastwood Road would displace parking onto the surrounding roads where parking is already at a premium. It should be noted 4 of the properties effected are businesses, 2 of which are take-away food outlets who will have associated customers.
11. Nottinghamshire Police acknowledge parked vehicles are a contributory factor in the injury collisions at this location and support the proposed removal of the 2 parking spaces.
12. It is proposed that the on street parking is removed.
13. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

C. Petition requesting traffic calming measures in Farnsfield (Ref 2016/0177)

14. County Councillor Roger Jackson presented a 315 signature petition to the 12th March meeting of Full Council requesting traffic calming measures in Farnsfield, to minimise the risk to residents from vehicles speeding through the village.
15. The main 30mph section of road through Farnsfield runs from the junction of Mansfield Road with Cockett Lane, along Main Street, and as far as the limit of the housing on Southwell Road Farnsfield to the south east of the village.
16. In the period 1st January 2013 to 31st March 2016 there were 2 reported injury accidents on this length of 30mph limit, both occurred in September 2013. They were both classified as being of slight injury severity. In one, which occurred on Mansfield Road northwest of Chapel Lane, a car driver lost control of the vehicle, for reasons which could not be addressed by changes to the highway. In the second incident, on Main Street, a pedal cyclist rode onto the footway to allow a bus to pass and collided with a wheelie bin.
17. Based on this accident history the Council is not able to provide funding for traffic calming through Farnsfield.

18. There is an existing Interactive Sign at the northern end of the village near Cockett Lane. A speed survey will be carried out to establish if a further sign might be justified. If the measured speeds meet the appropriate criterion, the site will be added to its current list of requests for an Interactive Sign. This will be included in a future programme of works as soon as funding is available.
19. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

D. Petition requesting amendments to an existing Residents' Parking Scheme on Lincoln Street, Newark (Ref 2016/0178)

20. A petition and supporting photographs were presented to the County Council on 12th May 2016 by County Councillor Tony Roberts on behalf of 37 residents requesting an amendment to the existing residents' parking scheme on Lincoln Street in Newark. A recent change to the Traffic Regulation Order in this area discovered that the signage did not reflect the existing Order, which precipitated the updating of the signs that is mentioned in the petition.
21. The County Council reviews parking arrangements and proposes changes to on-street parking restrictions where necessary. This has resulted in several schemes being delivered to address existing parking issues in Newark. The residents request has been made as a result of parking associated with the nearby railway station, and local residents consider that the hours of the existing restrictions need to be extended to include evenings and Sundays.
22. Parking surveys will therefore be undertaken of the Appleton Gate Resident's Parking Area which includes Northgate, Lincoln Street, Appleton Gate, Sydney Street, Cliff Nook Lane and Nursery Court and if necessary, an amendment to the existing scheme will be considered in the future.
23. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

E. Petition requesting the installation of traffic signals at the junction of Oxtan Road and Whinbush Lane, Calverton (Ref 2016/0179)

24. County Councillor Boyd Elliot presented a 191 signature petition to the 12th March meeting of Full Council requesting Traffic Signals (Traffic Lights) be installed on the A6097 Oxtan Road at the junction with Whinbush Lane and Flatts Lane Calverton.
25. The petitioners expressed their concern at the level of safety at the junction, citing poor visibility and the high speed of main road traffic. They feel that the junction would be much safer with traffic signals.
26. Over a number of years the junction has been the subject of a number of safety improvements including high friction surface dressing, and improved signing and road markings. The A6097 has had its speed limit reduced from 60mph, the national speed limit, to 50mph along this length. Notwithstanding this there remains an underlying level of accidents at the site.
27. A feasibility study into providing traffic signals at the junction is being undertaken. There are a number of potential technical difficulties with designing a safe installation at this site, due

to the constraints of the road layout. If it were practically possible, it is likely that this would be a costly project, and funding would need to be prioritised against other competing schemes.

28. Once the study is concluded a decision will be made about the options available to improve the junction. Should a scheme prove to be viable it will be taken to Transport and Highways Committee as part of the Schemes approval process.
29. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

Statutory and Policy Implications

30. 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.

Neil Hodgson
Service Director, Highways

Background Papers and Published Documents

- None

Electoral Division(s) Affected

West Bridgford West, Kimberley & Trowell, Farnsfield & Lowdham, Newark West, Calverton