



21<sup>st</sup> March 2013

Agenda Item:

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS  
COMMITTEE**

**RESPONSE TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE  
COUNTY COUNCIL ON 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2012 AND TO THE CHAIRMAN OF  
THE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2013**

**Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform Committee of responses to the issues raised in petitions presented to the Chairman of the County Council at the Council meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2012 and to the Chairman of the Transport & Highways Committee at the meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2013:

- A. Petition requesting an upgrade of the zebra crossing at Newthorpe
- B. Petition requesting a School Crossing Patrol for Park Street Beeston
- C. Petition requesting Residents Parking Scheme – Lime Grove Retford
- D. Petition requesting safety improvements at the A614/Mickledale Lane junction, Bilsthorpe
- E. Petition requesting Residents Parking Scheme – Stubbing Lane, Worksop
- F. Petition requesting improvements on The Hill and Chapel Street, Kirkby in Ashfield
- G. Petition concerning vehicle speeds - Town Street, Bramcote
- H. Petition requesting for the street lighting in Styrrup & Oldcoates to be returned to all night
- I. Petition Requesting that Local Bus Service 17 be reinstated

**A. Request for an upgrade of the zebra crossing at Newthorpe**

1. A petition was presented by County Councillor Keith Longdon on behalf of 124 residents of Newthorpe. The petition requests an upgrade of the zebra crossing to a light controlled crossing.
2. A zebra crossing was installed on B6010 Nottingham Road at its junction with Newthorpe Common during 2012/13 following a petition request for a pedestrian crossing. An interactive speed sign was also installed at the same time to assist in slowing traffic on its approach to the crossing.
3. There have been no injury accidents at this location involving people using the new crossing. Speed surveys will, however, be undertaken on the approaches to the zebra crossing to determine if the existing zebra crossing needs to be upgraded to a light signal crossing.

#### **B. Petition requesting a School Crossing Patrol for Park Street, Beeston**

4. A petition was presented at the County Council meeting on 20 December 2012 by County Councillor Steve Carr, requesting the provision of a School Crossing Patrol (SCP) on Park Street Beeston.
5. The previous SCP at this location retired in September 2012, and following an extensive recruitment drive, two applications for this post were received over the Christmas holiday period. Following an interview and a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check, the appointment of a SCP was made and the successful candidate is now working on site.

#### **C. Petition requesting Residents Parking Scheme – Lime Grove, Retford**

6. An 10 signature petition was presented to the 20<sup>th</sup> December meeting of the County Council by Councillor Mike Quigley. The petitioners are objecting to non-residential parking along Lime Grove, reporting restricted access to and from properties, access difficulties for emergency services and footpath obstruction.
7. The petition reportedly represents all residents of Lime Grove who are in favour of paying the £25 fee for resident parking permits.
8. Requests for Residents Parking Schemes are currently being considered for funding and as a result of this petition Lime Grove will be put forward for consideration.

**D. Petition requesting safety improvements at the A614/Mickledale Lane junction, Bilsthorpe**

9. Three petitions were presented by County Councillor John Peck – an on-line petition on behalf of 172 people; accompanied by a petition with 490 hand written names; the third petition containing 416 names dates from 2009. None of the names on the petitions have been cross checked for double counting. The petition requests safety improvements to the A614/Mickledale Lane, Bilsthorpe junction.
10. There have been six collisions at this location during the period 01.01.07-31.10.12, an average of one collision per year. Five of the collisions resulted in only slight casualties with only one of the six collisions resulting in a serious casualty. The site would not therefore be prioritised for an accident remedial scheme. It is also estimated that the introduction of traffic signals at this junction may increase the number of accidents (using COBA cost benefit analysis). It is therefore not currently proposed to install traffic signals at this junction.
11. The improvements made at Rose Cottage could potentially provide more opportunities for traffic to turn into and out of Mickledale Lane (as it could provide gaps in the traffic flows). A review of the existing signing on the approach to the A614/Mickledale Lane will, however, be undertaken and updated if necessary.

**E. Petition requesting Residents Parking Scheme – Stubbing Lane, Worksop**

12. A 169 signature petition was presented to the 20<sup>th</sup> December meeting of the County Council by Councillor Kevin Greaves. The petitioners are objecting to non-residential parking along Stubbing Lane and surrounding areas, reporting restricted access for parking outside properties, access difficulties for emergency services and buses and road safety issues associated with limited visibility caused by parking.
13. Requests for Residents Parking Schemes are currently being considered for funding and as a result of this petition Stubbing Lane will be put forward for consideration.

**F. Improvements on The Hill and Chapel Street, Kirkby in Ashfield**

14. A petition was presented by County Councillor Rachel Madden on behalf of 101 residents. The petition requests a review of the traffic system and the introduction of a 20mph speed limit along The Hill and Chapel Street.

15. There have been no injury accidents involving pedestrians along The Hill and Chapel Street during the period 1/1/07 – 31/10/12 and speed was not detailed as a contributory factor to any of the accidents involving only vehicles.
16. Speed surveys will, however, be undertaken on The Hill and Chapel Street to determine if vehicles exceeding the speed limit are a significant problem. If, once these surveys are completed, vehicle speeds are considered too high, then appropriate measures to address the identified problem will be investigated.

#### **G. Petition - Vehicle Speeds, Town Street, Bramcote**

17. A 92 signature petition was presented to the 15th January 2013 meeting of the Transport and Highways Committee by Councillor Stan Heptinstall. The petitioners request that physical traffic calming measures be introduced on Town Street Bramcote. There are also concerns over the effectiveness of the interactive sign.
18. In conjunction with the petitioners, survey work has been carried out which shows the average speed is between 28 and 31 mph.
19. The environmental impact and noise created by traffic calming measures as well as limited support has led to traffic calming schemes being introduced only where there has been an identified injury accident problem involving vulnerable roads users. There have been five slight injury accidents in the period 1/1/09 to 30/4/12 along Town Street with only one of them involving a vehicle driving too fast for the conditions and as such a traffic calming scheme cannot be justified on accident reduction grounds.
20. The interactive sign in question was problematic as it was one of the earliest models installed and it has now been replaced with a new one. The results from the speed survey show that the sign is on the side where vehicles are travelling at a greater speed.

#### **H. Petition requesting for the street lighting in Styrrup & Oldcoates to be returned to all night**

21. A petition was presented to the Chairman at the meeting of the Transport and Highways Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> January by Councillor Sheila Place. The petition opposed the reduced street lighting which has been implemented on

some roads in Styrrup & Oldcoates in April 2012 as part of the Street Lighting Energy Saving Project.

22. The area has suffered from reports of crime in recent months and this has raised local concerns around fear of crime and subsequent requests for the lighting to be returned to all night.
23. The six month review has been completed and shows a slight increase in crime but this is representative with a general increase in rural crime in the Bassetlaw area. Further advice has been requested from the local police and the adjusted lighting is not thought to have had a detrimental effect on crime in Styrrup & Oldcoates.
24. Based on the process recently agreed at the Transport & Highways Committee, the decision has been taken to wait for the 12 month review data to become available. This will give a true picture of what is happening with regard to crime and a decision will be taken once the review is fully complete.

#### **I. Petition Requesting that Local Bus Service 17 be reinstated**

25. A petition was presented to the Transport & Highways Committee meeting on 15th January 2013 by Councillor Stan Heptinstall requesting that Local Bus Service 17, operating from Nottingham via Stapleford and Toton to Beeston be reinstated. This commercial service operated by Premiere Travel, who have since ceased trading, was withdrawn on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January this year. To resolve this matter the Toton Connect service, funded by the County Council, was extended to operate from Stapleford. Passengers wishing to travel to Nottingham or Beeston can then connect using other high frequency commercial services operating in the area.

#### **Reason for Recommendation**

26. To update members on the petitions presented to the County Council on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2012 and to the Transport & Highways Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

#### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

27. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service 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**

1. It is RECOMMENDED that the proposed actions be approved and passed to Full Council for noting.

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Peter Barker**

### **Background Papers**

None

### **Electoral Division(s)**

Eastwood, Beeston North, Retford West, Rufford, Worksop West, Kirkby in Ashfield South, Bramcote and Stapleford, Blyth and Harworth.