

**16 March 2016****Agenda Item: 10****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 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

**A. Petition regarding Gunthorpe traffic lights (Ref 20165/0146)**

2. At the County Council meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016 a petition was presented by County Councillor Roger Jackson. The petition of 427 signatures and 105 electronic signatures from residents and road users in and around Gunthorpe requests traffic lights at the junction of Main Street and the A6097. It is suggested that the lights are operational at peak times and would be activated at any time by traffic leaving the village. Gunthorpe Main Street runs parallel to the A6097 with two entrances to the village, one on Main Street and one on Trentside. In addition to residential properties adjacent to the River Trent there are several Pubs and restaurants encouraging visitors all year round.
3. Comments supporting this proposal cite difficulties getting into and out of the village at peak times due to the volume and speed of traffic on the A6097
4. Any scheme, especially with the level of funding signalisation of this junction would require, needs to meet the objectives of the Local Transport Plan to be considered for funding. The main emphasis of this is supporting the economy; within that there are priorities on reducing congestion and improving access to jobs and training. There is also an on-going requirement to reduce road casualties.
5. Accident data for the A6097 / Main Street Gunthorpe (North Junction) shows that there have been no injury accidents for the last 4 years, additionally in 2014 a scheme to reduce the speed limit and improve lighting along its length has possibly further improved safety on the road.
6. Signalising the junction here would be a major investment and would need to produce significant benefits. In terms of accessibility, the bus operators haven't expressed any problems with turning out of the junction, nor would pedestrians significantly benefit from a crossing point at signals as the existing footpath to local amenities is on the village side of

the road. Accident levels actually increase with the provision of signals; the average injury rate for the County is around 1.26 per year, significantly higher than the existing rate at the site. As such there are currently no plans to include a junction signalisation scheme for Main Street, Gunthorpe.

7. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

**B. Petition regarding speed limit reduction at Mill Lane, Rockley (Ref 2016/0147)**

8. At the County Council meeting of 14th January 2016 a petition was presented by County Councillor John Ogle. The petition of 18 signatures from residents of Mill Lane, Rockley requests that a speed limit of 30mph is imposed on the Road. Mill lane is a rural cul-de-sac which is currently de-restricted and fronted on part of one side by several properties including a farm and a church.
9. To consider this request an assessment will be carried out including a visual survey, an actual speed evaluation, and an investigation of the speed related injury accident data. Once this is available the request will be assessed in line with guidelines for setting speed limits.
10. If appropriate the alterations will be considered for inclusion in a future programme.
11. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

**C. Petition regarding lorry parking at Cromwell (Ref 2016/0149)**

12. At the County Council meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016 Councillor Bruce Laughton presented a petition from local residents opposing Cromwell Lorry Park.
13. As Cromwell is one of four sites being considered by Newark and Sherwood District Council, this petition has been sent to Andy Statham, Director of Planning for consideration; who has liaised directly with the petitioners.
14. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

**D. Petition requesting pedestrian barrier on Sadler Street, Mansfield (Ref 2016/0152)**

15. At the County Council on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016, Councillor Diana Meale and Councillor Darren Langton presented a petition of 46 signatures requesting a pedestrian barrier on Sadler St at the entrance of the footpath leading to Devon Drive. This was to prevent pedestrians, especially children, stepping into the road from the footpath which was felt to be a hazard.
16. The Council first received this request in October 2015. On investigating the issue it was found there is insufficient room to install a pedestrian barrier at the kerb edge adjacent to

the footpath on Sadler Street. The barrier would need to be installed a minimum of 300mm from the kerb edge and this would narrow the footway to less than the recommended width for mobility scooters. Given the path is at a right angle with walls on both sides, the swept path for mobility scooters to turn in alongside a guardrail would also be made difficult if not impassable. Installation of a guardrail would also prevent access to a utility cover in the footway at this location.

17. Sadler Street and the adjoining Stafford Street form a loop off Westfield Lane and are quiet residential roads. It is reasonable to assume that traffic flows and average vehicle speeds are generally low and no complaints of speeding, through traffic or safety have been received in the last 8 years. There have also not been any accidents on either road in the last 3 years. In the past there has been contact from a mobility scooter user regarding this footpath and there are four advisory markings for the mobility impaired on these two roads.
18. It is recommended that the petitioners be informed that it is not feasible to install a barrier at this location.

**E. Petition requesting safety barriers on footpath from Coniston Road to Belvoir Street, Hucknall (Ref 2016/0153)**

19. A 31 signature petition was presented to the 14th January 2016 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Alice Grice. The petitioners request that safety barriers are installed on the jitty to slow down cycles and deter motorcycles from using the jitty but are of a type to still allow access for mobility scooters.
20. The jitty is approximately 50m long with the Belvoir Street end restricted by its width and has a manhole and lamp column in the footway and parked vehicles acting as a natural restriction to slow down cycles. Provision of a barrier here is impractical and would restrict the use for mobility scooters
21. The Coniston Road end of the jitty is approximately 2.5m wide with cycles and motor bikes being unrestricted and they can exit the jitty onto the footway and carriageway at speed.
22. A staggered Pedestrian Guardrail is to be installed at the Coniston Road end of the jitty to slow down cycles and motorbikes but will allow access by mobility scooters. The work is being funded by the Community Safety Team and will be completed before the end of March 2016.
23. It is recommended that lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

**F. Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Ranmoor Rd, Gedling (Ref 2016/0154)**

24. At County Council on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016 Councillor Nicki Brooks presented a petition of 33 signatures requesting a residents' parking scheme be introduced on Ranmoor Rd, Gedling. This was due to problems caused by commuters and shoppers parking on the road.

25. Ranmoor Rd is directly adjoining Main Rd which is a busy shopping area with a number of businesses including a public house and a car garage. There is a car park owned by Gedling Borough Council with 30 spaces at this end of Ranmoor Rd which offers 2 hours free parking and £3 to park all day. The petitioners state that people are using Ranmoor Rd to park instead of the car park due to the charges and drivers are using the road to park & ride into Nottingham. This is causing obstruction of driveways, congestion, limits on-street parking availability for residents and prevents road sweeping.
26. 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
27. It is considered that this section of Ranmoor Road meets at least one of these criteria hence the County Council will carry out an investigation to determine whether a residents' parking scheme could be considered for inclusion in a future year's programme.
28. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

**G. Petition requesting the resurfacing of the carriageway on Carsic Rd, Sutton (Ref 2016/0155)**

29. A 273 signature petition was presented to the 14th January 2016 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Tom Hollis. The petitioners request that the carriageway on Carsic Road is resurfaced.
30. In its current condition it does not justify resurfacing as a priority but has been added onto the unclassified carriageway list to be considered for resurfacing in future years. In the meantime, the condition of the carriageway will be monitored on a monthly basis and any investigatory defects noted during the inspection will be repaired. No defects were identified on the last inspection in January.
31. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

**H. Petition requesting the resurfacing of the carriageway on Huthwaite Rd, Sutton (Ref 2016/0156)**

32. A 413 signature petition was presented to the 14th January 2016 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Tom Hollis. The petitioners requested the carriageway on Huthwaite Road is resurfaced

33. The carriageway is on the provisional list for consideration for structural patching repairs to be undertaken in financial year 2016/17. It will be an ongoing phased scheme over a number of years and when complete the carriageway will be surface dressed.
34. In the meantime, the condition of the carriageway will be monitored on a monthly basis and any investigatory defects noted during the inspection will be repaired. No defects were identified on the last inspection in January.
35. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

**I. Petition requesting the resurfacing of the carriageway on Westbourne Rd, Sutton (Ref 2016/0157)**

36. A 166 signature petition was presented to the 14th January 2016 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Tom Hollis. The petitioners request that the carriageway on Westbourne Road is resurfaced.
37. In its current condition it does not justify resurfacing as a priority but has been added onto the unclassified carriageway list to be considered for resurfacing in future years. In the meantime, the condition of the carriageway will be monitored on a monthly basis and any investigatory defects noted during the inspection will be repaired. No defects were identified on the last inspection in January.
38. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

**J. Petition requesting the resurfacing of the carriageway on Alfreton Rd, Sutton (Ref 2016/0158)**

39. A 90 signature petition was presented to the 14th January 2016 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Tom Hollis. The petitioners requested the carriageway on Alfreton Road is resurfaced
40. In its current condition it does not justify resurfacing as a priority. In the meantime, the condition of the carriageway will be monitored on a monthly basis and any investigatory defects noted during the inspection will be repaired. No defects were identified on the last inspection in January.
41. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

**Statutory and Policy Implications**

42. 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**

Farnsfield and Lowdham, Tuxford, Southwell and Caunton, Mansfield West, Hucknall, Carlton East, Sutton in Ashfield West.