

8 January 2015

Agenda Item: 10

**REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS AND SERVICE DIRECTOR
TRANSPORT, PROPERTY AND ENVIRONMENT**

**RESPONSE TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL ON 20TH NOVEMBER 2014.**

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend to Committee the responses to the issues raised in petitions presented to the County Council on 20th November 2014.
2. **Petition Regarding Local Bus Service 140, Sutton in Ashfield, Stanton Hill, Skegby and Teversal (Ref:2014/094)**
3. A 434 signature petition was presented to County Council on 24 November 2014 by Cllr David Kirkham requesting to save service 140 on evenings, Sundays and bank holidays.
4. The County Council withdrew the evening and Sunday service 140 as part of a revised local bus support programme following extensive public consultation, which were implemented in August this year. The revised services were part of the budget efficiencies process which has reduced expenditure on local bus services by 30% to help reduce the Council's budget deficit of £154m over the next three years.
5. Support for service 140 was withdrawn which will mean that the evening and Sunday journeys will no longer operate. Unfortunately it has been necessary to take this approach in order to maintain the daytime Monday to Saturday services providing access to employment, health and shopping. If the recommendations in agenda items 4 are approved then an evening service initially on three evenings a week will be introduced in March 2015. No funding is available for a Sunday service.
6. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

Petition Requesting the removal of Traffic Calming on Ladybrook Lane

7. **(Ref: 2014/090)**
8. Councillor Diana Meale presented a petition of 455 signatures at Full Council on 20th November 2014 requesting that the Ladybrook Lane traffic calming be removed. The petition was gathered by the Ladybrook Place Business Group on the grounds that they had lost 50% of their trade due to the traffic calming features, the features are too big and damage cars and additionally are missing the white hazard markings making them hard to see in advance.
9. The Ladybrook Lane Estate Traffic Calming scheme covers an area bounded by the major routes of the A6075, A6191, A6009, A38 and B6014 Skegby Lane directly west of Mansfield Town Centre. It was introduced in 1997 on accident remedial grounds and was subject to a full public consultation and advertisement.
10. In the 5 year period previous to the scheme's introduction, there had been on average 21 reported road injury accidents per year within the whole area of the scheme. Of these 21 accidents, half involved either pedestrians or pedal cyclists. In the 16 years since the scheme was installed there have been just over 11 accidents per year. This represents an accident saving of over 45%. Also, the number of pedestrian and pedal cycle accidents has dropped by over 58%.
11. On Ladybrook Lane itself, the accident reductions were even better with an overall accident saving of 54% and a saving of 77% in pedestrian and pedal cycle accidents.
12. The traffic calming scheme consists of over 50 sets of concrete speed cushions and removal of these cushions would cost at least £200,000 because each set of cushions would have to be dug out and then the hole filled with a replacement surface.
13. Road markings are inspected in accordance with the Council's highway maintenance regimes and lining is programmed for replacement when it becomes more than 30% worn. Any defects will be identified by highway inspectors in the course of their work, but any specific reports received of worn lining will also be inspected on an adhoc basis and repairs scheduled as necessary.
14. The removal of the traffic calming scheme is not recommended on the grounds that the high injury accident levels previously recorded would be likely to return to the area and the very high cost of removing the scheme cannot be justified.
15. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

Petition Requesting Improvement of Pedestrian Safety on Duke Street and Woodstock Street at the Junctions with Beardall Street, Hucknall (Ref: 2014/091)

16. A petition was presented to County Council on 20 November 2014 by Councillor John Wilkinson on behalf of 34 residents. The petition requests highway improvements to enhance visibility for mobility scooter users and people with pushchairs when crossing Duke Street and Woodstock Street.
17. The petition suggests the relocation of dropped kerbs. In the last 5 ½ years there have been no reported injury collisions at either the Duke Street/Beardall Street or Woodstock Street/Beardall Street junctions. However, the integrated transport programme does include an allocation for new dropped kerbs to help people cross roads. These two locations will therefore be investigated to determine if it is feasible to move the dropped kerbs to enable improved visibility for pedestrians and mobility scooter users. If it is considered feasible and appropriate, the relocated dropped kerbs will be considered for inclusion in a future year's integrated transport programme.
18. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

Petition Requesting a Residents' Parking Scheme on Barnby Gate, Newark (Ref: 2014/092)

19. A petition was presented to County Council on 20 November 2014 by Councillor Maureen Dobson on behalf of 12 residents requesting a residents' parking scheme between numbers 75 and 91 Barnby Gate.
20. The County Council has an ongoing programme of review and proposed changes to on-street parking restrictions. This has resulted in several schemes being proposed to address existing parking issues such as a new residents' parking scheme on William Street, Newark scheduled to be implemented in March 2015. The Barnby Gate request has been made as a result of the proposed William Street scheme as residents think that existing William Street parking may be displaced to Barnby Gate. It is, however, far from certain that this displacement will occur, as is the level of additional parking that may occur.
21. The Traffic Regulation Order for the William Street residents' parking scheme has already been advertised and to amend it to include Barnby Gate at this stage would significantly delay the delivery of the scheme. Any residents' parking scheme on Barnby Gate would also likely need to encompass more than a small section of the road.
22. It is therefore recommended that parking surveys are undertaken on Barnby Gate prior to the introduction of the William Street residents' parking scheme so that the extent of any displaced parking can be determined once the scheme has been implemented.
23. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

Petition Requesting the Prevention of Parking in the Vicinity of North Muskham School (Ref: 2014/093)

24. At the County Council meeting on 20th November 2014 a petition of 50 signatures and comments was presented by County Councillor Sue Saddington. The petition, from concerned visitors to North Muskham School, requests that the Council acts to prevent parking in the vicinity of the School whilst children cross. They state that when vehicles are parked parents and children crossing from the School to the Village Hall Car Park have limited visibility.
25. As part of the scheme to standardise and legalise all School Keep Clear Markings across the County it is proposed to introduce no waiting restrictions Monday – Friday 8am – 4.30pm on Nelson Lane. The markings will extend on the northern side between the Village Hall entrance and Farnlea. On the south side the restriction will continue from the termination of the Keep Clear Markings to opposite the Village Hall entrance. These restrictions are being proposed to prevent vehicles parking, making it safer for pedestrians to cross at this location.
26. The consultation for the Legal order closes on December 18th and it is hoped the restrictions will be in place soon after this date.
27. An assessment has also begun into the feasibility of providing a School Crossing Patrol for Muskham Primary School. An initial count has been completed and a second count will be carried out during the Spring Term next year.
28. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

Petition Requesting Traffic Signals at the Junction of Breck Hill Road and Woodborough Road (Ref: 2014/095)

29. A petition was presented to County Council on 20 November 2014 by Councillor Muriel Weisz on behalf of 1,817 local residents requesting the installation of traffic signals at the Breckhill Road/Woodborough Road junction to prevent accidents.
30. The County Council continues to invest significant funding to improve road safety in Nottinghamshire, including a countywide programme of engineering schemes which is developed and delivered each year. In order to maximise the available funding, road safety schemes are prioritised based on analysis of reported injury collisions and the predicted reduction in accidents that any proposed scheme will deliver.
31. In the 3½ year period from 1st January 2011 to 30th June 2014 there have been 5 reported slight injury accidents at this junction or on average less than 1½ slight injury accidents per year. A set of traffic signals will generate, on average, about the same number of accidents and therefore introducing traffic signals at the junction would be unlikely to improve road safety.
32. Consequently, the suggested signalisation of the junction will not be prioritised for delivery but recorded injury accidents at the junction will continue to be monitored; and an appropriate accident remedial scheme will be considered in the future, if required.

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

Petition Requesting a Residents' Parking Scheme on Gedling Road, Arnold
(Ref: 2014/096)

34. A petition was presented to County Council on 20 November 2014 by Councillor Roy Allan on behalf of 13 residents requesting a residents' parking scheme.

35. As in many locations, the County Council has an ongoing programme of review and proposed changes to on-street parking restrictions in Arnold. This has resulted in several schemes being planned during 2014/15 to address existing parking issues, such as new residents' parking schemes on Bond Street and Redhill Road.

36. Residents parking schemes are usually introduced in locations where availability of parking is restricted for local residents. Gedling Road will be surveyed and if necessary considered for an appropriate parking scheme in a future years' integrated transport programme if funding permits.

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

Other Options Considered

38. Each petition response sets out any other options that may be considered.

Statutory and Policy Implications

39. 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.

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Service Director - Transport, Property and Environment

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Background Papers and Published Documents

Minutes of County Council meeting 20th November 2014

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Sutton in Ashfield Central, Mansfield West, Hucknall, Collingham, Farndon & Muskham, Arnold South