

21 April 2016

Agenda Item: 7

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 25th February 2016.

A. Petition regarding condition of main road in Thrumpton (Ref 2016/0161)

2. At the County Council on 25th February 2016 Councillor Andrew Brown presented a petition of 149 signatures requesting that the central section of Barton Lane be resurfaced in Thrumpton village. It is felt that the road is in a dangerous condition due to heavy usage.
3. Barton Lane runs parallel to the A453 Trunk road and recent road layout changes in the area have resulted in each end of Barton Lane being reconstructed to a high standard. This has left a central section which is in noticeably poorer condition. The road is routinely inspected for safety on a monthly basis and the last inspection on 31 March 2016 found no actionable defects other than one currently pending repair near the Church Ln junction. Over the last 12 months, there have been 10 works orders issued for repairs. This road length has been under consideration for future resurfacing, but has not yet been approved for the Capital Maintenance Programme and is not included in the provisional Programme for 2016/17.
4. In May 2015, Thrumpton Parish Meeting also requested that the road be assessed for a weight restriction following the completion of the A453T dualling works. The traffic survey on 24/9/15 showed the numbers of heavy goods vehicles using the route to be comparatively low at only 11 on the day of the survey. It has been noted for future consideration in the Weight Restriction Programme, but it will be assessed against the scorings from other roads which are likely to be busier.
5. The road will continue to be inspected monthly and maintained in a safe condition whilst being considered for a future maintenance Programme.
6. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

B. Petition regarding reduction in speed on the Ridgeway in Gotham (Ref 2016/0162)

7. At the County Council on 25th February 2016, Councillor Andrew Brown presented a petition of 64 signatures requesting a permanent interactive speed sign be installed to address speeding concerns in the 40mph speed limit on Leake Rd in Gotham, also known as 'The Ridgeway'.
8. Following discussions with Councillor Brown in December 2015, a speed and traffic flow survey was carried out between 25/1/16 – 31/1/16 on the straight road length within the 40mph limit northwest of the Bunny Lane junction. The peak hours 85th percentile speeds travelling southeast were 43.9mph – 44.4mph with flows varying from 264 - 342 vehicles per hour. This meets the traffic flow, but not the speed criteria for a permanent interactive speed sign. Northwestbound, the speeds in the peak hours were 48.2mph – 48.5mph with flows of 257 – 387. This meets both criteria.
9. The site will therefore be considered for a future Interactive Speed Sign Programme.
10. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

C. Petition requesting carriageway resurfacing on Roger Close, Sutton in Ashfield (Ref 2016/0164)

11. A 16 signature petition was presented to the 25th February 2016 meeting of the County Council by Councillor David Kirkham. The petitioners requested that the carriageway on Roger Close be resurfaced.
12. The carriageway surface is aesthetically poor with numerous areas of repairs and some fretting of the surface course and there have been several areas of carriageway repairs.
13. The carriageway is included in the 2016/17 surface dressing programme unfortunately there is no definite start date as yet however it should be completed during July – September 2016.
14. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

D. Petition regarding flooding on public footpath off Stapleford Road, Trowell (Ref 2016/0165)

15. A 126 signature petition was presented to County Council on 25th February 2016 by Councillor Ken Rigby requesting that an investigation and remedial action be undertaken to clear a right of way of standing water.

16. The cause of the standing water is directly linked to the presence of two gullies which are failing to clear the water effectively. Two gullies had been installed at the site, it is understood, by Broxtowe Borough Council when it held the agency agreement to manage the area. Broxtowe Borough Council advises however that it has no records of these works. As the gullies in question are located off the adopted highway where Trowell footpath No 8 joins Trowell bridleway No 9, the County Council holds no responsibility for their maintenance.
17. However following a request from Councillor Rigby to assist local residents, on the 19th February 2016 the NCC Drainage Unit cleansed the gullies and removed the detritus and silt from the footpath surface at the site.
18. The gullies will also be added to the routine gully cleansing programme for the Broxtowe area which has recently been completed. The next cleansing cycle will be undertaken in approximately 12 -18 months.
19. It is recommended that the lead petitioner be informed.

Statutory and Policy Implications

20. 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

Soar Valley, Sutton in Ashfield Central, Kimberley and Trowell.