



17th September 2013

Agenda Item:

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

**RESPONSE TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL ON 28TH FEBRUARY 2013, 25TH APRIL 2013 AND 11TH
JULY 2013.**

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to recommend to Committee responses to the issues raised in petitions presented to the Chairman of the County Council at the Council meetings on 28th February 2013, 25th April 2013 and 11th July:

- A. Petition regarding vehicles using the Great North Road, Carlton on Trent, causing contents of nearby properties to vibrate and rattle (Ref:2013/05)
- B. Petition requesting an environmental weight restriction on vehicles passing through the villages of Sutton, Grassthorpe, Normanton and Ragnall (Ref: 2013/07)
- C. Petition requesting the extension of the 30 mph speed limit further along Abbot Road, Mansfield toward the MARR route (Ref:2013/09)
- D. Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Millgate, Newark (Ref 2013/010)
- E. Petition requesting traffic calming measures on Bleasby Road, Thurgaton (2013/013)
- F. Petition requesting the extension of the 30 mph speed limit on Boat Lane, Hoveringham (2013/014)
- G. Petition regarding footpath from South Parade to Blyth Road, Worksop (Ref:2013/017)
- H. Petition requesting road safety measures at Westwood Infant School, Westwood (Ref:2013/019)

I. Petition regarding parking restrictions on Edwinstowe High Street (Ref:2013/021)

J. Petition regarding a zebra crossing on Main Street, Balderton and a Pelican Crossing over London Road at Sibcy Lane, Balderton (Ref:2013/026)

K. Petition regarding grass cutting across Broxtowe (Ref:2013/027)

L. Petition regarding illuminated speed indicator signs on the A1133 at Langford (Ref: 2013/028)

M. Petition regarding traffic on Ellesmere Close, Forest Town, Mansfield (Ref 2013/029)

N. Petition regarding taxi ranks on White Hart Street (Ref:2013/030)

O. Petition regarding parking issues at Frederick Road, Stapleford (Ref:2013/031)

A. Petition regarding vehicles using the Great North Road, Carlton on Trent causing contents of nearby properties to vibrate and rattle Ref:2013/05)

1. A petition of 13 signatures from residents of Carlton on Trent was presented to the Chairman and the meeting of the County Council on 28th February 2013 by Councillor Bruce Laughton. The petitioners are concerned that traffic using the Great North Road in Carlton on Trent between the Main Street junction and the A1 is causing the contents of their properties to vibrate and rattle. Their lives are being disturbed and property damaged, they wish to register a formal complaint.

2. **As requested** the petition has been passed to the Chief Executive to be processed as a formal complaint and the petition organiser has been informed.

B. Petition requesting an environmental weight restriction on vehicles passing through the villages of Sutton, Grassthorpe, Normanton and Ragnall (Ref: 2013/07)

3. A petition was presented to the meeting of the County Council on 28th February 2013 by County Councillor John Hempsall on behalf of 377 residents of the above villages. The petition requested an environmental weight restriction on vehicles passing through the villages of Sutton, Grassthorpe, Normanton and Ragnall.

4. A similar request for an environmental weight limit on Ragnall to Sutton on Trent road was received from Dunham on Trent with Ragnall, Darlton and

Fledborough Parish Council in February 2013 and therefore work has already been undertaken to consider such a restriction.

5. An environmental weight limit can only restrict HGV using the road as a cut through and does not apply to HGV legitimately accessing properties or businesses within the limit's boundaries. A survey carried out in April 2013 determined that very few HGV (11 out of 141) used the Ragnall to Sutton on Trent road as a cut through, most were accessing/visiting properties or businesses in the area. The survey identified even fewer HGV using the minor roads (off the Ragnall to Sutton on Trent road) and one of the two vehicles recorded was accessing a property.
6. Therefore as an environmental weight limit would have very little influence on the number of HGV that would be able to continue to legitimately pass through the villages along the Ragnall to Sutton on Trent road **it is recommended** that an environmental weight limit is not progressed and the petitioners are advised.

C. Petition requesting the extension of the 30 mph speed limit further along Abbot Road, Mansfield toward the MARR route (Ref:2013/09)

7. A 35 signature petition was presented to the 28th February 2013 meeting of the County Council by Councillor June Stendall. The petition is from residents of Mansfield.
8. The A6075 Abbott Road was assessed as part of Nottinghamshire County Council's speed limit review. As a result of this review, the speed limit was restricted to 40mph in accordance with national guidelines and criteria, based on traffic flow, frontage development and local factors.
9. Due to the lack of frontage development, Abbott Road does not meet criteria for a further reduction in speed limit as requested by the petition; one side of Abbott Road is adjoined by fields which are due to be developed.
10. However, as the development progresses **it is recommended** that a further review is carried out and the speed limit adjusted accordingly. The petitioners will be advised.

D. Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Millgate, Newark (Ref 2013/010)

11. A petition was presented to the 28th February 2013 meeting of the County Council by County Councillor Keith Girling on behalf of 12 residents of

Millgate, Newark. The petition requests a residents parking scheme be introduced on Millgate.

12. Millgate is a mixture of residential properties and small business premises, located just to the west of Newark town centre. Residents state that it's close proximity to the town combined with unrestricted on-highway parking has led to an increase in vehicles parking, sometimes all day, which the residents believe to be workers in the area avoiding car parking charges in the town centre and at the train station.
13. This request for residents parking will be 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.
14. **It is therefore recommended** that the Millgate area will be included within the next programme of schemes for preliminary investigation relating to the introduction of a residents' parking scheme and the petitioners advised accordingly.

E. Petition requesting traffic calming measures on Bleasby Road, Thurgaton (2013/013)

15. The results of a survey conducted by Thurgarton Parish Council were presented to the Chairman and the meeting of the County Council on 28th February 2013 by Councillor Andy Stewart. The survey was to gauge the concern of residents over speeding on Bleasby Road in the village which is currently a 30mph limit. Out of 38 surveys delivered 23 were returned.
16. The survey gave options of road humps and speed cushions, build outs, chicanes, rumble strips, traffic islands, speed reductions and interactive speed signs. Residents were asked to tick for their preferred choices. All forms returned called for some kind of traffic calming.
17. A traffic volume and speed survey has been commissioned. **It is recommended that** when the results are available a suitable option if necessary is investigated and considered for inclusion in a future programme.
18. The response to the petition should be noted and the petition organiser informed.

F. Petition requesting the extension of the 30 mph speed limit on Boat Lane, Hoveringham (2013/014)

19. A petition of 116 signatures was presented to the Chairman at the County Council meeting on 28th February 2013 by Councillor Andy Stewart. The petitioners are requesting that the 30mph speed limit on Boat Lane in the village of Hoveringham is extended to beyond the entrance to Ferry Farm Park and to the north of the village extended to beyond the entrance of Brookfield Drive on Main Street.
20. In order to install a speed limit that is appropriate a 40mph buffer zone has been proposed rather than an extension of the existing 30mph limit. This will include Ferry Farm Park and the Fisherman's Car Park and also Brookfield Drive on Main Street. The scheme forms part of the Local Transport Plan Programme for 2013/14 and funds have been made available from April 2013 to implement the scheme.
21. **It is recommended that** the response to the petition should be noted and the petition organiser informed.

G. Petition regarding footpath from South Parade to Blyth Road, Worksop (Ref:2013/017)

22. A petition was presented to the County Council meeting on 25th April 2013 by County Councillor Glynn Gilfoyle on behalf of 253 signatures. The petition requests that 'Tesco reopen the footpath to the north of their development from South Parade to Blyth Road and the Worksop Technical College, as previously agreed with the Nottinghamshire County Council and Contractors acting for Tesco'.
23. The petition refers to land in Worksop earmarked for a new Tesco supermarket. There are a number of public right of way issues across the site and **it is recommended that** these are dealt with by the Rights Of Way Committee and the petitioners informed.

H. Petition requesting road safety measures at Westwood Infant School, Westwood (Ref:2013/019)

24. A petition requesting that a pedestrian guardrail, traffic calming and/or a school crossing patrol be installed outside Westwood Infant School was presented to the County Council meeting on 25th April 2013 by Councillor Gail Turner. A

similar petition was received by the Council in 2010 with the additional request for a 20mph speed limit, improved warning signs and coloured anti-skid carriageway surfacing. Following that petition high visibility advance warning signs were installed and this sign was duplicated on the carriageway on each approach.

25. Parents are concerned that the footpath is so narrow that children are at risk of running out into the road. They are also concerns about traffic speeds passed the school frontage.
26. It was not possible then, and is still not possible, to install pedestrian guardrail at the existing school pedestrian entrance without compromising pedestrian movement behind it. The footpath is very narrow and there is also a telephone pole at the school gate which further restricts the footpath width.
27. An investigation is being undertaken into the feasibility of installing a build-out which will effectively reduce the carriageway to one width, forcing traffic to give way either side of it. The Head Teacher has agreed to move the pedestrian access a few metres south of the existing one to avoid any conflict with traffic existing the junction opposite the school.
28. Other options considered were:
 - 1) Moving the school entrance to a point adjacent to the community play area where the footpath is wide enough to accommodate a pedestrian barrier. However, this would have meant very young children having to enter and exit through the school car park onto the footpath on the playing field. The Head Teacher also had concerns about safeguarding issues.
 - 2) Widening the footpath outside the school and reclaiming carriageway width by reducing the width of the footpath on the other side of the road. This would have involved considerable expense as the whole length of the footpath including the junction would have to be realigned and underground utilities moved.
29. New 20mph advisory signs will be installed to replace the existing school warning signs.
30. There used to be a school crossing patrol outside the school. The site was sponsored by the community as it did not meet the conditions for funding from the Authority. There are no plans to reinstate this facility especially as the proposed works will create an improved crossing environment.
31. **It is recommended that** the petitioners are advised accordingly and kept advised of progress with the build out proposal.

I. Petition regarding parking restrictions on Edwinstowe High Street (Ref:2013/021)

32. A petition collected by the Edwinstowe Business Forum of 335 signatures was presented to the County Council meeting on 25th April by County Councillor John Peck. The petition signed by Edwinstowe residents and High Street Business owners requests that the present half hour parking restriction on the High Street is increased to one hour. The petition also has the support of Edwinstowe Parish Council and the local District Councillors.
33. The petitioners strongly feel that in the interest of encouraging increased trade in the present difficult economic climate it would be beneficial to our shops to allow a longer stop for those people who may wish to stay longer on the High Street.
34. **It is recommended that** a scheme will be commissioned to be included in this financial year to look at amending the restrictions. A new Traffic Regulation Order will be created and as part of the legal process local business and other affected parties will be officially consulted.
35. The petition organiser will be informed.

J. Petition regarding a zebra on Main Street, Balderton and a Pelican crossing over London Road at Sibcy Lane , Balderton (Ref:2013/026)

36. A 287 signature petition was presented by County Councillor Keith Walker to the County Council meeting on 11th July 2013 requesting the provision of two formal crossings in Balderton. A zebra crossing was requested on Main Street adjacent to St Giles church, to enable the children of Chuter Ede Primary School to cross Main Street adjacent to St Giles church, due to the lack of a School Crossing Patrol (SCP) at this location. However, on the 17th June 2013 a SCP started work at this site **so it is recommended** not to progress the zebra crossing.
37. The request for a Pelican Crossing across London Road at Sibcy Lane is being investigated to establish if a formal crossing at this location is viable. Should the design and costing show that a crossing is feasible, **it is recommended that** it is put forward for consideration for including in a future years programme. The petitioners will be informed.

K. Petition regarding grass cutting across Broxtowe (Ref:2013/027)

38. A 162 signature petition was presented to the 11th July 2013 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Williams. The petition is from residents of Broxtowe.
39. The petition calls for immediate improvement to the maintenance of highway grass verges.
40. A detailed report setting out a response to similar concerns and proposed actions was considered by this Committee at its meeting on 4th July 2013. **It is**

recommended that the petitioners are informed of this report and the decision of that meeting of this committee.

L. Petition regarding illuminated speed indicator signs on the A1133 at Langford (Ref: 2013/028)

41. A petition of 35 signatures was presented to the County Council meeting on 11th July by County Councillor Maureen Dobson. The petition supports Winthorpe Parish Council's request for illuminated speed indicator signs on the A1133 at Langford, they are requesting that signs are installed in both directions
42. **It is recommended that** a sign for Langford is included in the provisional programme to be delivered 2014/15. To help ensure equity signs will only be installed in one direction at any one location.
43. The petition organiser will be informed.

M. Petition regarding traffic on Ellesmere Close, Forest Town, Mansfield (Ref 2013/029)

44. A 113 signature petition was presented to the 11th July 2013 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Coleen Harwood. The petition is from residents of Ellesmere Close and surrounding streets.
45. There have been 6 complaints and enquiries from residents requesting traffic calming since 2008. Residents have been advised that speed enforcement is a matter for Nottinghamshire Police. Further, investigations into the Recorded Injury Accident data have revealed that there have been no injury accidents that have been attributed to inappropriate speed.
46. There is currently no survey evidence to support the installation of traffic calming on Ellesmere Close. Injury accidents will continue to be monitored. **It is therefore recommended that** a further traffic speed and flow survey will also be carried out from September onwards and the petitioners informed.

N. Petition regarding taxi ranks on White Hart Street, Mansfield (Ref:2013/030)

47. A petition from 9 businesses in Mansfield Town Centre was presented to the 11th July 2013 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Andy Sissons. The petition requests that a taxi rank be provided on White Hart Street.
48. The provision of taxi ranks is principally the role of the district council, albeit that agreement of the Highway Authority is required. **The petition has**

therefore been forwarded to Mansfield District Council for their consideration and the petitioners informed.

O. Petition regarding parking issues at Frederick Road, Stapleford (Ref:2013/031)

49. A 71 signature petition was presented to the 11th July 2013 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Stan Heptinstall.
50. The petition requests the reinstatement of the residents parking scheme from the junction of Cyril Avenue to Warren Avenue on Fredrick Road.
51. Frederick Road is a residential street situated close to Stapleford town centre. The majority of properties are terrace houses with no facility to park off-street. A recent daytime site inspection revealed a high number of parked cars, a number of which were observed to belong to shoppers and business using the town centre.
52. The petitioners express concerns about difficulties parking on Frederick Road both during the day and evenings. The location is being used by shoppers and residents of neighbouring streets that have residents parking schemes in place who choose to avoid paying the charges.
53. As part of the changes implemented in 2012 there was a commitment to monitor and further consideration given to the introduction of other schemes in the Stapleford area. This would be subject to future representations from residents on the basis of substantial proven vehicle transfer from adjacent schemes.
54. **It is recommended that** a survey is planned during September 2013 to look at options of the next phase and this location will be included in that survey and the petitioners informed.

Reason for Recommendation

55. To recommend responses to issues raised in petitions presented to the County Council on 28th February, 25th April 2013 and 11th July 2013.

Statutory and Policy Implications

56. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, 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

It is RECOMMENDED that the proposed actions be approved, the petitioners be informed accordingly and a report be presented to Full Council for the actions to be noted.

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Peter Barker

Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s)

Southwell and Caunton, Tuxford, Mansfield West, Newark West, Farnsfield and Lowdham, Worksop East, Selston, Rufford, Balderton, Bramcote and Stapleford, Collingham, Mansfield East, Mansfield South.