

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL**RESPONSE TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL ON 26TH JANUARY 2012****Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of responses to the issues raised in petitions presented to the Chairman of the County Council at the Council meeting on 26 January 2012:

- A. Petition opposing the reduced street lighting in Bingham.
- B. Petition supporting the proposal to reduce the speed limit on the A60 in Bunny.
- C. Petition requesting Resident Permit Holders only parking in Spicer's Court, Retford.
- D. Petition regarding broadband access in Teversal.
- E. Petition regarding the proposed closure of Sherwood Industries.
- F. Petition opposing the reduced street lighting in Beckingham.
- G. Petition requesting a speed reduction on the A6117 Outer Ring Road, Mansfield.

A. Petition opposing the reduced street lighting in Bingham**Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways**

1. An 810 signature petition was presented to the 26th January 2012 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Martin Suthers OBE. The petition opposes the reduced street lighting in Bingham.
2. On 26th January Councillor Suthers OBE and I met representatives of the Bingham Town Council and the local community to discuss their concerns.
3. I have agreed that a trial should be undertaken in the St Mary's Road / Abbey Road area of Bingham in which some key lighting at junction node points will be returned to all-night operation. When the trial has been operating for two months it will be evaluated, taking into account the views of the police, the Accident Investigation Unit

COUNCILLOR RICHARD JACKSON
Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

B. Petition supporting the proposal to reduce the speed limit on the A60 in Bunny

Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

4. A petition of 61 signatures was presented to the 26th January 2012 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Reg Adair supporting the proposed speed limit reduction in Bunny village.
5. Since the petition was received I have agreed to extend the speed limit reduction in a northerly direction to start just to the north of Albert Road.
6. The petition asks for the proposed 30mph speed limit to be extended northwards towards the junction with Albert Road and southwards towards the junction with Gotham Road.
7. It is felt that the character of Loughborough Road to the south towards Gotham Road is unsuitable for a lower speed limit of 30mph. The current speed limit is 40mph.
8. I intend to make a final decision after the advertising period ends in March when I will take into consideration the views of the petitioners along with all objections received.

COUNCILLOR RICHARD JACKSON
Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

C. Petition requesting Resident Permit Holders only parking in Spicer's Court, Retford

Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

9. A petition from residents of Spicer's Close was presented to the 26th January 2012 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Michael Quigley MBE. The petition requests that Spicer's Court be given resident only parking status as residents value the ability to be able to park on their own street.
10. This petition was supported by East Midlands Housing Association (EMHA) in a letter dated 18th January 2012. EMHA own and manage 8 of the 15 properties on this small development. The petition is signed by residents of 14 of the properties.
11. In 2008 the County Council received representations from neighbouring premises on the corner of Spicer's Court and Albert Road regarding residents blocking accesses

and displacing staff parking from a supported housing unit. This included a request to provide waiting restrictions in the area. At that time, however, Spicer's Court was a recently built development and the roads had not been adopted by the County Council.

12. EMHA suggest that there have been changes to waiting restrictions on Albert Road in the last 12 months which have exacerbated the problems due to displaced parking. However, there have been no changes to the waiting restrictions for at least 5 years. They also suggest that parking on Spicer's Court is associated with users of a fitness centre on Albert Road and that inconsiderate parking blocks driveways and prevents children from playing in the street.
13. The description by EMHA suggests that the circumstances might meet the policy criteria for residents parking as approved by the County Council on 26th January 2012. It is therefore intended that the Spicer's Court area will be included within the next programme of schemes for preliminary investigation and put forward for possible inclusion in a future year's programme subject to sufficient priority and availability of funding.

COUNCILLOR RICHARD JACKSON
Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

D. Petition regarding broadband access in Teversal

14. A petition consisting of 12 emails was presented to the 26th January 2012 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Jason Zadrozny. The petition was regarding broadband in Teversal.
15. The County Council has approved making available a maximum contribution of £2.15 million through its Capital Programme procedures. This is subject to a £2.1 million contribution from local authority partners.
16. The Nottinghamshire Local Broadband Plan is totally reliant on the local authority partners' contributions, without which the Government's match funding will not be obtained and the Plan will not proceed to the procurement stage. The indicative contributions were originally requested in October 2011 from our local authority partners and were calculated using a formula based on the number of premises in each area that would benefit from the investment.
17. I am pleased to be able to confirm that Ashfield District Council has agreed to provide £70,000 towards the project, which is slightly greater than the amount requested (£68,008). This will enable enhanced broadband speeds in the District over and above the minimum required by the project, and I look forward to seeing new broadband infrastructure being installed in Teversal.

COUNCILLOR KEITH GIRLING
Deputy Cabinet Member for Culture and Community

E. Petition regarding the proposed closure of Sherwood Industries

18. A 986 signature petition was presented to the 26th January 2012 meeting of the County Council by Councillors Joyce Bosnjak and Martin Wright. The petition was opposing the proposed closure of Sherwood Industries
19. There is a separate report later on the agenda titled "Proposal to Change the County Council's Supported Employment Approach and Practice". This report includes the outcomes of the consultation in to the proposed closure of Sherwood Industries, which this petition was included within.

COUNCILLOR KEVIN ROSTANCE
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health

F. Petition opposing the reduced street lighting in Beckingham.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

20. A 33 signature petition was presented to the 26th January 2012 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Liz Yates. The petition opposes the reduced street lighting in Beckingham.
21. I do note the concerns of those residents of Beckingham and Saundby who have signed the petition.
22. We have always said that the energy saving measures would be reviewed in the light of trends in crime and road accident figures.
23. A review will be carried out when six-months data is available. However, as the changes in Beckingham and Saundby were carried out in November 2011, this review is not due for some months.
24. As mentioned elsewhere in this report, a trial is to be undertaken in an area of Bingham in which some key lighting at junction node points will be returned to all-night operation. Depending on the outcome of this trial, the County Council may be able to consider applying the same principles to fine-tune the lighting changes in other areas.

COUNCILLOR RICHARD JACKSON
Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

G. Petition requesting a speed reduction on the A6117 Outer Ring Road, Mansfield

Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

25. A petition of 92 signatures was presented to the County Council on 26th January 2012 by Councillor Martin Wright. The petitioners state that they believe the length of the A6117 Oak Tree Lane in Mansfield between Crown Farm Way and The Links is dangerous and the existing 40mph speed limit should be reduced to 30mph.
26. This length is different in character from most of the A6117 route as it has frontage development on one or both sides.
27. There have been 13 accidents resulting in personal injury within this road length of which 10 occurred at the signal controlled Eakring Road junction.
28. A review of speed limits on all A and B roads in the County is nearing completion in accordance with Government Guidance which includes consideration of accident records. In light of the accident record for Oak Tree Lane, the request for a reduction in the speed limit will be considered as part of this speed limit review and the ongoing investigation into the accidents.

COUNCILLOR RICHARD JACKSON
Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

Reason for Recommendation

29. To update members on the petitions presented to the last meeting of Council

Statutory and Policy Implications

30. 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 contents and proposed actions be noted and that the petitioners are informed accordingly.

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Sara Allmond, Governance Team

Constitutional Comments

31. The contents and proposed actions in this report are for noting only.

Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Bingham, East Mansfield, Misterton, Retford West, Ruddington and Sutton-In-Ashfield North