

Minutes of the Traffic and Transportation Committee meeting held on Wednesday 2 February 2022, in Suite 1, Taverham Village Hall, Sandy Lane, commencing at 2pm, when there were present:

Mrs J Latchford in the Chair	
Mrs L Barrington-Smith	Mrs M Temple
Mrs C Karimi-Ghovanlou	Mrs J Tyler
Mr S Matthews	Mr C Wilson-Town
Mrs P Mooney	

Also present: County Councillor Clancy, PC Wright and Clerk

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Savage and District Councillor Kelly

Declarations of interest – None.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 June 2021 were confirmed as correct by the Meeting and were then signed by the Chairman.

Report items

The timing problem of the traffic lights at the junction of Beech Avenue with Fakenham Road had been reported to Norfolk County Council.

A grit bin had been installed at Wood Hill and the broken bin at Windsor Chase had been replaced.

The “NO HGV” signage had not been installed at Ringland Road. The Clerk was requested to investigate.

A new Highways Engineer for Taverham had been appointed.

To receive a petition from residents of The Street and to agree suitable measures to control traffic

The petition had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. The petition requested several measures to alleviate traffic problems and the following comments were made:

Private residents only signs – The Council had previously commented that it would not support this option as traffic would be diverted down Nightingale Drive and past the Infant School.

Creation of partial paths on Council-owned land – Several residents had, over the years, claimed council land as part of their frontage. The County Council would need to go to court to reclaim the land. There was no space for a footpath from the bend where The Street met Ringland Road. There was no support from the County Council for a footpath.

Speed bumps – It was unlikely that residents would unanimously agree to where speed bumps should be installed on the road due to the noise of vehicles travelling over them. Norfolk County Council often received complaints regarding noise and damage allegedly caused by speed bumps and residents request to have them removed. It was considered that the bend on The Street/Ringland Road was a natural speed calming point and that a speed bump at this location would obstruct driveways.

Pinch points – The committee agreed that pinch-points were unsuitable for installation on The Street and Ringland Road as they would cause problems for refuse lorries and emergency vehicles. Chicanes similar to those on Hall Road in Drayton, and pinchpoints and white lines as found on The Street in Costessey, were also considered but discounted as these features would detract from the heritage of The Street.

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Hedges to be kept cut back – The County Council would write to residents to remind them of their obligations to keep their hedges cut back to their boundary. The Parish Council had a supply of traffic cones that it would be willing to lend to residents to use to cordon off an area to work within when cutting back the hedges.

Streetlights – Residents were encouraged to report outages to the Parish Council to ensure prompt repair.

Speed cameras – It was noted that the new speed cameras on West End in Costessey were educational only and drivers exceeding the speed limit would not be prosecuted.

Police presence – The committee was advised that the police do not routinely check speeds in 20mph limits and zones. Enquiries had been made to restart a Community Speedwatch Scheme but there had been no interest. Members of the previous Speedwatch Scheme had been discouraged from monitoring traffic on The Street as there was no safe place in which to operate.

Flashing speeds signs – There had been a flashing speed sign located permanently at the eastern end of The Street for many years. It was agreed that the Clerk would work with County Councillor Clancy to obtain costs for 2 SAM2 flashing signs, with the intention to install them permanently in The Street. The signs should flash the driver the speed at which they are travelling and to thank them for keeping under the speed limit. County Councillor Clancy offered to fund this work using his member’s budget. Should the costs exceed his budget, the Parish Council would be asked to consider funding the shortfall.

In addition to the installation of speed awareness signs, the Highways Rangers would be requested to clean all the speed limit signage on the streetlights and enquiries would be made with the Highways Engineer with regard to installing red tarmac banding across both ends of The Street and Ringland Road (with the speed limit painted on it) to draw drivers’ attention to the speed limit.

The Clerk would mailshot all the residents of The Street and Ringland Road advising of the actions agreed at this meeting.

The meeting closed at 3.35pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....