

WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 3 OCTOBER 2017

Agenda item 17/109 Local Highways Improvement bid - recommendation of the Highways Committee

The Committee met on 27 September to go through the findings of the recent Highways walkabout (attached below – note Chittering visit not yet undertaken) and agree a recommendation for LHI funding to Council. Here is the link to the County Council's webpage containing further details of the LHI initiative and process: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/improving-your-local-highway/local-highway-improvement-funding/>. WPC can make one bid into this scheme for a maximum £10,000 award of LHI funding.

The Committee's preference was to put forward a scheme that was more easily deliverable than one which might fail to secure CCC Highways approval, or be modified to such an extent that it did not meet the originally perceived need. It therefore proposes the following package:

- Bus stop markings to be placed on the stops on Greenside and High Street (both sides of the road)
- Double yellow lines in the following locations:
 - the corner of St Andrews Hill and the Gault
 - between the Salvation Army Hall and the broken line at the junction with St Andrews Hill
 - outside the Doctors surgery on Bannold Road
- An H access protection marking by the Gault to keep the dropped kerb clear for users

WPC cost contribution

As part of the application process WPC is required to confirm it will contribute a minimum of 10% of the project cost. CCC published costs suggest these sort of schemes cost between £2,000 - £11,000 of which £1,000 relates to the preparation of the required traffic regulation Order. Other costs to be factored in relate to equipment (between £500 - £7,500) and works (£500 - £2,500). Given that the recommendation covers a number of different areas it is possible that the sum involved could be towards the upper threshold of £11,000. Costs will be firmed up during the assessment process but it would be a shame if the bid failed because the PC contribution (10% required) was deemed too low to enable the project to proceed.

For this reason it is proposed that the Council makes a commitment of up to £1,000 towards a successful bid. Monies would come from the 2018-19 budget, so the sum can be taken into account in the setting of next year's budget.

The Committee also recommends that the WPC seeks to engage with County Highways staff to discuss the case for a crossing on Bannold Road. Past experience suggests that there may be technical difficulties agreeing a suitable site. While this is why the Committee does not recommend this as its LHI bid, it would nonetheless recommend that the Council explores the issue with Highways staff with a view to seeking an alternative funding source (i.e non LHI) to implement a solution, if one can be found that is acceptable workable, subject to agreement on cost.

Highways Walkabout 24th August 2017

Those Present: Barbara Bull, Alan Shipp, Michael Williamson, Jane Williamson, Ingrid Tregoing (district councillor) and Anna Bradnam (county councillor)

Apologies from: Peter and Brenda Johnson, David Smart, Myra Gaunt.

The meeting commenced at the village bus stop on the green at 6 pm.

1. It was suggested that it might be an idea to mark the bus stops around the village with lines to prevent parking in the vicinity of the bus stop. It was noted that two vehicles were parked right in front of the bus stop blocking the sit down and exit of passengers. I felt this situation was a hazard for people getting off the bus, especially if you were disabled or using a push chair.
2. Michael Williamson suggested the idea that we should attempt to get a time restriction placed on the lay by opposite the post office/ village Stores. It was suggested a maximum waiting time of 1 hour and no return. This would prevent all day parking of commuters. It was suggested that around the green area might also be considered for restriction of day time parking.
3. We visited the corner of Station Road and noted that two vehicles were parked on the corner across the white lines of the marked junction. It was felt that this was a hazard as vehicles entering Station Road from St Andrews Hill had restricted vision and vehicles were forced out into the centre of the road on the entry to Station Road. *(Note I have witnessed tickets being placed on vehicles parked there before by local PC).* Concern was also raised as to the vehicles that park on the bend on St Andrew hill on the lead up to the zebra crossing. It was also noted that the crossing needs to be re marked as the paint had worn off. This should be completed under warranty.
4. We visited the Bannold Road area to look at its junction with Way Lane and the area around the Doctors Surgery. Several residents have made complaints about parking and the safety of children crossing the road whilst going to school. In addition to this we looked at the issue of turning into Way Lane from both directions. It was felt that it might be an idea to yellow line the junction on both sides of the road from the corner of Way Lane extending to the corner of Cody Road. It is also noted that many parents and children going to school use the doctor's surgery car park as a walk through short cut.
we feel that there is a need for some form of crossing at that junction and that we should look into its possibility especially with the new estates currently being constructed and the extra traffic likely to be using the road within a short space of time.
5. We visited the rear entrance of the school as residents have made complaints about traffic parking and road safety. Several suggestions were made. I noted that the yellow hatchings need re-painting on the school entrance. We cannot reach a view on the issue of yellow lines on the corner of Spurgeon's Avenue. Whilst there are busy periods as children are entering and leaving school, the road is relatively clear at other times of the day. In general residents are not prevented from parking outside their homes. I feel that there may be a case for a 20mph speed limit on Way Lane or

possibly flashing signs as we currently have on the High Street as a future safety feature.

My thanks to all who attended the walk about which I feel was a small step in a positive direction. This draft version of the report is being sent to you as a word document for your further comments, and /or correction. I will amend the final version of the document as required.

Which I will then present to the Parish Council for discussion as an agenda item. (date to be confirmed)

Whilst on the walk we were approached by a resident living on the corner of Way Lane and Bannold Road. She advised us of her concern that the ditch in Cody Road had been partially filled in. this was checked out by the group and it would appear that earth has been piled into the ditch by contractors working along the road. This is the drainage ditch that takes the run off from Cody road. The drainage board have been advised and have produced a statement which was read out at the planning meeting.

The meeting ended at approximately 7.20 pm

Regards

Ivan Gilzean