

BROOKTHORPE WITH WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting with John Kay 6th September 2011

Present Cllr E Hibbert [Chairman] Messes D Mackellar, B Wiggall, P Gaze, Mrs E Brent-Smith, Cllr J Nash [County Councillor] Cllr K Pearson [District Councillor] PS Adrian Smith, Mrs A Rigelsford [Parish Clerk] and 6 parishioners

The Chairman welcomed everyone

Questions for John

Signage for roundabouts

1] Could the roundabout sign for traffic heading west along the A1473 be located further away from the roundabout?

This sign must stay where it is but Mr Kay can ensure that visibility is increased by ensuring that vegetation is cut back. He will investigate an additional sign.

2] Could there be an extra sign for traffic heading east along the A1473 be located near the Four Mile House?

Mr Kay stated that he will investigate this

3] Are there any statistics regarding accident levels before and after the scheme?

This is unclear but Mr Kay stated that he will look into this and forward them on to the Clerk.

Speed levels on both sides of the road have dropped significantly although it must be remembered that the speed limit has also dropped. There appears to be virtually no displacement of traffic.

The traffic speed through the scheme was causing concerns. Mr Kay stated that the Gateway signage, Dragons Teeth were designed to warn drivers to slow down but that he would look into more signage or may be a neon warning sign.

The Parish Council felt that the traffic flow is increasing due to local developments and asked for an other speed survey be carried out. This was agreed to by Mr Kay.

Comments from Parishioner

Increase in noise due to acceleration and deceleration for roundabouts

Increase in road rage witnessed by parishioner

Decrease in road safety and driving standards as people approach the mini roundabouts often damaging bollards witnessed by parishioner

Reduce ease of access to properties on the main road.

Mr Kay stated that these comments were not uncommon in schemes such as this. However the scheme should have made it easier for property owners to access their properties as the majority of traffic should be reduced. Cllr Pearson suggested that

part of the problem was that at both roundabouts drivers on the main road were being asked to give way to traffic from a minor road. Mr Kay suggested that the scheme had been in place for long enough now for drivers to have adapted to this concept. The navigation of the mini roundabout at Upton Lane, when coming down the hill has caused concerns especially in bad weather. Vehicles have hit the curbing here. Mr Kay said that he would look at this.

Other matters

1] Is there any provision for the parish to receive their own supply of grit bags during adverse weather conditions. If so how many and when can they be picked up.

Mr Kay explained that the Clerk need to let him know as soon as is possible how many bags the Parish Council needs. Delivery for this is free. The Parish Council can also purchase two spreaders at a cost of £90 each.

2] The Parish has been campaigning for a footpath along Upton Lane for many years now. Can this be looked at again.

Due to the financial restraints at present this can not be looked into. The cost of such a path would far exceed any contribution that the Parish Council could make.

3] Can Styles Lane be made one way therefore stopping vehicles pulling out onto the A1473, making this junction safer.

This question really needs to be taken up with Harescombe Parish Council as there needs to be significant local support and consultation for action such as this.

Mr Kay stated that he would report back to the Council before the next Parish Council Meeting on October 4th.

The Chairman concluded by stating that generally the traffic calming had been a success but that now some fine tuning is required. He thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm