



**HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS WORKING GROUP**  
**Report to Parish Council 03 March 2020**  
**Lead Cllrs: L Bennett, J Clark, C Hainsworth (Co-ordinator),**

Last report to Council: 04 February 2020

1. Agree a "White Gates" Project to investigate with LCC support for this and details regarding costs
2. Continue to monitor and agree Parish Council's priorities into 2020/2021 with the relevant Principal Authorities (mainly LCC)
3. Continue promoting Community Speedwatch and facilitate recruitment and training for existing and new volunteers

**1. COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH (CSW) – Ringfenced funding: Resolution July 2018**

Roadside Checks

A communication has been received from a resident in Stainby asking why the Parish Council has not stopped the speeding in Stainby particularly from the quarry lorries using Lincolnshire roads. They are unhappy that there have been no roadside checks over the winter months.

- The Clerk has responded confirming that *"The Community Speed Watch (CSW) is run by volunteers most of whom are Councillors. As stated in [reports to Council] there has been a slowdown in activity since November 2019 – due to weather conditions, shorter days, the Christmas and New Year period, sickness and general availability of volunteers. The recent weather conditions and current weather forecast has also hampered the activity of the CSW."*
- In addition, our local PCSO has been made fully aware of the communication to consider the enforcement issues arising.
- It is also possible for any quarry contractors identified to be contacted and a request made as to why they are routing down the B676 and remind them of the requirement to stay within the limits.
- More volunteers are required from the community and training can be organised to ensure that all areas can be subject to the roadside monitoring in line with the guidance from LRSP.

Whilst there have been restrictions due to the reasons provided by the Clerk, two sessions were carried out in February 2020. 26 vehicles exceeding the speed limit at Bridge End, Colsterworth were recorded for letters to be issued by Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership (LRSP).

Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS)


This is still located at Stainby and is continuing to be maintained by a volunteer. Downloading the data will need to be carried out.

"White Gates" Project

As agreed at February 2020 meeting, further investigations have been carried out.

Issue	Update
Process and Permissions (Cllr Hainsworth)	The main issue to consider are the verge widths Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership are in support and their experiences of other Parishes in the County who have installed them is that they are pleased with them and feel they make a difference. Rowan Smith is the contact at Lincolnshire County Council Locations would need to be agreed with LCC and an agreement would be drawn up with them.



Issue	Update
	<p>LCC are allowing these gateways at many villages now across the county. Usual practice is for the Parish Council's to purchase, install, maintain and insure these themselves, all we do is get them to sign some paperwork to say they agree to these terms. No charges from us at the minute for this. If a PC does want to do this then they can get in touch via our web-site and we will send the paperwork out to them.</p> <p>Alternatively, if SKDC are thinking of doing this then they will be the custodians so will also have to prove to LCC they will do the same as the PCs. They will also have to fill in the paperwork.</p> <p>LCC have to agree the locations so will need details of the proposals with photos and a map. They have some basic rules as well about clearances off the edge of the road which would be provided at the same time as the paperwork.</p>
Potential sites (Cllr Brocklebank)	<p><u>Colsterworth</u> Just north of the bus stop there is sufficient space and in the right place just before the Bridge End Cross Roads. However just to the north is the Isaac Newton sign and the weight limit sign. This signals the approach to the built-up area. Nevertheless, gates would reinforce this.</p> <p><u>Woolsthorpe</u> Immediately after the West End fork as the verge at the 30-mph sign is too narrow. At this stand off from the limit signs it would be a good reinforcement as there are no other visual clues until one is established on a downhill stretch into the hamlet.</p> <p><u>Stainby</u> At the west end and very close to the 30 mph sign there appears to be enough room. While there is a tight bend at this point, other than the church there is no warning of what lies beyond the bend. At the east end the situation is messy. Any limit would have to be on the Colsterworth side of the junction and starting to be a bit detached from the village. Need to look at this more closely.</p> <p><u>Gunby</u> Approaching from Sewstern the approach is tight and speed limiting. No room for sign. On the other hand, approaching from North Witham there is plenty of room and just before the junction entering Gunby would be a good location.</p> <p><u>North Witham</u> Approaching from the south there appears to be sufficient space at the 40 mph limit signs. At the north end you need to go some distance before reaching the crossroads so not ideal.</p>
Alternative options (Cllr Ramage)	<p>A suggestion was received regarding stone troughs being placed at village entrances. These are not considered as effective as the “white gates” effect in terms of effecting change on drivers’ behaviours. However, it was considered a good idea to have these (one has been identified free of charge by Cllr Ramage) as a way of locating and planting up around the Parish to enhance the appearance of the Parish and needs further consideration.</p> <p>Cllr Ramage also suggested other signage to draw driver’s attention to the fact it was either school time or school holidays and kids were out playing. They could be used for a limited time at key points of the year in targeted areas (such as near playgrounds) to draw drivers attention that they were in speed restricted area. They are bright, very distinctive and is something different which can be reused.</p> 
Costings and potential funding	Further investigations required including contacting SKDC to see if they are considering these to support Parish Councils.



Issue	Update
(Cllr Bouvie)	There is a suggestion that there may be funding available from the Police Commissioner’s office as this seems to be the case in other areas of the country
Involvement of the Community and Neighbourhood Plan	There would need to be some consultation with the community however, there is reference in the Neighbourhood Plan supporting traffic management priorities and the aspiration for road safety. <i>7.83:” ....in Colsterworth and Stainby heavy good vehicles and speeding traffic on the B676 are a concern. Furthermore, traditional management, such as signing and bollards, may detract from the over-all character of a village and different approaches for restricting traffic will be required.”</i>

**ACTION (Cllrs Hainsworth/Bouvie)**

- **Costings and potential funding streams to be investigated further to report back to Council**
- **Contact SKDC regarding their position to support Councils**
- **Consider with Clerk community consultation via In Touch/Noticeboards/Survey**

**2. FOOTPATHS**

**10 Feb 2020 Footpath No. 9**

Fallen tree obstructing the footpath and into the garden of a residence.  
Now removed.

**20 Feb 2020 Footpath 3**

Work appears to be underway to restore FP3 (reports that this was being well used by a walking group)  
Further issues relating to the wire netting on the fence have been reported on social media.

**3. PRIORITIES for LCC**

Concerns still remain about the significant shift of concerns from the High Street to Bridge End with the move of the Co-op. However, a recent incident on the A1 highlighted the parking and narrow width of the High Street when vehicles and HGVs chose to divert down the High Street.

There are also concerns relating to the high-water levels on the roads due to inadequate drainage systems.

Cllr Adams has undertaken to meet quarterly with PC representative so that he can liaise with Officers at LCC.

	Priority	Current Situation and updates
1	<b>High Street Traffic Calming</b> Details of proposals received for traffic calming on the High Street (particularly at Houghton Lane due to the narrowing of the road and children crossing) have been shared with LCC.	Unlikely that this will be supported due to costs and no evidence of accidents/incidents that would give concern. LCC are still not currently processing traffic calming scheme requests and this would require further investigation by them <b>Update 24 Feb 2020: No further action</b>
2	<b>Bridge End:</b> New issues have arisen with the move of the Co-op; (e.g. parking on verges, lack of pavement, risks of flooding, access issues – particularly for people with poor mobility).	This is an area for further investigation A request has been submitted to Cllr Adams for an on-site meeting with LCC Officer Rowan Smith which we hope will be some time in the last quarter of 2019/2020. A list of issues will be maintained to provide to LCC <b>Update 24 Feb 2020: Still outstanding</b>
5	<b>A1:</b> The Parish Council has consistently raised concerns about the safety of the A1 and this is reported at monthly meetings as the closures and congestion impacts directly on our Parish	The A1 does not fall within the remit of LCC; Highways England are still developing their improvement plan which will eventually be presented for consultation. There are no timescales available. <b>Update 24 Feb 2020: No further communications from Highways England of LCC following its “Highways Summit” end of 2019</b>



Priority	Current Situation and updates
7 <b>Flooding/Drainage/Soakaways:</b> There has become a noticeable deterioration in drainage of surface water, particularly on the B676 (from crossroads to A1)	Continue to monitor and report issues to LCC through standard processes (Fixmystreet) <b>Update 24 Feb 2020: <u>Flooding on A1 access northbound</u></b> LCC response on FixMyStreet: <i>"We are sorry but we are not taking immediate action with this report because the drainage system on this section of road has been cleaned and jetted. This is a soak away system and due to the current high water table the system is slow to empty. Thank you for reporting this matter"</i> Continue monitoring for a long-term solution. <b>Flooding on B676 getting worse during rain.</b>

**4. ISSUES LOG – Traffic and road safety**

- 4.1. **Bollards outside the Co-op**  
Continues to cause concern with no solution put forward although suggestions have been received including placing large stones on the verge.
- 4.2. The number of potholes affecting the Parish continues to be problematic. These will be reported on FixMyStreet which will be managed by a new Contractor from 01 April 2020.
- 4.3. **Grass verges**  
Complaints have been received about parked on grass verges. The Parish Council has no jurisdiction or enforcement powers, so information is being placed in the In Touch providing guidance on reporting an obstruction or dangerous situation to the relevant authorities.
- 4.4. Crossroads sign on B676 entering Colsterworth from Stainby – completely missing now – bare post still in position – reported to FixmyStreet now “under investigation”.
- 4.5. Some hay bales appear to have been left or fallen from a lorry on the verge at the roundabout to the A1 (w/c 17 Feb 2020). This has been reported to FixmyStreet. This is of concern as there have been two previous incidents on the B676 in 2019 involving the transportation of hay bales.

**NORTH WITHAM**

There has been flooding at North Witham but no reports of property damage potentially due to measures taken some years ago by the Environment Agency.



No reports of other road traffic management issues being reported.

**5. A1 ISSUES**

**6.1. Incidents impacting on our area (accidents, delays, tailbacks/diversions) on A1**

(Source: <https://www.newsnow.co.uk/h/UK/Travel+&+Transport/Road/A1>)

Date	Details
21 Feb 2020	A jack-knife lorry is causing delays on the A1 this afternoon (February 21). One lane of the northbound carriageway is shut at Colsterworth and the traffic is backing up towards South Witham.
16 Feb 2020	Flooding has closed the A1 in both directions north of Stamford, at Long Bennington.



<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>
	Diversions are in place to avoid a stretch of the A1 that has been affected by heavy rainfall during Storm Dennis.
13 Feb 2020	A slip road to exit the A1 near Grantham has been closed due to flooding. The road that allows motorists to come off northbound at Colsterworth onto the B6403 was shut just before 2pm
29 Jan 2020	A crash on the A1 southbound near Stamford is causing around five miles of tailbacks. The accident between two vehicles was first reported at around 8.20am on Wednesday morning but it is still causing major problems and long delays
28 Jan 2020	The A1 northbound carriageway is closed between Grantham and Stamford following a crash and fuel spill. Several incidents happened on the stretch between Great Ponton and Empingham Road near Stamford this morning. The AA is reporting a rolled-over truck and fuel spillage which has closed the northbound carriageway between the Rutland Water turn-off and A607 Harlaxton/Melton Mowbray turn-off. Highways England is advising people to plan alternative routes.

**Highways & Footpaths Working Group – 24 Feb 2020**