

From: John Stedman [mailto:j-stedman@btconnect.com]  
Sent: 18 November 2017 20:03  
To: Alastair Adams  
Cc: David Cowan  
Subject: Honeybourne Parish Council matters

Dear Alastair

Honeybourne Parish Council matters

#### Traffic Speed

The Parish Council commissioned a traffic speed monitoring device for three locations in Honeybourne. The data returned from the monitoring helps reinforce the council's concerns over excessive traffic speed on Weston Road and Stratford Road.

Traffic speed was also recorded on Buckle Street but unfortunately the Severn Trent Water main burst and flooded the road for several days while the monitoring was taking place giving a misleading reading.

In considering the data the Parish Council wish to request The Safer Roads Partnership camera van and the police to take enforcement action on Weston Road and Stratford Road at the appropriate times as indicated in the speed data information which attached FYI.

Having Mrs Julia Luff at the November meeting councillors raised the issue of traffic speed with her which will be referred to Nigel Huddleston MP for his comments and help to secure enforcement. I will also send the traffic data set to Nigel Huddleston via Julia as the council raised the speeding problem with him via Julia Luff.

I will be requesting the Police to take enforcement action where they can but would appreciate you making the request to the Safer Roads Partnership camera van to take enforcement action on the Weston Road section of the village.

The Council consider a site for the camera van would be near the Gate Inn car park access.

#### Highway commercial signage

Below is the Draft meeting minute on the signage issue to enable you to have the latest information.

The removal of commercial signs on the public highway – The Lengthsman confirmed no further signs have been removed in the last two months due to controversy over the rights to remove them from private property or on highway sign posts which the owner has gained permission from County Highways to install the signs on highway sign posts. It was agreed to gain confirmation of the alleged permission by making enquiries with County Highways officers.

The owner of Porky's café phoned the Clerk on 10th November stating the Parish Council had removed his advertising sign from the Gate Inn cross roads which was bolted to the Gate Inn railings. Following the Clerk's denial of this he informed the Clerk he will be reporting the theft of this sign to the police and continued to accuse the Parish Council of the theft.

PC Jammie Lee, the local Police Officer, phoned the Clerk on 13th November to inform the council of the accusation made against the council and make enquiries into the signs whereabouts, the Clerk was unable to help the enquires as no knowledge of the signs was known by the council and no instruction had been given to anyone for its removal.

At the meeting, a councillor confirmed he had noted that the sign on the Gate Inn railings was stood on the verge for several days before it went missing, it was clearly not fixed to the railings but leaning against them at an angle. No further information was available from the council.

Following this report, the council were informed that there are two further Porky's signs attached to highway signage post at the Gate Inn cross roads. The owner of Porky's insists these signs are there with the consent of the County Highways officers and therefore legally installed

The Parish Council would like confirmation of this claim, and ask if you can make enquiries with the appropriate officers to substantiate the claim that the signs have highway's consent.

If the consent was not given the Parish Council requests the signs are removed forthwith by the County Highways officers

We look forward to your reports on these matter

Regards

John Stedman

Clerk to Honeybourne Parish Council

Tel 01789 773 999

Morning John & David

Traffic Speed

Safer Road partnerships specifically choose their location for the mobile speed camera based on their criteria, so I doubt whether they will move from this location, but I will ask.

Just a reminder, it has taken me several years of persistence to convince Safer Road Partnership to carry out speed checks in Honeybourne, and it is only since August 2017 they have been in the village. So it is early days, and I think the Parish Council should give it some time to see the benefits. As you know they are issuing up to 24 tickets per weekly session so people will soon get the message.

Likewise, I am very pleased that our new PC Jamie Lee has carried out speed checks with his 2 CSO's around the area. We never achieved this with PC Julie De Paris. So I regularly thank him for his help in this matter. I do believe we have the best level of speed enforcement in Honeybourne than we have ever had.

And Honeybourne has had tremendous amount of the extra traffic calming measures that

Worcestershire County Council have installed in the last 3 years:-

1. On the south entrance into the village -with the solar powered flashing sign, the extension of the speed limit, the dragons teeth, the entrance gates, the improved signage, the central bollards, and the cutting of the trees and bushes on the verge to improve the visibility of the entrance into the village
2. On the north entrance into the village – the extension of the speed limit, the installation of the traffic lights and new signage
3. On the west side of the village – the extension of the speed limit and the installation of new signage and dragons teeth

Speeding is an issue in many of my villages, but more has been achieved in Honeybourne to try and reduce speeding than any other. If you are concerned about it there are things the Parish Council can do themselves. One thing I asked you to do was to install flower containers at each entrance to re-inforce to drivers that a village is being entered. I even got Ringways to supply these to you free of charge. Unfortunately they were never used as intended. Most of my other villages now have entrance flower beds and most people do believe they help. There are other things the Parish Council can do – speak to other parish councils for ideas. In Cleeve Prior they organised a poster campaign competition where children drew posters to remind drivers to slow down in their village, and these were then used

throughout the village on lamp posts. Other villages have used the Wheelie bin “Slow down” signs very effectively. So over to you to consider what you can do as a parish council.

#### Highway commercial signage

The Highways Inspector has removed the signs on the highways posts as requested by the Parish Council. And yes, following this, I have had calls from Brett from Porkys asking for the sign that was supposedly on the Gate railings to be returned, and I have asked the Highways Inspector to return it. However, I have also warned Brett that if he re-erects the signs on Highways property or land, then a notice will be served on him. He never had any consent from Highways. And I have advised him that signage is subject to planning and if he wants to permanently erect signs, then he must apply for planning via Wychavon District Council.

Kind regards

Alastair Adams

County Councillor – Worcestershire County Council - Littletons  
& District Councillor – Wychavon District Council - Honeybourne & Pebworth

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