

The Minutes of Lindridge Parish Council Annual Meeting
Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 7.00pm at Lindridge Parish Hall, Eardiston

Present: Cllr Mrs A Winwood, Cllr S Workman, Cllr N J Benbow, Cllr D Evans, Cllr T Lowe, Cllr K Pardoe, Cllr H Williams

In Attendance: Cllr C Dell, PC Mark Broughton, PCSO Vanessa Snape, Mr Alan Bush, Mr Stuart Coull, Mr Nick Fairbrother, Ms Gill Hazeldine, Ms Anne De Laurier, Ms Sonia Rainbird, Mr Nicholas Swift, Ms Lauren Thompson, Mr Ian Vanes, Mr Neil Vanes.

PUBLIC MEMBERS SESSION

10 residents of Eardiston attended to raise with the Parish Council their concerns about the danger to pedestrians of traffic speeding through the village. In response to initial comments, Cllrs Winwood and Workman described the work which had been carried out by the Parish Council over the last two years. White gates had been installed at both ends of the village to make it clear to motorists that they were entering a village and should expect to encounter traffic hazards. A VAS unit had been purchased (paid for out of the Parish Council's funds) and was now installed. The Safer Roads Partnership had positioned a camera van in the village periodically. To general disbelief, it was explained that SRP had now removed the camera van from Eardiston because the average traffic speed was over 40 mph (in the 30 mph limit). WCC Highways have been prepared to advise and many hours have been spent in discussion with their staff. The Parish Council has now implemented all the safety measures which WCC has proposed, but WCC itself is not prepared to take any practical action to make traffic safer. As a response to the lack of action from WCC, the Parish Council has recently formed an action group together with other parish councils affected by speeding on the A443.

Cllr Winwood explained that WCC would not permit any narrowing of the carriageway in Eardiston as the A443 was a main road. This was challenged by the meeting - examples of this being done in other counties eg A361 in Warwickshire and Northamptonshire and A44 in Herefordshire were mentioned.

Several examples of dangerous driving were described. In response to a question from Ms De Laurier, it was confirmed that no record was maintained of near misses, there being no means of capturing the data. Danger to children from traffic was emphasised by Ms Thompson and Ms Rainbird raised the particular difficulties of the disabled.

In response to a question from Ms De Laurier, PC Broughton confirmed that police would attend Eardiston with a hand-held speed camera.

Cllr Winwood thanked so many residents for having taken the time to attend and to make their feelings known to the Parish Council. It was suggested that residents should email the Parish Clerk with their specific concerns and they would be passed on to WCC Highways. Alternatively, the more direct contact received by County Councillors and MPs from members of the public the better the chances of action.

The public session of the meeting closed at 7.40 pm.