

Caythorpe and Frieston Parish Council

Minutes from Traffic Congestion Meeting held on 18th January 2017

Present:	Parish Councillors:	G Ashcroft (Chairman) A Roberts
	Lincolnshire CC	R Davies P Wood
	SKDC	B Sampson
	Parishioner	G Grant
	Parish Clerk:	Mr M. Stevens

1.			Apologies for Absence. The meeting was attended by all those persons invited	<u>Action</u>
2.			Introduction and Purpose of Meeting Cllr. Ashcroft opened the meeting and introduced the attendees. He then went on to say that the purpose of the meeting was to review the areas as outlined in recent communication from Cllr. Nelson and Cllr. Davies to see if there had been any change of view since writing or a change to any funding policy for projects associated with Traffic Congestion and Road Improvements. Secondly the meeting would tour the sites in questions, namely the High Street and the rear entrance of the School in Back Lane.	
3.			Summary of Open Discussion	
	3.1		Cllr. Davies stated that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The introduction of Traffic Wardens to the High Street could be a feasible option. He stated that there are 22 Traffic Wardens that are assigned to smaller communities and are very effective as they attend assigned areas unannounced. ii. Traffic Warden introduction would be in conjunction with the adding of yellow lines, however, it needed to be realised that these are unfavourable to the local resident, and the extra space created opens the opportunity for speeding in the area. iii. LCC Highways are not responsible for the funding of school staff car parking areas, the provision of adequate staff parking is the responsibility of the school, this issue needed to be addressed directly with the School Authorities. iv. LCC would be prepared to support the Parish Council to encourage the School to look at providing additional space for staff parking. v. LCC Highways could not afford the cost of providing a drop off and parking area on the verge adjacent to the school playing field on back lane. vi. CFPC could look at option for utilising the Mobile CCTV service that could monitor for example, bad habits at school entrances and LCC had the power to issue fines for inappropriate behaviour. 	
	3.2		Cllr. Sampson stated that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Insufficient thought had gone into the planning of the school car park. Provision had been made for only 4 car spaces and there is wasted space for many more. ii. Asked for clarification on who owned the verge at the rear of the school. Cllr. Davies responded that it was likely to be owned by the Highways Agency. iii. Cllr Davies also responded that the cost for improvement and additional parking on Back Lane is likely to be in excess of 35K. This estimation is based on the other 50 schools he had visited that have similar parking issues. 	

		iv. Cllr Sampson stated that he could not accept that the LCC ‘cannot afford’.	
3.3		Cllr. Ashcroft stated that to do nothing was ‘waiting for an accident to happen’ which is totally unacceptable.	
3.4		Parishioner GG stated that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. He had undertaken a Parish consultation exercise with the School Deputy Head ii. A working group that involved pupils at the school looked at concerns that they had about local traffic problems and results were recorded as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. road safety b. speeding c. dangers crossing the road d. double parking e. need for a drop off zone at the rear of the school iii. Posters were produced by the children to summarise their views, which expressed their road safety concerns. iv. GG had agreed to revisit the school children to provide a response to the concerns they had raised. v. GG invited Cllr Davies to attend this meeting. <p>It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged and Cllr Davies agreed to attend. Date and timing to be determined based on the outcome of subsequent discussions and in-line with decisions made.</p>	GG/GA
3.5		Cllr Davies stated that all schools had a travel plan and asked if CFPC had seen the School’s plan. It is understood that the travel plan will give advice for parents on travelling and dropping off children for school.	
3.6		Cllr Wood asked if the Highways would allow the proposed addition of a drop off zone or if they would raise objections. Cllr Davies implied that that they would probably allow and have no objections to the plan.	
3.7		Cllr Roberts reminded the meeting that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. There had been a massive change to the demographics of the village in recent years, namely <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. move from one to two car families b. older aged people to younger families ii. That a herringbone type parking zone on Back Lane would be a good solution. iii. Lack of car-parking facilities for school staff had led to bad parking in the High Street. 	
3.8		Cllr Davies stated that in his experience and using Skillington as an example that where money had been invested in providing additional car parking space it ended up still not being used. MS replied that in Caythorpe this would not be the case and currently despite the uneven muddy and flooded conditions at the rear of the school a great number of parents were using the rear of school for picking up their children and would continue to do so, with even more taking up the opportunity if the area was improved. This statement was further endorsed when the areas was visited by the group later.	
3.9		Cllr Ashcroft reiterated the point made in Chairman Nelson’s original letter, that that in an effort to help to acquire a favourable outcome to this project, the Parish Council do have some modest funds which they would be willing to contribute to an agreed scheme.	
3.10		Cllr Davies suggested that his experience showed that the introduction of speed bumps did not work and caused noise problems for nearby residents.	
3.11		Cllr Ashcroft asked if a chicane system could be used in the narrower parts of the High Street to overcome bad parking. Cllr Davies agreed that this could be a viable solution but would be a series of white lines rather than a hard outpost area	
4.		Site Visit and Walkabout The group firstly assembled at the rear of the school and then later at various positions on the High Street.	
4.1		Cllr Davies agreed that outline estimated costs could be obtained for the proposed drop off and herringbone parking area adjacent to the rear of the	

		school on Back Lane The size of the area proposed was approximately 100mtrs x 5mtrs. It was agreed that Cllr Wood would raise the subject at his scheduled Highways meeting with Rowan Smith and Mark Heaton.	PW
	4.2	Parishioner GG gave the opinion that any new area would not only benefit the parents for parking and drop off of pupils but would also be useful for other visitors to the school.	
	4.3	Cllr Davies agreed that he would attend a meeting with the school to discuss staff parking issues with representatives from the Parish Council. Cllr Ashcroft agreed to arrange this meeting having obtained suitable dates from potential attendees.	GA
	4.4	Cllr Roberts confirmed that the wasted area of space within the school staff park is 10mtrs x 6mtrs and if retrospectively developed could provide parking spaces for at least another 4 vehicles.	
	4.5	Cllr Davies agreed that to discourage parking in a dangerous narrow area on the High Street (between 24 High street and entrance to Eastcliffe Square) a white hatching chicane system could be the simplest solution.	
	4.6	Cllr Roberts asked for Cllr Davies opinion about the overhanging hedge near to Eastcliffe Square. Cllr Davies agreed that it was a highway obstruction, but that the responsibility for cutting it back lay with SKDC and/or the tenant. However, if SKDC could not arrange for the work to be completed LCC would be forced to complete the work at a cost to SKDC. PW/BS agreed to take the matter forward through SKDC.	BS/PW
5.		<p>Way Forward</p> <p>The following is a summary of the initial steps identified to move forward on the traffic congestion problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. CFPC to arrange meeting with School authorities to discuss retrospective development to provide additional staff parking, in school parking area and discuss school travel plan.. Meeting to be attended by Cllr Davis. ii. Outline cost estimates to be sought for providing drop off and parking area on Back Lane as basis for further feasibility discussions between LCC and CFPC. iii. CFPC to review proposed options for introducing parking restrictions, including yellow lines, utilising the Mobile CCTV service and measures to discourage parking between 24 High Street and Eastcliffe square. 	
6.		<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be advised as investigations are progressed and as the need for additional discussion is identified.</p>	