

REPORT AGENDA ITEM 9

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL **HIGHWAY FORUM FOR HARBOROUGH**

15th SEPTEMBER 2010

RESPONSE TO PETITION - FOR A FOOTPATH – **ULLESTHORPE VILLAGE TO ULLESTHORPE GARDEN** **CENTRE AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF A** **50 MPH LIMIT**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND **TRANSPORT**

Purpose of Report

1. To advise Members of the position following the presentation of this petition to the Highway Forum on the 10th March 2010.

Background

2. A petition with 155 signatures was presented to the forum on behalf of Mr & Mrs C. D. Brinklow on the 10th March 2010. The petition stated

‘We the undersigned call on the minister responsible for Roads and Road Safety to install a pedestrian footpath and enforce a 50 MPH limit on the road that connects Ullesthorpe village to the Ullesthorpe Garden Centre; to prevent more accidents; injuries and deaths along this very dangerous stretch of road’
3. Following receipt of the petition, investigations were carried out with regard to the accident record for this length of road, the feasibility and estimated cost of providing such a footpath.
4. All requests for new footpaths are assessed and evaluated and prioritised on an individual basis. This priority is based on the amount of existing and predicted usage of the footpath, the accident records for the length of road and the level of funding available.
5. From the authority’s accident records, there has been one serious injury accident in the last five years in 2008. It is also considered that the only destination for walkers using this footpath would be the garden centre as the footpath would not link to any other footpaths. Therefore the level of use this footpath would generate would be low and therefore these factors would mean a low position on the priority list.

- 6 In addition, the estimated cost of this footpath is £95,000 and within the present budgetary constraints it would not be possible to fund the scheme.
7. The possible provision of a 50 mph limit is ordinarily assessed as part of the RIOT process. However, Members will be aware of the suspension of any further assessments. Given the number of requests (approximately 200) and with the future of RIOT being informed by the development of LTP3, it was considered appropriate to suspend any further assessments until the completion of LTP3 in April.

Conclusion

8. Given the factors highlighted in this report, it is not possible to progress either the provision of the footpath or the consideration of a 50mph limit within the present programme.

Recommendation

9. It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

Equal Opportunities Implications

10. There are no equal opportunity implications arising from this report.

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