

Jim Atack

From: Jim Atack <jim.atack@gmail.com>
Sent: 26 August 2021 15:46
To: 'Cllr Lucy Stephenson'
Cc: 'Carole Brown'; chris.bichard100@gmail.com; 'Cllr E Baines'; 'Cllr William Cross'
Subject: RE: Parish Council Meeting - 19th July 2021

Dear Lucy,

Thank you for your email, which I have been trying to unpick.

The four-week survey run by Braunston Parish Council clearly demonstrates that speeds along the Knossington Road are dangerous to our residents; in which case, measures should be taken to reduce those speeds. However, RCC has consistently failed to accept this, and denies that there is a problem whilst putting a moratorium on any further RCC-led surveys.

There are clearly measures that could be taken; they are detailed in the National Policy, which has been adopted by RCC. In this context, we simply cannot understand that [‘the opinion of both our RCC highways engineer and the police was that there was nothing further in terms of traffic calming that would be appropriate’](#)

Other Rutland villages have benefitted from such traffic calming measures, without first sustaining the deaths, or serious injuries, that you propose would unlock the RCC coffers, or at least earn the approval of PC-funded schemes.

At our meeting we recorded several actions which you would take back to the RCC and the police:

1. Confirm that it is RCC policy not to accept our ‘third party’ speed survey results
2. Re-address the 40mph buffer zone proposal with Police and Highway Engineers
3. Investigate the ‘suitability’ of ‘entry’ gates at the village limits
4. Confirm when the Oakham Rd works would be undertaken

The Braunston Parish Council would very much appreciate specific answers to these issues, which were discussed at our meeting.

Best regards,

Jim Atack
Braunston Parish Councillor

From: Cllr Lucy Stephenson <LStephenson@Rutland.gov.uk>
Sent: 04 August 2021 06:31
To: Jim Atack <jim.atack@gmail.com>; Murphy, Brian <brian.murphy2@tarmac.com>
Cc: Carole Brown <clerk.braunston@gmail.com>; chris.bichard100@gmail.com; Cllr E Baines <EBaines@rutland.gov.uk>; Cllr William Cross <WCross@rutland.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Parish Council Meeting - 19th July 2021

Good morning,

Firstly, it was a pleasure to come to your Parish Council meeting – I always find it beneficial to engage in person.

In terms of the speed survey:

- 1) I have asked for the original survey to be logged on our system as we would with any incidents that a PC has recorded.
- 2) As per what I said in the meeting: regardless of whether or not the data gathered is 'used' in whatever sense you wish to take that word, the opinion of both our RCC highways engineer and the police was that there was nothing further in terms of traffic calming that would be appropriate / put in place.
- 3) I have of course raised your suggestions with the Head of Highways and I am awaiting a response but I suspect the position will be the same: individual PCs paying for their own speed surveys to then be submitted to the team will not be a solution – if every PC did this then there really would be an issue with managing a works programme including the use of resource – however frustrating from the perspective of an individual parish this would not be the best approach for the county as a whole. The resources are finite and really must be focussed on areas of greatest priority: sites of actual accidents, new concerns that have come in and have an equal right to be reviewed / investigated as has happened with Braunston.

In terms of other items raised:

- 1) Speed indicator devices (SIDs) – I have reiterated Braunston's desire for one of these – officers are fully aware and continue to work up a county wide programme.
- 2) Gateways: I have liaised with both the Head of Highways and the Tarmac contract manager: Brian Murphy brian.murphy2@tarmac.com – Brian is very happy for Braunston to liaise with him about the possibility of Tarmac being contracted at the PC's cost to look at installing gates. From an RCC perspective this would be the best approach as Tarmac carries out our works on the highway.

I have sent through a photo of an incident that ironically had happened in a different part of the village on the evening of our meeting – a car had missed a corner and driven into the verge; number plate left and bits of debris but clearly no need for blue light – can I check that Carole has received this as it provided an excellent example of an incident that could be logged by the PC with transportadmin@rutland.gov.uk

With best wishes,

Lucy

From: Jim Atack <jim.atack@gmail.com>

Sent: 27 July 2021 15:29

To: Cllr Lucy Stephenson <LStephenson@Rutland.gov.uk>

Cc: Carole Brown <clerk.braunston@gmail.com>; chris.bichard100@gmail.com; Cllr E Baines <EBaines@rutland.gov.uk>; Cllr William Cross <WCross@rutland.gov.uk>

Subject: Parish Council Meeting - 19th July 2021

Dear Councillor Stephenson,

Our thanks again for coming along to our meeting to discuss traffic calming in Braunston, and for keeping your calm with our emotionally engaged audience.

Clearly, if RCC does not believe that traffic speeds are excessive, it is not unreasonable to take no action.

However, I have reflected on the meeting and our failure to convince RCC that Braunston traffic speeds are dangerous. In the PC's opinion this is because RCC will neither re-survey the Knossington Road speeds (after its questionable November 2019 survey), nor accept the results of our recent survey.

Possible solutions to the impasse are:

Acceptance of the Braunston Parish Council survey - you undertook to review why it was not accepted

Employment of an approved party to conduct a further survey

We have consulted with David McCandless of the Community Roadwatch organisation. David has carried out speed surveys, on behalf of many clients, and would be happy to conduct a survey in Braunston, at our cost; what do you think?

As a rejoinder on Community Speedwatch, which you raised, I have met with Peter Icke, our local PC today, and will engage with him on his plans to re-introduce a speedwatch programme after the pandemic.

On this theme, I see that an improved version of a single-man, roadside hand-held camera is now available and has been trialled by Warwickshire to catch errant motorists. This does away with the need for a vast administration burden every time a PC writes a ticket: <https://www.lasertech.com/TruCAM-II-Speed-Enforcement-Laser.aspx> .

I see that it's been used in Northumbria and Warwickshire:
<https://www.coventrytelegraph.net/news/coventry-news/new-next-gen-speed-cameras-18519001>

Finally, you raised the potential for fitting a data-recording SID in Braunston; the PC is happy to contribute toward a data-collecting SID, and considers that it should replace the long-defunct SID in Knossington Road. This should greatly reduce RCC's installation costs; would you please let us know whether this can be acquired ASAP?

Best regards,

Jim

Rutland County Council
Customer Service Centre: 01572 722 577

Visitor Parking Information & Map: http://www.rutland.gov.uk/customer_services/visitor_parking.aspx
Email Enquiries: enquiries@rutland.gov.uk
Council Website: <http://www.rutland.gov.uk>
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