**Loxley Village**

**Traffic Issues Group**

**Notes from Meeting – Wednesday 20th July 2016**

Present:

Andrew Steventon (Shipston Police Community Support), Maria Garcia, Will Freeman, Ken Osborne, Stuart Birch, Glynn Jones, David Brazendale.

The purpose of the meeting was to follow up the first Group meeting to confirm progress and identify any further actions which could be undertaken by the group.

We were again very pleased to have the support of Shipston Community Police Support team with Andy Steventon ( who has primarily a Traffic priority role within the team) and he was able to provide a number of valuable points as to what could and couldn’t be done to alleviate the issues ( which had been reinforced by feedback of concerns from the NDP questionnaire)

Speeding

Following Emma Turner’s support with speed checks in the village Andy confirmed that resources are now being used for other villages (eg Armscote ) in the area on a rota basis ( although Emma will continue to visit the school whenever possible to raise safety awareness with the children)

As previously noted however the village is encouraged to run a diy Community Speed Aware check using a speed gun and fluorescent jackets on loan from the Police – (although sometimes unpopular, this scheme has a proven strong deterrent effect in surrounding villages.) Incidentally Andy advised that other communities had found most speeding is by locals aware of road layouts etc and that there had been a number caught 3 times – at which prosecution is possible.

The necessary vetting form is now much simplified to clear and approve volunteers to undertake the checks. A working speed gun is not currently available but will be repaired. Ken noted that previously volunteers were not readily available, with the village having strongly identified speeding as their main concern we hope more will come forward to volunteer.

***Action***

* Liase with Police to identify when speed gun might be available (Emma has list)

( David, Ken)

* Identify volunteers and timing following the Police checks ( David, Ken, Glynn via circulated minutes, Parish notice board, NDP AOB notes etc}

Physical/Geographical constraints and markings with the village roads and boundaries.

Andy was able to provide a definitive guide on measures which had previously been discussed as follows:-

Chicanes/ physical restrictions traffic lights, other.

.Although these are in place in other villages Loxley ‘is as it is’ and it is not feasible to install any specific road engineering, traffic lights or other restraints as these would have to be endorsed by the police and the highways department supported by a full record of accident data in the vicinity. This mandatory requirement precludes any local actions even if the financial resources were available.

Parking

Andy confirmed that there are no ‘no parking’ areas within the village and that tickets for obstructive parking are now only issued where a complaint has been made. Ideally this would be supported by on board camera evidence ( available at reasonable cost from Halfords). Although a number of villagers have had near ‘head on accidents due to being forced to drive facing oncoming traffic it seems the police do not have sufficient grounds to prosecute at this point ( this is a problem in many local villagers apparently)

However the group agreed not to consider marking out any parking spaces in the area so as not to encourage parking on the road.

Andy did suggest however that the Zig Zag markings by the school could be extended – this would meet Matthew’s need for a clear view – particularly for when children and parents cross the road.

Maria advised that despite the offer of parking at the pub a number of parents still park on the road causing danger.

***Action***

* Review with school extention of zig zag lines to demarcate safe area for children to cross ( presumably parking on these is legally enforceable as an offence?)

(Glynn, Ken, Matthew)

* Matthew to issue a further note to parents stressing the risks of parking on the road to collect children when the pub carpark has been made available

( Matthew, Maria)

Weight Limit

Further to previous notes there is ongoing pressure to provide fully compliant weight limit signage on all entrances to the village.

 Andy advised however that it was still a problem to prosecute due to the need for a local public weighbridge and a fully trained Police Officer. It was noted that the Bridge at Bidford had been hit 4 times by HGVs transgressing the limit there and no successful prosecutions had taken place. However there were actions that could be taken

***Action***

* Parish Council to pursue Warwickshire Highways to correct restriction signage

( Glynn, Ken)

* Sat Navs often do not show weight restrictions on route guidance, Andy suggested we write to Garmin and TomTom asking them to identify Loxley as not suitable for HGVs ( David to provide e-mail details – all to write advising Sat Nav providers no through route for HGVs)
* An approach be made to Loxley Distribution Depot ( and possibly Miller Homes and Persimmon) to put a notice up advising delivery drivers of the restriction

( David, Ken, Glynn)

* Finally despite the difficulties Andy stated full support for a trial prosecution, not withstanding incorrect signage. This would be dependent on ‘a perfect day’ with a vehicle stopped within the village boundary etc etc ( needs observation, recording and set up – suggestions please!)

Teacher Parking

Maria advised there is good progress with provision for teacher parking. A number of local people have offered schooltime parking, also appreciating the security aspects. In September 4 places will be available and at this point no further action is identified.

Lengthman scheme.

Although the turning out of Blue Lane is the responsibility of the council and is normally cut down regularly – thanks Ken ( perhaps not soon enough for a Lotus) there are now 2 areas where support would be welcomed

1/ The Pinch point by the Church where the sign is becoming obscured

2/ The new illuminated limit sign by the Buckinghams is also becoming difficult to see due to trees and bushes

***Action***

David to advise Darryl that we would very much appreciate maintenance of these areas to support road safety issues

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place during the Autumn quarter but in the meantime would all people down for any actions listed please advise me of progress and I will issue interim reports ( including my own actions of course(!)

Thanks for attending and Best Regards

David