

Drinkstone Parish Council, Highways

Report to the Annual Parish Meeting Dated 6 June 2022. Agenda Item; Councillor portfolios

OVERVIEW AND UPDATE SINCE THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.

SIDs

The Parish Council now deploys two Speed Indication Displays, which are rotated between 4 posts in the village. Since the arrival of the SIDs they have been in operation 24/7/365.

The SIDs act to remind motorists of the speed limit should they exceed it, and/or thank motorists who drive within it. In addition the SIDs capture statistics such as volume of traffic, time of day and average and maximum speeds.

I would be pleased to answer any questions parishioners may have about the SID locations or potential for solar power etc.

Rail Painting

The Parish Council organised a group of volunteers to repaint the railings near Blacksmith's Corner and Chapel Lane. In addition we cleared a significant amount of debris that was blocking the gutter drains near Blacksmith's corner. Remaining on our To-Do List is repairing the rotten wooden rail on the narrow bridge near The Old Rectory, then these too will be painted. Our thanks go to all the volunteers who made that possible.

Potholes

Potholes are a regular concern and these are frequently reported to Suffolk CC Highways. Suffolk take a view on repairing based upon the size of the potholes, and with time we are judging when best to report them.

Trees and Hedges

Local landowners have been especially receptive and helpful when we have received comments about overgrown hedges adjacent to the highway. Our thanks to all landowners and householders who have helped maintain a safe and attractive highway boundary.

Signage

The Parish Council was pleased to facilitate the installation of a road name sign on Hill Farm Lane. We have also voluntarily repaired some vandalised 30mph repeater signs, and have directed essential repairs to the Rattlesden Road Give Way Sign and Park Road Name Sign, both of which were struck by vehicles.

Flooding

The Parish Council has gained support from Suffolk County Council to include clearing the sump drain on Park Road (between Stone Cottage and Whitefield House) in their regular maintenance programme. At risk of tempting fate, this stretch of road has not experienced a significant or prolonged flood since.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Monitoring and reporting of potholes and other damage to the highways infrastructure will continue. This includes repainting the white lines at Blacksmith's Corner, Rattlesden Road and Park Road (Suffolk recently said they were not sufficiently worn out to warrant repainting just yet).

(Not wishing the summer away...) the grit bins will be checked as we enter the winter months.

The repair and painting of the wooden rails (bridge near The Old Rectory) is on the To-Do list.

We will work with Suffolk Highways to add 30mph roundels painted in white on the tarmac at each of Gedding Road, Beyton Road and Woolpit Road.

We have applied for a grant to finance the installation of welcome gates ("Welcome to Drinkstone, Please Drive Carefully") at Woolpit Road and Rattlesden Road.

Prepared by Cllr Paul Selvey