

Drinkstone Parish Council, Highways

Report to the Ordinary Meeting Dated 6 Dec 2021

Agenda Item; Councillor portfolios

General

There are no issues recorded on the Suffolk Highways reporting website this month.

Suffolk CC reporting can be found at www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk

Grit bins

All 7 grit bins have been inspected ready for the winter months. All OK.

Street Signs

The damaged Give Way sign at the bottom of Rattlesden Road has been replaced by Suffolk CC.

The damaged Park Road street sign has been reinstated by MSDC.

The damaged 30mph repeater signs between Rookery Farm and the Sub-Station have been reinstated by volunteers from Drinkstone Parish Council.

SID (Speed Indication Display)

The new SID has arrived but has not yet been configured. This will be done shortly.

30mph repeater signs

A suggestion was made to relocate a 30mph repeater from a location where it is not prominent to one of the new SID posts.

Rather than interfere with these signs which belong to Suffolk CC, we have investigated buying additional repeater signs. These would cost in the region of £15 to £20 each depending on the quantity bought.

There are approximately 9 posts in the village which could accommodate 30mph repeater signs.

Suffolk CC have given permission for DPC to install repeater signs onto Suffolk CC posts provided we adhere to the Highways regulations in terms of size and quality of sign.

Proposal:- That Drinkstone Parish Council approves a budget of £360 maximum (not including VAT) for the purchase of 30mph repeaters to be installed by volunteers.

Welcome Gates

We have investigated the possibility of installing welcome gates at the village entrances both by way of aesthetic improvement and also to reinforce the transition into a 30mph zone. Unfortunately recent changes in Highways' requirements mean that wooden gates are no longer acceptable, and PVC is required, which are considerably more expensive. Furthermore, assuming the land on which they are intended to be sited is Suffolk CC Highways, supply and installation would have to be arranged (via our County Councillor) with Suffolk County Council.

The process is thus....

1. PC to contact County Councillor, who would raise the issue with Suffolk CC.
2. Suffolk CC would identify locations and style required and LHB (Local Highways Budget) Team who would provide estimated cost and a design.
3. Funds would come from our County Councillors LHB with top-up from PC

Alternatively the PC could approach Suffolk CC Professional Services Dept. but this is a "markedly slower process".

Police Speed Enforcement

We have contacted Suffolk Police requesting some speed enforcement patrols and have offered data captured by our SID. This has been passed to the enforcement team who will deploy their own traffic survey equipment and survey the village for suitable sites. The Police Community Engagement Officer has informally suggested that Drinkstone is unlikely to be as high a priority for enforcement as other areas.

Prepared by Cllr Paul Selvey