

# Drinkstone Parish Council, Highways

Report to the Ordinary Meeting Dated 7 March 2022.

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](http://www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk)

## Flooding

I am particularly pleased to report that we have not had any serious flooding on Park Road (near Stone Cottage) this winter (touch wood). Residents may have noticed that we have had a significant amount of rain in the latter part of February and this is evident in the overflow from Drinkstone Lake (also on Park Road).

It would appear that the preventative maintenance work undertaken by Suffolk CC Highways has made a considerable improvement to the problem near Stone Cottage.

## Hedges and trees in proximity to Highways

Following requests from the public I contacted both Mr Paul Thurlow, who farms adjacent to Park Road and to Hans Seiffer who owns a field adjacent to Rattlesden Road.

Both of these hedges have now been cut.

## SID (Speed Indication Display)

I have fitted 2 of the 4 back to back brackets so we have flexibility to face SID in either direction. One unexpected point to note is that the battery access door is now further away from the carriageway, which means finding a firm footing on the slope of the ditch.

## Speed restriction sign (Hill Farm Lane)

Following our second request Suffolk CC Highways have reinstated the toppled speed restriction sign at the junction of The Street and Hill Farm Lane. They did not however reinstate the toppled speed repeater post which is about 20m away (north of the junction) citing that "under current Traffic Signs Regulations repeaters are no longer required". Perhaps as a council we may elect to reinstate this ourselves? I believe the post is serviceable (once reinstated) but will require the repeater signage as this has disappeared.

## Welcome Gates

Having surveyed all four potential sites in more detail I have concluded that local conditions on Beyton Road do not allow much scope to install a welcome gate, therefore I propose we park this for the time being.

The existing signage on Gedding Road is already quite impressive in size, quality and condition. The sign also includes the speed limit and a "please drive carefully" message. This could be enhanced by the addition of an ornamental picket fence beneath the existing sign. I have requested a quotation for same.

The existing welcome signs at Woolpit Road and Drinkstone Road are very basic and would benefit from being replaced and could accommodate new 4ft (1200mm) wide gates.

We have submitted a grant application for £2900 to Penny Otton hopefully to be awarded from the Mid Suffolk Locality Fund.

**Prepared by Cllr Paul Selvey**