

Drinkstone Parish Council, Highways

Report to the Annual Parish Meeting Dated 2 Oct 2023. Agenda Item; Councillor portfolios

General

At the time of writing there are three open Highway's issue on Suffolk County Councils reporting tool for Drinkstone, all raised by me.

I only expect one to be dealt with, namely the damaged Give Way Sign at the junction of Park Road and Beyton Road).

The other two are damages to verge caused by oversized agricultural vehicles. I thought it worthy of noting these events just in case there are repeat occurrences or we spot who might be responsible. But I don't expect anything to be done. A resident suggest the village could have a weight limit or size limit.

The reporting tool can be found here <https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk>

SIDs

SIDs continue to operate well.

Grit Bins

These have been inspected and are full ready for the winter period. The one at Blacksmiths Corner is severely overgrown with brambles so I shall go down with my cutters soon and clear it.

Road Signs

I have put an appeal in the Parish Magazine for volunteers to help straighten the wonky signs.

20's Plenty Campaign

There has been little feedback from any villagers with regards to 20's Plenty, and what there is can only be described as negative. The national initiative in Wales received mixed reports in the press.

Fly-Tipping

More fly-tipping on verges this month, approx 25th Sept. It looks to me as if someone had packaged their garden waste as if to take it to the tip, but then changed their mind (or perhaps found out they needed an appointment) so decided to dump it on the roadside.

A14 Traffic

Various warning signs have been erected to target traffic following the unofficial diversion, but I have to say they look pretty tatty and I don't think they have made any difference to the traffic.

Approach by resident

A resident has approached me to ask if the 30mph limit could be relocated as their house is currently outside the 30mph limit and they are frustrated by traffic speeding past their home. I have every sympathy, and am happy to forward this request to Suffolk Highways unless there is an objection.

Having said that, I believe changing speed limits is a difficult and lengthy process as they are legally enforceable matters and I anticipate that it could be unsuccessful because the area concerned is well outside the developed part of the village. I believe 30mph zones are considered relevant for developed/built up areas, and extending it to include remote isolated properties would render the zone so large as to be meaningless. We already have this to an extent near the substation.

Prepared by Cllr Paul Selvey