

King's Sutton Annual Parish Meeting, April 2018

Traffic Calming Measures

The Parish Council continues to review traffic problems in the village, and possible measures to address them.

1. At the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting we reported on work in progress on: a) options to replace a battery-operated Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS), with a main and/or solar-powered alternative VAS, to monitor speeds at several points around the village; b) the installation of double yellow lines at the junction of Glebe Rise and Astrop Road; and c) requests to the Highways Authority for reduced speed limits (20mph) on Astrop Road adjacent to the Rec, the full length of The Knob, and Richmond Street from the junction with The Knob to the junction with Newlands. We can report further on each of these matters, as follows:
 - a. The battery-operated VAS is being replaced with a device which can draw power from a mains supply and from a solar panel. It will be circulated between 3 locations: lamps 3 and 10 on Astrop Road (i.e. junction with Glebe Rise and towards the west end of Astrop Road), where it will draw on the mains supply powering the street lamps; and at the entrance to the village on Mill Lane, on a pole to be installed on the east side of the carriageway, next to the entry 'gates', where it will draw power through a solar panel. A further location at a point on, or shortly after, entry to the village from the Charlton direction was only viable for a battery-operated VAS. It was therefore discounted for the reasons explained in last year's report (viz. the regularity with which recharging is required, and the related logistical and practical difficulties).
 - b. Double yellow lines have been installed as planned at the junction of Glebe Rise and Astrop Road. The initial painting in the standard yellow colour was subsequently corrected to the appropriate and promised primrose colour used in conservation areas.
 - c. With the support of around 350 signatories to our petition in support of a 20mph limit on Astrop Road adjacent to the Rec, we appealed the Highways Authority's decision not to support this element of our original appeal for 20mph speed limits. The appeal was unsuccessful. We therefore have, as we reported last year, the Highways Authority's support for a 20mph limit on The Knob and on Richmond Street from The Knob to Newlands. We still await confirmation of the Highway's Authority's timetable for taking this forward.

2. We noted in our 2015, 2016, and 2017 reports that grass verges at a number of places around the village were being damaged by vehicles parked on, or driven over, them. The problem seems to worsen year on year, with the greens at Orchard Way and The Square also falling victim. We continue to appeal to village residents to act in ways which take due care of the appearance of our village, and to encourage visitors to do the same.

Councillor Richard Sykes, April 2018