

STAPLEHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Committee, Group or Sub Group	
Road Safety Group	
Meeting Date & Venue	
26 th September 2019 PC Office Upstairs	
Report Author	
Malcolm Buller	
Report	
<p>Present - Councillors Joan Buller, Sue Forward, Colin Bowden Speed Watch Rep Malcolm Buller Apologies – Adele Sharp, Sam Lain-Rose</p> <p>We were delighted that Richard Balfour-Lynn of Husheath Winery had accepted our invitation to discuss traffic movements along Five Oak Lane and surrounding roads. Problems with collapsed culverts, lack of ditch clearances, broken road edges and road subsidence were identified. We felt that major improvements would not be funded by KCC so focussed on simpler ideas. Giving the appearance that the road has narrowed encourages drivers to slow. The plastic kerbs that have been fitted near Collier Street School were effective. Bollards with reflectors at corners will give greater notice of the hazard. Convex mirrors on the outside of bends would give visual warnings of approaching vehicles. Vegetation and verges cut back will help. As this lane is narrow some passing places are needed. Coach movements to the winery are restricted to between 11am and 3pm. Farmers should be encouraged to limit their use of the roads. Residents of the lane should be informed of changes. Richard also told us that their internal lighting had been halved in numbers with reduced power, that they had planted 15 acres of wild flower meadows and he would be pleased to help with further improvements. We thanked him for his positive contributions.</p> <p>The group agreed that many of these suggestions would be applicable to other lanes.</p> <p>MB had emailed Bovis asking when the Station Road pedestrian crossing would be installed. MB had informed the resident as to why no second Streetwise survey was considered appropriate at present.</p> <p>MB gave an update on the present responses to the 20mph area survey, with 71 out of 74 being positive.</p> <p>The SPC Highways Improvement Plan/Action Plan was considered and Country Lanes as an item 7 to be written and added.</p> <p>Speed Watch had deployed another 3 times; 56 vehicles recorded with 5 letters issued, 3 of which were for 45, 46 and 48mph in 30mph areas. 1 new volunteer was fully trained.</p> <p>The draft letters regarding overgrown hedges were discussed and largely approved. MB to fine-tune in the light of the Clerk's and KCC advice. A229 to be tackled first: SB Church Hill to Pinnock Lane, CB Parade to crossroads, JB/MB Station Rd.</p> <p>Other issues for the next agenda were narrow paths, mobility scooters, Marden Rd roundabout dangers and the bus stop by the petrol station.</p>	
Date & Venue of next meeting	
Thursday 7 th November 2019 at 7:30pm at PC Office upstairs	