

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday, 2nd April at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr Fleming, in the chair, Mrs Abu-Hejleh, Mr Cushing, Mr Evans, Mrs Stangoe, Mr Whitmore and the clerk.

As this was an extraordinary meeting to discuss a planning application and the extension of the 30mph limit at the south end of the village, no minutes were read, nor other business considered.

Planning Application: (to be determined by SCC) Planning Ref: PL/0061/15.

Proposal: Removal of existing double temporary unit and replacement with new double temporary unit in existing position.

Location: Eyke Primary School, The Street, Eyke, Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 2QW

Councillors supported this application.

Extension of the southern 30mph speed limit on the A1152, Eyke.

Before proceeding to discussion on the matter above, councillors were asked to respond to a letter from Bromeswell Parish Council regarding the access onto the A1152 from Bridge Road and Sheepdrift Lane, where access and egress is severely compromised by hedges, and where large, slow moving lorries are often negotiating the corners as they approach, or leave Low Farm, which currently has an application under consideration to erect a large new onion store.

Eyke Parish Council is well aware of the hazards at this junction, where there have been several accidents, and which is close to the part of the A1152 under discussion above. It was agreed to write in support of Bromeswell Parish Council's request to erect suitable warning signs, and to survey the site with a view to asking landowners to move stretches of hedges to aid visibility.

Now that councillors have had time to consider the findings of SCC regarding the moving of the 30mph sign, Mr Fleming asked for councillors' thoughts on the matter.

Mr Abu-Hejleh was strongly in support of moving the limit by 50 metres. This would allow sight of the village ahead, vehicles would be travelling more slowly as they approach the school and it would not alter the character of the area. The police would support the move. Mrs Abu-Hejleh has spoken to Mr Chenery, who has agreed that expert advice should be given on exactly where the sign would be.

She felt that clarification is required as to whether the flashing sign would stay where it is: the post is already in place, but the sign itself is not yet in position.

Mr Cushing felt that the extra cost, which could be between £5,000 and £10,000 cannot be justified, for moving a sign 50 metres, for an unknown level of benefit. Having read the findings carefully, he was also not convinced that the criteria would be met, and the request would be refused anyway. He favoured erecting the village gateways in the original agreed position, and assessing the impact when the flashing sign at that end of the village is working. It was generally agreed that the sign at the north end is having a positive effect, and it is to be hoped the same would be true at the south end.

Mr Whitmore did not feel that moving the 30mph sign would have a noticeable effect on the speed of traffic entering the village.

There was also the feeling that the village needs the work to be completed: it has taken a very long time to arrive at this point, and to embark on trying to move the 30mph limit, which may be a fruitless endeavour, would add an unreasonable amount of time before the work is accomplished.

Councillors assumed that the cost of providing the gates in the original position was included in the original amount, and would not involve the parish council in any further expense. The clerk is to check this.

Councillors were then asked to vote on the motion that the 30mph limit should be moved: it was defeated by 2 votes to 4.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.