



Reply to:

clerk@greatwilbrahamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Highways, Transport and Cycleways – Village Survey

Introduction

The Parish Council has been successful over the past few years in applying for funding for initiatives aimed at reducing the impact of traffic through our village. This has been made possible by the contribution of the Transport Working Group (TWG) and the active involvement of many of you in supporting surveys which produced the evidence we used in our applications.

The recent improvements include ‘gates’ and road markings on the entrances to the village, the acquisition and use of the ‘MVAS’ speed measurement devices and the painting of double yellow lines on the bend by the Carpenters Arms. We have also been informed that the 20mph speed limit through the village will happen soon. In the near future, we are hopeful that a new bus service will be established and we welcome the recent announcement of a feasibility study that could result in safer cycle routes to our adjacent villages.

We remain concerned about a number of issues relating to safety, including the overall increase in the number of vehicles, particularly HGVs, driving through the village and the absence of a pedestrian crossing outside the school. We would like your opinions about further improvements which we might pursue. Having your views and showing your support are essential when submitting applications for further improvements to the County Council. This survey can also be accessed by scanning the link below.



The Issues

School Pedestrian Crossing.

The PC believes that the ‘narrowing’ of the road outside the school is dangerous and would like it replaced by a pedestrian crossing. The school’s parents’ association carried out a survey recently; respondents said that the current arrangement was ambiguous and , as a result, dangerous. The PC has asked the County Council to detail what might be possible, and the approximate cost of different measures.

<i>Would you support the establishment of a pedestrian crossing?</i>	Yes/No
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Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs)

Many of you have said that HGVs travelling through the village cause disturbance, particularly to those living on through routes, especially at night and in the early morning. Unfortunately, our ability to lessen the amount of traffic using the village as a legitimate ‘through route’ to local businesses is limited. The 20mph limit should help, perhaps both directly and by altering the routes recommended by satnav devices. If the speed limit does not have sufficient effect, other calming measures could be applied for.

<i>Would you support further speed calming measures if they prove to be necessary?</i>	Yes/No
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It might be possible to put controls on vehicles that are not serving local businesses. This might be by restricting those above a certain weight or length, or before or after a particular time. We would like to measure support for such an approach before we start to develop any application.

<i>Would you support the imposition of restrictions aimed at reducing the number of HGVs using the village as a through-route?</i>	Yes/No
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The road between Little Wilbraham and the Mill Road/High Street junction provides access to most of the village's facilities and resources, such as the school, nursery, pub, shop, playpark, church, memorial hall, social club and dental clinic. It has been suggested this part of the through route should be closed to HGVs, which would then be required to route via Six Mile Bottom, the A11 and possibly Mill Road.

<i>Would you support the imposition of a weight restriction on HGVs using Church Street/High Street between Little Wilbraham and the junction with Mill Road?</i>	Yes/No
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Pavements

The PC frequently receives complaints about the state of pavements in the village, often because of vehicle parking and overgrown hedges. We would like to measure the strength of feeling about what some residents describe as 'anti-social behaviour'.

<i>Are you concerned about cars parked on pavements and/or trees and hedges obstructing pavements?</i>	Yes/No
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The Priority

We must prioritise these initiatives, all of which have their merits, as any application for improvement must be backed by a commitment to meet some of the cost from Parish funds. It would be helpful if you could list your order of priority:

School crossing	Restriction on HGVs	Pavements
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And finally

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and for responding to the questions that we have posed. Please use a separate sheet of paper if you would like to express your opinions or tell your stories – all of which will be very helpful. If you choose to complete the survey online, there is a free text section where you can record your views. Finally, please indicate in the box below whether you would be prepared to help gather data to support an application to the County Council.

<i>Would you be prepared to help with a traffic survey?</i>	Yes/No
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If you are happy to do so, please hand in your completed survey to the Post Office or, alternatively, give it to the person who will call at your house to collect your response. We plan to have completed the survey by Monday 23rd September, having secured answers from every household in the village.

Thank you!

Hilary Burton
Chair of the Great Wilbraham Parish Council

4th September 2024

Whilst there is no requirement to do so, it would be helpful if you could confirm your name and address, and the number of adults whose opinions are represented by your responses to the 7 questions above.

Name Address

Number of adults whose opinions are represented