

EATON / RUSHTON TRAFFIC ISSUES

A REPORT PRODUCED FROM AN OPEN MEETING

**MEETING HELD
Tuesday 7th October 2014
Jessie Village Hall**

AGENDA

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 7.15pm | Welcome & Introduction |
| 7.30pm | Various Viewpoints |
| 8.10pm | Questions / Further Issues raised by the audience |
| 8.30pm | Agree 5 major issues raised |
| 8.40pm | Discussion on areas to explore for solutions |
| 9.00pm | Agree next steps |
| 9.10pm | Summary of Meeting |
| 9.15pm | Close |

1. Welcome and Introduction – Chair Mike Wilson

“GIVENS” i.e. statements that we can probably agree on which don’t need debating tonight

- **Rushton is a Rural Parish**
 - definition “Rural” (adj).
 - a) of, relating to or characteristic of country life
 - b) living in or accustomed to the country
 - Of, relating to, or associated with farming
- **Most people who live in our parish CHOOSE to live in a “rural countryside”**
- **Eaton village has narrow roads mainly without pavements**
- **Eaton Lane (Cotebrook to the Red Fox) is used as a short cut from the A49 to A49/A51 particularly in mornings and evenings**
- **Farms need to be efficient to survive and to gain contracts**
- **Trucks used for collection & delivery to our parish have increased in size e.g. milk collection, domestic oil delivery, arable crop collection.**
- **Tractors have also increased in size over recent years to enable efficiency**
- **Contracts gained by farmers may result in vehicles being sent from overseas with foreign drivers.**
- **Our primary school may increase its number of pupils by 50% over the next couple of years.**
- **The use of mobile phones whilst driving, exceeding speed limits, parking dangerously are all illegal and should be reported to the police via tel. 101.**
- **Social evolution means that things change like types of farming, the size of cars that now drop off children. Footpaths originally were to travel between areas, perhaps to avoid the cow dung dropped down the street! ! We have to adapt.**
- **Tractors have also increased in size over recent years to enable efficiency**

2. Various Viewpoints

Various people have been contacted before the meeting to give the point of view of their particular interest group. Some are present tonight and others have sent in their contribution.

Q. Regarding traffic, what is it like to be a In our parish ?

- **The Pedestrian;** parent, child, dog walker, runner
- **The School;** management, staff, parents
- **Resident**
- **The Horse Rider;** rider, horsebox driver
- **The Cyclist**
- **The Car Driver**
- **The Truck Driver**
- **The Tractor Driver**
- **The Farmer**
- **The Policeman**
- **The Highways Department**

3. “IS IT JUST HERE ????”.

TRAFFIC ISSUES IN VILLAGES - NOT JUST AN EATON PROBLEM;

If you Google any combination of the following words:

- **VILLAGE**
- **SPEEDING**
- **TRAFFIC**
- **TRACTORS**
- **DRIVERS**
- **TRUCKS**

There are hundreds of problems reported.

THE “SMART COMMUNITITES” ARE THOSE THAT WORK TOGETHER TO FIND SOLUTIONS

4. “HOUSE RULES” for this meeting

1. The initial “View Points” section will be max. 3 mins each with no interruptions
2. All questions / comments must go through the Chairman by raising a hand
3. The “Questions / Further Issues” is restricted to 1 minute per person
4. Personal / verbal attacks are not for this meeting
5. The Chairman may have to move the meeting on to the next subject in order to keep to the agenda timetable.

5. ATTENDEES AT THE MEETING

Mike Wilson	RPC	Hilary Healey	Robert Hodgson	Sue Duckworth
Alex Stubbs	RPC Clerk	Tina Peel	Phil Thornhill	Brian Oldham
David Lilley	RPC	John Wheeldon	John Shaw	Bernard White
Eddie Shaw	RPC	Alexa Carter	John Nicholas	Mathew Birch
Julie O’Shea	RPC	Gill Dennett	Snowy Hodgson	Eddie Wright
Arthur Nicholas	RPC	Christine Thornhill	Bert Platt	Roy Craven
PC Ged Gigg	Ch. Police	John Sellers	Peter Stockton	Robert Hinchcliffe
Paul Mitchell	(School Head)	Amelia McCourty	Pauline Stockton	James O’Shea
Steve Perry		Gary McCourty	Jane Potton	
Mary Wilson		Jan Cleaver	Warwick Platt	
Paul Healey		Lanoe Hall	Joe Prince	

6. INDIVIDUAL VIEWPOINTS FROM MEETING WITH SUGGESTED PROJECT PROPOSALS

	CATAGORY	VIEW POINT – individual comments	POSSIBLE PROJECT	PROJECTS SELECTED ?	PRIOR
1	The Pedestrians				
	The Pedestrian	Majority of time OK, odd cars cause problems			
		Concerns over wagons and artics negotiating around Green	Seasonal road sign for wagons turning right from Lower Lane to Eaton Lane	X	2
	The Walker	Now need to be more disciplined when walking being careful at all times.	Residents part with small area front garden to allow pavements ?		
		More Traffic coming through village			
		Sapling Lane hazard as no speed limit	Look at introducing limit	X	2
	The Dog Walker	No major issues	Agricultural traffic expected		
	The Runner	Not everyone considerate	One way traffic around Brownhills during Car Fest	X	1
		Are the number of HGV's increasing?	Ask Highwys to obtain data	X	1
		No problems except at commuting times.			
2	The Resident	Hedges overhanging, difficult to cut due to traffic. This causes problems to vehicles.	Contact owners. Provide assistance to trim	X	1
		Lack of pavements causes difficulty. Lower L	Consider 20mph Lower Lan	X	1
		Litter picking not easily done safely.			
		Nobody has patience.	More tolerance needed. How can this be promoted?	X	2
		Tractors should not exceed 30mph. Pinch points? - perhaps not good for Parish. Pinch points tight for agricultural vehicles	Look into "pinch points".	X	1
		Lorries far too big using Eaton Lane as cut through.	More enforcement of 7.5t limit.	X	1
		New speed restrictions not working as not enforced.	Request more enforcement by police	X	1
		New 50mph to Red Fox too fast.	Review limit	X	3
		Too many cars dropping children at school	Promote car sharing	X	1

	CATAGORY	VIEW POINT – individual comments	POSSIBLE PROJECT	PROJECTS SELECTED ?	PRIOR.
		Good drivers have reduced speed with new limits. No change by reckless drivers.			
		Junctions at the Cross dangerous. Should Cross be changed e.g. reduced ?	Consider mini-roundabout or pinch point.	X	1
		Tractors should be driven with more consideration.			
		Parking on Elm Tree Court is a problem. Modern cars too big for garages.			
		Parking on Edgewell Lane means large/ emergency vehicles can't get access.	Review parking area e.g.marking spaces	X	3
		Winterford Lane one way?			
		Tractors spilling out stuff e.g.potatoes are going too fast or are badly loaded.			
		I'd rather live here with cows and tractors than London with sirens and drug gangs.			
3	The School User				
	Head Teacher	State maintained,growth dictated by CWAC			
		School successful, oversubscribed			
		110 pupils at present, to be 175, 3 extra classes,i.e. 65 extra cars.	Snail parking system 2 hrs per day, 39 weeks p.a.		
		Main issue is inappropriate parking.			
	Chair of Governors	Electric School Warning signs are old and out of sync.	Contact Highways /upgrade – solar powered?	X	2
	Parent	Concern about dangerous drivers.	Speed monitoring @ school	X	1
		May not be speeding but 30mph feels fast.	Consider 20mph or lower limit	X	1
		Turning out of school drive difficult.	Improve visibility	X	1
4	The Horse Owner	Won't ride through village or Eaton Lane.	Reduce speed to 20mph		
	Rider	Drivers considerate, especially farmers.			
		Speed on Eaton Lane a problem.	Vehicle Activated Signs?	X	1
		Some road surface dangerous – too smooth – shod horses slide, eg Hall Lane,Oxheys Lane.	Ask Highways to inspect road surfaces.	X	2

	CATAGORY	VIEW POINT – individual comments	POSSIBLE PROJECT	PROJECTS SELECTED ?	PRIOR.
		Rattling trailers going to Beeston market.			
		Motorbikes going too fast ignoring limits.	Enforcement: summer w/es	X	3
		Hall Lane,village end is bad exit as drivers coming from village too fast.	Cobbled section of road at each end of village to denote pedestrian /horse/child priority	X	1
	Horse Box Driver	Overhanging trees & hedges problematic.	See earlier comment		
5	The Cyclist	Kings Lane is a racing circuit at weekend.			
		Cyclists bunch together. Consideration required. Should have warning bell	Contact cycling groups to ask for assistance?	X	1
		Some road surface dangerous – too smooth.	See earlier comment		
		No problems except at commuting times			
6	The Car Driver	Difficult getting out of drives e.g.Eaton Lane, Sapling Lane esp by the Cross due to speed of vehicles going past .	See earlier comments		
		Hard getting into drives –do-			
		Side roads have to use verges to get past.			
		Lower Lane onto Eaton Lane difficult.	See earlier comments		
		Excesssive speeding of cars & motorbikes at commuter times.	Use SID, safety re volunteer safety important	X	1
		Sat Nav problem with routing of vehicles.			
		Muddy roads dangerous.	Farmers to be reminded	X	1
		Lessons from Church Minshull. Vehicles activated signs good,currentlly being repaired. Pinch points been installed with single priority exiting village; community speed group works well. 12 people with own radar gun.	Proceed with V.A.signs. Consider pinch points. Consider community speed group."Rat runners" are the common problem	X	
7	The Truck Driver				
8	The Tractor Driver	Tractors have no suspension need to avoid holes and soft verges.	More understanding required. See later		

	CATAGORY	VIEW POINT – individual comments	POSSIBLE PROJECT	PROJECTS SELECTED ?	PRIOR.
		Overhanging hedges knock mirrors off.	See earlier		
		Pavements obstructed			
		Trees/bushes overhang road partic around Green causes problems	See earlier	X	
9	The Farmer	EEC recommends 25mph for tractors. Too slow can be problematic			
		Most tractors won't exceed 30mph. Due to limited or no suspension care must be taken with heavy loads. Many don't understand	Need for community to visit a farm to understand tractor drivers point of view	X	3
10	The Policeman	1 in 5 vehicles speed into village, both in 30 & 40mph areas. 150 vehicles from Cotebrook in a morning	Speed monitoring. Use of unmarked police car/	X	1
		Speeding also from Flaxyards & Sapling Lane	Everything reported e.g.Road rage		
		School parking an issue	Warning / parking tickets around triangle	X	1
		Speeding parents going to school.	20mph in village		
		Pinch points not necessarily the answer.			
11	The "Highways" Man	Unable to attend, happy to look at proposals			

6. SUMMARY

The Project Proposals were taken from suggestions made during the evening and some voting took place during the coffee break. The Chairman thanked those present for the quality inputs and patience when listening to the viewpoints of others. Many felt that the informal "chats" at the coffee break also helped many to understand other points of view.

The "Project Proposals" will be discussed at the October Parish Council Meeting and the Chairman hopes that from that, perhaps a "Road Safety Working Group" could be set up to implement some of the proposals.

A report of the meeting and a link to "Next Steps" will be included in the November Parish Newsletter.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.