

Bubbenhall Parish Council - Highways & Road Safety Issues Update Report

Entrance to Paget's Lane

A new drainage system has been installed but there still appears to be water lying away from the drain itself after rain. Is the siting of the new drain appropriate?

Suggested action: Councillors to monitor this section of road and, eventually, to send photographic evidence of lying water to Highways.

Double white lines on A445

Double white lines have been extended over the brow of the hill on entering the village from the Ryton direction but not as far as was originally proposed. Mr Adrian Dawson, Consultant Road Safety Engineer, following his site visit with Cllrs. Lucas and Powell on 12 August, wrote:

'I will (...) arrange for the solid white lines to be extended past the pedestrian access at Orchard Way.'

Suggested action: Request information on possible dates of work schedule.

Speed limit on A445

It does not seem possible to lower the speed limit on the A445. Despite previous attempts to persuade Highways to take action and the fact that many cars and heavy goods vehicles exceed the limit, the official position is summed up by the following extract from Mr Dawson's response to the site visit report:

'I have looked into the matter of the speed limit on the A445 Leamington Road. This has been investigated before, but the road did not meet the Department for Transport's criteria for a lower speed limit. Consequently, we could not recommend taking any action.'

Suggested action: There has been no movement on the training of councillors/volunteers to take part in community speed monitoring. Originally intended to keep an eye on traffic speeds within the heart of the village (Spring Hill and Stoneleigh Road especially), this monitoring should extend to the A445 once the training is complete. A regular presence of highly visible people with speed cameras could act as a good deterrent to drivers.

Junction Signs

In previous correspondence, I have pointed out that there are no junction warning signs on the A445 for any of the approaches to the village on either side of the road. This omission has also recognised by Councillor Redford:

'I am hopeful that the new signage for the A445 will include junction signs at Bubbenhall.'
(27/4/15)

and Mr Dawson: *'I think that we will be able to provide "junction ahead" warning signs on the approaches which would draw drivers' attention to the presence of the junction and alert them to any potential hazard. Again, I will draw up a plan and let you have a copy.'*

Suggested action: Request information on plan and possible dates of work schedule.

Rumble Strips

There are rumble strips on the A445 approaching the village from Leamington but none on the Ryton side. Why is this? Those that do exist are in a poor state and should be repaired.

Suggested action: Cllr. Redford to investigate both aspects and report back.

Right filter into Spring Hill

Exiting and entering the heart of the village from the A445 is becoming increasingly hazardous but the chances of improving the Spring Hill entrance are remote. This is confirmed by Mr Dawson's response to the August site visit:

'The provision of a right turn filter lane at the junction of Spring Hill and the A445 has also been previously investigated. The results were that any such scheme would require widening the carriageway and that would be financially prohibitive.'

However, visibility of oncoming eastbound traffic, as one attempts to cross over the traffic flow turning right, could be improved by better and more frequent hedge trimming along the lay-by in front of the nursery.

Suggested action: Regular monitoring of hedge growth and requests for pruning/trimming.

No HGVs

Councillor Redford took the County Council Highways portfolio holder on a site visit to the village on 28 May. Bubbenhall PC is very grateful for his actions on our behalf. He wrote to me after the visit confirming that he was:

'... pursuing with officers further options for additional signage. Currently funding has been provided for new HGV signs at junctions with A445.'

The August site visit took account of all entrances to the village, including 'Tantara Lodge' and the Baginton end of Bubbenhall Road. Following the visit Mr Dawson wrote:

'I will prepare a plan indicating where I think it would be possible and appropriate to erect the signs and let you have a copy.'

Suggested action: Continue to monitor HGV vehicles entering the village.

Request information on plan and possible dates of work schedule for installation of new signs.

Road surface

With the help of villagers, Bubbenhall PC will continue to monitor and report damage to road surfaces - pot-holes and edges damaged by HGVs, etc.

Suggested action: Cllr. Haynes to walk the village roads with concerned villager and report back to Bubbenhall PC.

Footpaths and pavements

Bubbenhall PC is grateful for the significant amount of work done earlier this year to clear footpaths along the A445. There are still some concerns about flooding and safety along the section by Top House (identified as an issue during the 2014 site visit).

Suggested action: Send a reminder/request for improved draining and improved edging.

Stoneleigh Road

After rainfall, water does not drain away from in front of 'The Firs' and is thus a hazard for pedestrians and traffic.

Suggested action: Cllr. Redford to report to relevant Highways Officer.

Cllr. Bob Powell
8/9/2015