
Meeting: Delegated Decisions by the Executive Member for Community Services on Traffic Regulation Orders

Date: 11 August 2014

Subject: Petition, St John's Street, Biggleswade

Report of: Paul Mason, Head of Highways

Summary: This report presents representations received from residents seeking action to resolve traffic difficulties in the street.

Contact Officer: Nick Chapman
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Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: Biggleswade

Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

Financial:

There is currently no funding allocated to implement any works in this area.

Legal:

None from this report

Risk Management:

None from this report

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None from this report

Equalities/Human Rights:

None from this report

Community Safety:

None from this report

Sustainability:

None from this report.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1. That the lead petitioner be informed that Central Bedfordshire Council is supportive in principle of a one-way traffic system in the St Johns Street triangle, but needs to undertake further work as outlined in this report and explore funding options.**

Background and Information

1. A petition has been received from 39 residents, mainly of St Johns Street seeking traffic controls to address concerns at the size and number of vehicles using St Johns Street on the grounds of safety. The wording of the petition heading is attached as Appendix A
2. St Johns Street is a residential street to the north of Biggleswade town centre in an area situated between the A6001 and the main railway line. It forms one side of a natural triangle of roads with Rose Lane and Sun Street.
3. For some time there have been concerns locally at the amount and type of traffic using St John's Street and this is evidenced by the petition that has been received and which was initially presented at the June Traffic Management meeting.
4. Running concurrently with this action the Highways Team had been commissioned to undertake a study into the triangle to look at existing vehicle use and undertake modelling to ascertain whether the triangle would work as a 'one way' system. That study was completed in June and its recommendations have been considered at the Biggleswade Joint committee.
5. The executive summary of the study indicates that a clockwise one-way system operating on the three roads best mirrors the predominant existing flows on the roads. If this direction of flow is assumed all three junctions on the triangle have sufficient capacity.
6. In addition to this members have also requested that the potential to introduce an area wide HGV ban be considered to ascertain if that would provide sufficient reduction in large vehicles to address the problem.
7. Works to undertake the production of costed options and consideration of the HGV ban are to be commissioned by Central Bedfordshire Council in the near future.

07 APR 2014

PETITION

From the residents of St John's Street and the surrounding area.

**REFERENCE THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT POTTON ROAD,
BIGGLESWADE**

The traffic in St Johns Street is at its maximum capacity for the volume of traffic using this road on a daily basis and the addition of between 200 and 300 extra vehicles from the new development site daily is just unthinkable.
It is an extremely dangerous road with a minimum width of only 13 feet directly opposite number 12: Lorries, buses, farm vehicles and ambulances are ALL forced to mount the pavement on both sides of the road in order to pass each other.
The crossing opposite number 12 is used daily by school children and it is only a matter of time **before a child is killed or seriously injured.**
Mounting the pavement is against the law!
It is time the council took positive action to resolve this extremely dangerous and ridiculous situation.
PLEASE stop talking and take some action before we attend the funeral of a young child, PLEASE. You have a duty of care to the community.

Lead petitioner: Name: Peter Robinson
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