

Agenda Item No. 4(a)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

16 June 2015

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport & Environment

**PETITION REQUESTING TRAFFIC CALMING – SNAPE HILL LANE,
DRONFIELD**

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek the Cabinet Member's approval of proposals following investigations undertaken after receipt of a petition requesting traffic calming on Snape Hill Lane, Dronfield.

(2) **Information and Analysis** At the meeting on 3 March 2015, the Cabinet Member acknowledged receipt of a petition containing 177 signatures. The petition reads as follows:

"We, the residents of Snape Hill Lane and other affected properties request Derbyshire County Council address the concerns we have in relation to the amount and speed of traffic on our road and the junction with Green Lane."

The petition was accompanied by a letter of support from Dronfield Town Council and some supporting evidence from the lead petitioner regarding traffic counts (attached at Appendix A).

Officer Comment

Snape Hill Lane, Dronfield connects the B6158 Green Lane to the B6057 Chesterfield Road and serves a large residential area of the town, including a number of businesses. Traffic calming measures have been carried out on Snape Hill Lane in the past which include a built-out crossing point, sheltered parking bays, central hatching and 'Slow' markings with coloured surfacing.

Officers have attended a meeting with residents and the local Member Councillor Janet Hill, and a further site meeting has taken place between residents and the Cabinet Member, Councillor Dean Collins. At the meetings, the residents put forward their view on why they think some action should be taken on Snape Hill Lane, including comparisons with traffic flows on other streets in the area. A large part of the residents' concerns are centred around the amount of traffic using the road. Snape Hill Lane serves over 610

residential properties and the traffic counts taken on Snape Hill Lane between 22 April and 28 April 2015 give average daily figures of 5,618.

Interrogation of the collision figures for the town reveal there have been two injury related collisions recorded on Snape Hill Lane during the latest three year period (1 January 2012 to 31 December 2014). One involved a motorcyclist committing a U-turn in front of another vehicle. The other involved a low speed collision between a vehicle emerging from a side road. Neither collision was speed-related and it is highly unlikely that either would have been mitigated by traffic calming measures.

Derbyshire's Casualty Reduction Enforcement Support Team (CREST) carried out a speed survey on Snape Hill Lane near to Marsh Lane for a seven day period (20 March 2015 to 26 March 2015) as a result of concerns about excessive vehicles speeds. This survey gave an overall average speed of 23.7mph and an 85th percentile speed of 28.7mph (i.e. the speed up to which 85% of the traffic was travelling). The speeds detected are therefore very compliant with the 30mph speed limit in place. For enforcement to be considered, Derbyshire Constabulary's Speed Management Protocol states that the 85th percentile value must be in excess of 35mph. At this current time, speed enforcement is not deemed necessary by the Police.

As a result of meetings with the residents, Derbyshire County Council also carried out some speed surveys between 22 April and 28 April 2015 at a location suggested by the lead petitioner. These gave an overall average speed of 24.3mph and an 85th percentile speed of 29mph. The specific site of the readings while journey time measurements from one end of Snape Hill Lane to the other give average speeds of 28mph from Green Lane to Chesterfield Road and 30mph in the opposite direction. This data demonstrates that excessive speed is not an issue on Snape Hill Lane.

Residents have expressed concerns with the operation of the Green Lane/Snape Hill Lane junction and that right turning vehicles from Green Lane cut the corner. Looking back as far as possible on the collision database to 1 January 2003, there have been no recorded injury collisions at this junction. Over the same time period, there have been injury collisions reported at the Dyche Lane junction, the Holmley Lane junction, the Derwent Road junction, the Holmesdale Drive junction, the Hartington Road junction and at the Stonelow Road junction. In terms of collision statistics, it is the safest junction along the Green Lane corridor. A right turn lane has been provided on Green Lane to guide motorists on to the correct side of the road when turning right into Snape Hill Lane. However, the width of the junction is considerable and is not conducive to pedestrians crossing, therefore, investigations will take place into whether a central refuge island could be accommodated within the existing highway constraints. This would also help to deter motorists from cutting the corner.

Another suggestion made by the residents is for a zebra crossing to facilitate pedestrians crossing Snape Hill Lane, particularly on the route to Lenthall Infant School on Marsh Avenue. At present, the justification of crossing facilities is based on a long-established numerical parameter known as “PV²”, where P = the pedestrian flow and V = the vehicle flow. Ordinarily, the PV² value should be 1.0 to justify the provision of a crossing facility, although, values of 0.6 upwards would be considered acceptable. In this instance, the average peak PV² value is 0.02, so falls a long way short of the value which would warrant further consideration of a crossing facility.

Bearing in mind the speed surveys, the collision history and the traffic levels that are commensurate with a distributor road of this nature, further traffic calming cannot be justified on Snape Hill Lane at this time.

Local Member Comment

Councillor Janet Hill has been involved in the meetings that have taken place. Her comments are as follows:

“I would like to reiterate comments made by residents about the problems on Snapehill Lane. From the top of Snapehill Lane/junction of Green Lane down to the bottom of Snapehill Lane to the mini roundabout is a very busy road. Problems occur at the co-op on Hartington Road with deliveries, Dunhams builders add further problems with deliveries and collections to the builders yard. Pedestrians have problems crossing the road due to visibility and lack of footways to walk on due to vehicles parking on the footways. The double yellow lines at the junctions of the roads onto Snapehill Lane are ignored especially at the Co-op. Speeding of traffic or the perception of speed on Snapehill Lane continues to be an issue as does traffic coming down Green Lane cutting across the junction.

I think better signage and clearer road markings, but this needs to be done on a resurfaced stretch of road. This road is also on a bus route. Snapehill Lane is the main thoroughfare for young people going to either Henry Fanshaw, Lenthall and Holmesdale Infants, Northfield and Stonelow jnr schools and residents using public transport.

Its only a short stretch of road but is a main route from one side of Dronfield to the other.”

(3) Financial Considerations This work forms part of the approved Local Transport Plan scheme for Traffic Regulation Order works.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity,

human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

(4) **Key Decision** No.

(5) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(6) **Background Papers** Held on file in the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Steve Alcock, extension 38176.

(7) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member approves that:

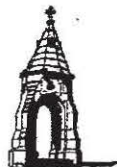
- 7.1 Physical traffic calming measures cannot be justified on Snape Hill Lane at this time.
- 7.2 Some detailed design work be carried out at the Green Lane/Snape Hill Lane junction to determine whether a central refuge can be accommodated to aid pedestrians crossing.
- 7.3 No zebra crossing be installed on Snape Hill Lane, due to the low numbers of pedestrians it would benefit.
- 7.4 The Local Member and petitioners be informed accordingly.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

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Dronfield Town Council

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Cllr D Collins
Cabinet Member
Highways, Transport and Infrastructure
Derbyshire County Council
County Hall
Matlock
DE4 3AG



3rd February 2015

Dear Councillor Collins,

Traffic control measures – Snape Hill Lane and surrounds, Dronfield.

Dronfield Town Council has been approached by residents who are concerned at the speed and volume of traffic on Snape Hill Lane, Dronfield and have presented the enclosed petitions and data for consideration in support of their request for traffic calming measures such as speed bumps.

I have been instructed by Dronfield Town Council to write to you to express its support for these traffic calming measures and it very strongly recommends that these concerns of residents are addressed at the earliest opportunity.

This problem is exacerbated by traffic avoiding surrounding calmed areas and using Snape Hill Lane as a "rat run".

Dronfield Town Council requests that a meeting be arranged with Officers from Derbyshire County Council to arrange for traffic monitoring with a report back to it.

Enclosed are copies of four petitions, Graphs from traffic counts and comments from residents together with a briefing paper prepared by residents.

Looking forward to an early reply,

Yours sincerely,

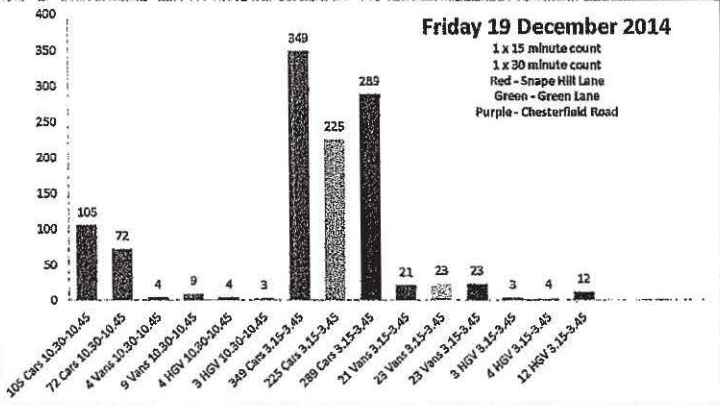
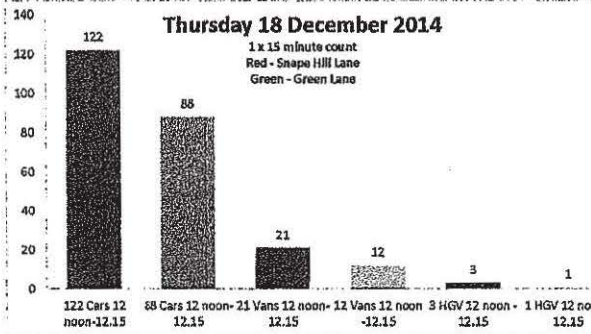
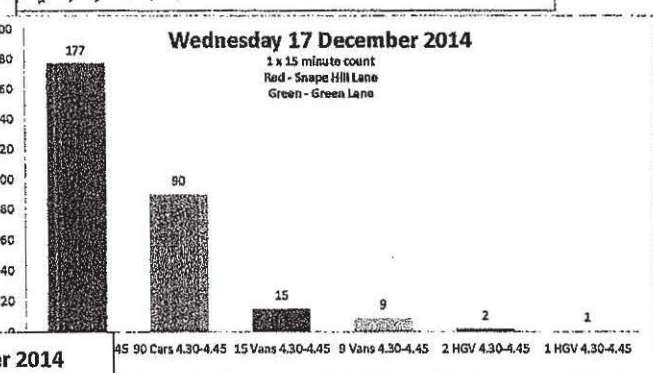
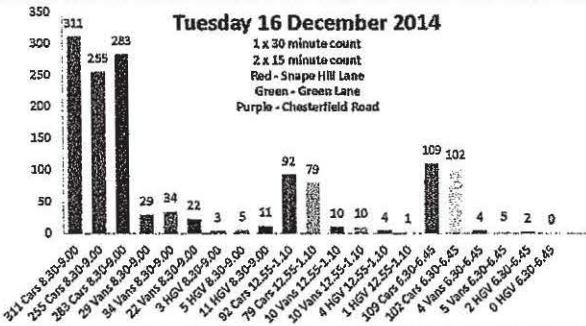
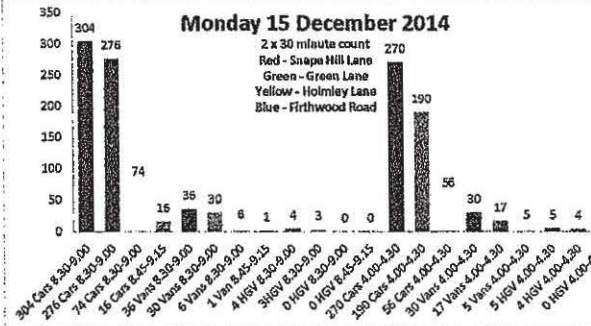
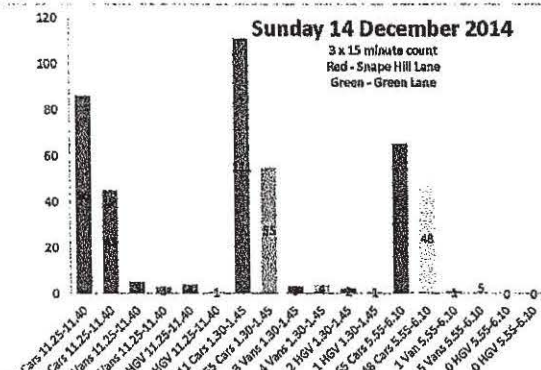
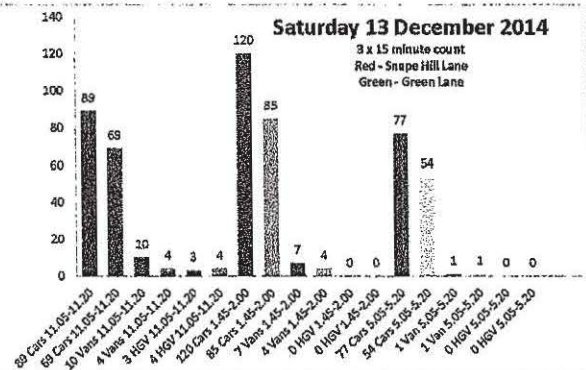
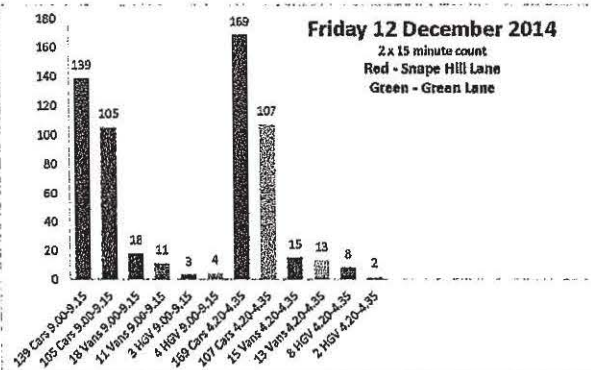
TOWN CLERK

cc Cllr J Hill

Quality
Town Council

Quality Service from a Quality Council





... from a Snape Hill Lane resident ' a friend of mine who lives at the bottom end of Holmley Lane drives down his road, along Chesterfield Road, up our road and left up Green Lane to get to the top of Green Lane and avoid the bumps on his road'

... from a Snape Hill Lane resident 'I just can't cross the road with my child, it's so busy'

... from a Snape Hill Lane resident 'the HGV's are a real problem, blocking the road, parking on double yellow lines, it's so dangerous'

Comments on the traffic on Snape Hill Lane

What they told us

... from a Snape Hill resident 'to get out of my road I can't turn down Snape Hill Lane so I have to turn left and turn round in Thirlmere Drive to go back down'

... from a Snape Hill Lane resident 'when I got the newsletter with the traffic count, I had a go myself, sat in the car for 1 minute and there were 12 vehicles, its mad'

... from a van driver 'I avoid the bottom end of Green Lane because of the bumps and pedestrian crossing, I always use Snape Hill Lane because nothing slows me down'

... from a Snape Hill Lane resident 'I just can't get out of my drive, the traffic is constant and so fast, it can take ages'

... from a non-resident of Dronfield 'I really hope you are unsuccessful with your campaign I use Snape Hill Lane all the time, it's so convenient having no speed bumps'