

Bramham Cum Oglethorpe Parish Council

Traffic Management Public Meeting - Notes

INTRODUCTION

On 30th November 2020 an “open and informal” meeting was held by Zoom for residents of Bramham Village and the surrounding area to attend and voice their concerns relating to speeding and road safety issues in the village. Councillors Robin Lewis, Linda Richards, Scott Jones and Mike Corrigan (host) were in attendance.

10 residents attended and all were given the opportunity to speak and voice their concerns. Many good and valid points were raised; some confirming pre-held suspicions and backing up previous issues raised with the Council. We feel it was very important and informative to hear from a range of residents, to note the issues which are most important to them and, as it transpired, to hear how similar many of their concerns were.

AREAS/ROADS HIGHLIGHTED

Paradise Way, Bowcliffe Road and the “T” junction
Back Lane
Clifford Road
Windmill Road
Aberford Road
Toulston Lane
Front Street
Lyndon Avenue/Road

ISSUES DISCUSSED

Paradise Way

- Speed of vehicles along the 60mph stretch in front of Paradise farm. Why is it different to the similar approach to Aberford where it is 50mph from the A64 roundabout to the initial 30mph sign? One fatal accident opposite Paradise Farm.
- Road users ignoring the traffic lights - running the red lights regularly.
- 40mph zone starts too late on approach to the village.

Bowcliffe Road/Paradise Way “T” Junction

- Junction too fast.
- Accidents in the past - 2 recorded in the last 18/24 months - graded as “serious”.
- Initial police comment for reducing speed limit to 30mph and speed camera - investigation of last accident still ongoing as one person still in hospital.
- Vehicles picking up too much speed descending towards the junction and from the junction into the village.
- Lighting and signage poor at the junction.
- Users cutting the corner - ?centre island.

Back Lane/Vicarage Lane

- Vehicles picking up too much speed ascending/descending the hill to and from Toulston Lane and Windmill Road.
- Two unsighted junctions - Vicarage Lane and Fine Garth Close.

Clifford Road

- Complete disregard for the 20mph limit.
- Disregard for the SID currently in place.
- Malicious damage to the SID - possibly by a catapult
- 30mph sign still painted on the road near the school - carriageway from Clifford.

Windmill & Aberford Roads and Toulston lane

- Speeds too high approaching the junction - 30mph sign needs moving further out of the village along Toulston Lane to make it more visible and motorists more aware.
- 60mph limit too high for Windmill Road considering the bends at the Clifford end and no pedestrian footpaths.
- No footpaths on Toulston Lane.
- 30mph limit not adhered to on Aberford Road.

Front Street

- Difficult for pedestrians to navigate.
- Lots of parked cars
- Lots of speeding
- Some form of crossing suggested.

Lyndon Avenue

- ?? Resident access only - has become a rat run from Wetherby Road to Lyndon Road and onto Clifford Road.

Other suggestions

- Purchase our own speed gun.
- Make Scarecrow Policeman with fake speed gun.

SUMMARY

1. The problems relating to Paradise way and Bowcliffe Road, especially at the junction connecting the two were raised most frequently and were the first thing most people mentioned, suggesting they stand out as issues in the eyes of the villagers.
2. There is a general feeling that the 20mph zone is being largely ignored in the village (for which we have some initial evidence from the speed checks). It was generally accepted that the limit was being ignored by residents as well as those passing through towards and from the Clifford area.
3. The ignoring of the speed limits was specifically highlighted on Paradise Way in both the 60mph and 40mph zones, as well as on Bowcliffe Road, Clifford Road, Back Lane and Vicarage lane.
4. There was some suggestion that the 30mph limit on Aberford Road needs to be reduced to bring it in line with the rest of the village.
5. The speeds of drivers approaching the village along Toulston and Windmill Road were highlighted also.
6. It was noted that the centre of the village was hard to navigate for pedestrians because of erratic parking by cars, vans and lorries and vehicles driving at speeds in excess of 20mph. Some sort of crossing was suggested. The situation was not helped by the fact the buses use the centre of the village as they pass through on their way from Leeds to Wetherby/Harrogate.
7. Specific difficulties were highlighted by the cyclists present especially along Vicarage Lane/ Back Lane and exiting Bowcliffe Road onto Paradise Way towards Thorner Road junction.

