

Report to Newton Poppleford and Harpford Parish Council.

Cllr Jess Bailey, Devon County Council (Otter Valley Ward).

19th December 2022

20mph speed limit

I understand that the Parish Council has been contacted by DCC in connection with new applications for 20mph scheme. Here is the response that I received to my formal request for a cabinet report at the DCC meeting on 8th December. My response to the cabinet report was that I would like to see more funds being contributed to speed up the roll out of the 20mph schemes. Cllr Hughes advised that those communities that were not set to get the 20mph scheme imminently could pay themselves for the scheme and as you know this will cost for Newton Poppleford around £10-15,000. Although there is no need to resubmit the previous application it is probably a good idea to do so.

County Council
Cabinet Member Report
8 December 2022

Report of the Cabinet Member Highway Management

I have been asked to Report as follows for Full Council on 8 December 2022:

1. By Councillor Bailey as follows:

Please can I have a cabinet report on funding and timescale for the roll out of 20 mph zones in the 100 communities who wish to have this speed limit but have not been successful in 2022-3.

Response

In response to Councillor Bailey's request my report is as follows:

As you will be aware, at our Cabinet meeting on the 13th July the first tranche of 20mph schemes was agreed for progress this year.

A further £150,000 has been secured in our Road Safety Capital Allocation for a further tranche in 23/24. It is anticipated that 6 further communities could benefit from new 20mph limits with this additional funding.

The first tranche received a significant number of expressions of interest with in total 105 proposals scored and prioritised. It is proposed to utilise the same scoring matrix as used for the current year's tranche. Where communities have already submitted their expression of interest, they need not do so again, this will be reviewed again and against any expressions from new communities. If a community wishes to modify their proposal they may do so, and this will be reassessed.

A letter will shortly be sent to elected Members inviting them to work with their communities to complete new or modified applications, it is important that every application is supported both by the Town or Parish Council and Elected Member prior to assessment. It is recognised that there is no Town or Parish Council representation for the Exeter area and community support will be discussed separately with those Members. An invitation will also be sent to Town and Parish Councils via our regular Town and Parish Council Bulletin.

To allow for assessment and prioritisation for schemes to be delivered in 2023/24 all new or modified submissions must be complete by 31st January 2023.

Stuart Hughes
Cabinet Member
Highway Management

Wigwags

I have written to Tom Vaughan Highways Manager at DCC to confirm that the Parish Council and myself wish to proceed with the wigwags and that I will pay for half of the cost via my locality budget. Expected costs are £2000. I have asked that prior to installation a discussion takes place about the location and timings of the flashing lights.

New School for Tipton St John

I reported on my blog and facebook page the announcement on Friday 16th December that Tipton St John School is set to receive funding for a school rebuild. <https://jessicabailey.home.blog/> and [Jess Bailey - Otter Valley Devon County Councillor | Facebook](#). It is great news that at long last government funding is forthcoming. No site has been identified yet and it is my firm view, and always has been, that the school should remain in Tipton St John and not be relocated to Ottery St Mary or elsewhere.

Attack on nature

I was pleased that at the Devon County Council meeting on 8th December the Council agreed, following my notice of motion, to write to the Government about the attack on nature and the importance of environmental protections.

166 Environmental Protections (Minute 150 - 6 October 2022)

Pursuant to County Council Minute 150 of 6 October 2022 relating to the Notice of Motion set out below as previously submitted and formally moved and seconded by Councillor Bailey that:

'This Council is strongly opposed to the reckless ripping up of environmental protections by the Conservative Government including the creation 38 new investment zones which have been described by the RSPB as "an attack on Nature". This Council urges the Government to uphold the legal protections which are vital for wildlife particularly as the UK is one of the most nature depleted countries in the world (it is in the bottom 10% of the world's countries well below China and the last among the G7 group of nations)'.

and having had regard to the advice of the Cabinet set out in Minute 239(f) of 9 November 2022:

Councillor Hart **MOVED** and Councillor McInnes **SECONDED** that the Cabinet's advice be accepted and that the County Council writes to the Secretary of State for the Environment to highlight:

- (a) the concerns about the currently perceived policy threats to nature;
- (b) the importance of strong environmental protection alongside other statutory considerations to achieve our strategic aim of supporting sustainable and inclusive economic prosperity that improves the health and wellbeing of our residents; and
- (c) that careful streamlining of the delivery of regulatory requirements, rather than their weakening or removal, is the most effective way of ensuring that environmental interests do not cause inappropriate delay or constraint to future growth.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Hart was then put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** and subsequently thereafter also **CARRIED** as the substantive motion.

Notice of motion on voter ID

I am hugely concerned about the impact of photo ID being required for voting from May 2023 onwards. This is being introduced by the Conservative government despite the fact that voter fraud is virtually non-existent in our country. I am concerned that this is really about voter suppression as it seems to me that the new rules are designed to exclude voters who may typically not vote Conservative, especially younger voters. I am calling for the LGA and County Council network to raise concerns with the Secretary of State and asking that voting be encouraged especially amongst younger voters - rather than introducing barriers which is set to deter voting. This notice of motion will be discussed by DCC's cabinet and Council early next year.