

**Agenda item no .....035.....: Highways Report\* Sept '24 (comprising this one page)**

\*Prepared in liaison with Paul Mackintosh and Tom Whitmore per P&H agreement 7/4/21. Approved by P&H Chair for inclusion on Agenda and circulation to P&H members prior to this meeting.

**Section A: Highways Maintenance and Improvement Category**

Purpose: To monitor the initiation/development/implementation of schemes required in the town by (a) use of and updating the Southwell Traffic Management Plan (STMP), and (b) Quarterly Highways Liaison Meetings with NCC/Via EM/County Councillor.

**1. Quarterly Highway Liaison Meetings:** next quarterly meeting now set/diarised for Thursday 19/9/24 (last one held 1 /2/24).

**2. Southwell Traffic Management Plan (STMP) 25/26**

a) Approved and adopted by P&H, on behalf of STC, by unanimous vote at the 7/8/24 meeting. Item 6, Ropewalk Resurfacing, completed between 11 and 18/8/24.

b) In line with P&H Councillors' wishes, copies of STMP at a) -

- sent by Clerk on 13/8/24 to all anticipated attendees of the next quarterly meeting referred to at 1 above (ie representatives of Via EM on behalf of Notts CC and County Cllr Jackson), with note saying it will effectively become source of/background to Agenda for that session, and

- currently being loaded onto P&H page of STC website, with wording on that page suitably adjusted to explain basis and purpose of the document.

**Section B: Environmental Weight Restriction/HGV Reporting Category**

Purpose: Concerned with actions to minimise the noise, nuisance and pollution caused by HGV traffic in the town (mainly by reports to NCC 'Lorry Watch' system). A 7.5t Environmental Weight Restriction applies to all highways in and around the town. The A612 through the town was downgraded to C road (No 32) status end-2018.

**Members are reminded** that latest data about HGV routing enforcement -

- both in and around Southwell and for the entire County,

- during the periods 1 /4/22 - 31/3/23 inc and 1 /4/23 – 31/3/24, and

- provided May '24 by Notts CC in response to a Freedom of Information request about its 'Lorry Watch' reporting system,

is set out in the June '24 Highways Report.

**Section C: Speed Limit Enforcement Category**

Purpose: Concerned with activities to enforce Statutory 30 mph speed limit in town, thereby minimising dangers and nuisance to residents.

**Speedwatch**

a) x20 local Speedwatch patrols have taken place this year to date, totalling 18 hours 29 minutes. x7 other patrols have been lost due to rain.

b) Distribution and publication of recruitment 'flyers' (on notice boards in town, via local U3A group and placing on STC website and Facebook pages) has produced only two enquiries, neither of which has resulted in actual recruitment of a fresh volunteer.

c) Challenge, in writing, of the recent NSDC decision NOT to provide any level of patrol support to local Speedwatch groups has resulted in this policy being reversed, though still no NSDC patrols in town to date this year.

d) Accuracy of FOI data, supplied by Notts Police 31/5/24, queried with new Police and Crime Commissioner (who has 'enforcement of speed limits' as a stated priority). The reply dated 17/7 from the local Chief Inspector (CI) was responded to by Safer Neighbourhood Group (SNG) Chair at the end of July, including an invitation to the CI to attend next SNG meeting which is to be held in The Old Court House Thurs 12/9 starting 18:00.

**End of Highways Report to Sept '24 P&H (base date 22/8/24)**