

Broadwas and Cotheridge Parish Council

13.8.25

Report for:

Agenda **item 25/194** Speeding on the A44 in Broadwas and Cotheridge.

The purpose of this report is to update Councillors on actions since the last meeting, and to seek Councillors views as to any next steps.

Since her election as a County Councillor in May Cllr Fordington has listened to our concerns, and sought to take this matter forwards.

She organised a meeting with a representative from the Police, which was attended by our District Councillor, Councillor Fordington and myself. A representative from the County Council was also in attendance (Julian A Turner MBE MCIHT Principal Engineer ITS, Accident Studies Road Safety Engineering & Road Safety Audit Team)

The Police were represented by Robert Haynes
Senior Traffic Management Advisor | Road Safety | West Mercia Police.

Councillors will be aware of the correspondence prior and subsequent to the meeting.

In summary the meeting provided a useful opportunity to share information and understanding about the issues the Parish Council has continued to raise with the County Council and its Partner agencies, for some years.

West Mercia Police have continued with increased enforcement activity in Broadwas, and a recent prosecution reported in the press was noted.

The representative from the County Council provided some interesting background information in relation to the role of his team.

All concerned welcomed the opportunity to share information and perspectives. Cllr Fordington subsequently approached Cllr Karl Perks who is the lead county councillor for Highways.

During the meeting it transpired that the Highways Department had commissioned a “road study”, which had just been completed and was in the process of being passed to the Councils external consultants.

The Parish Council was not aware of this exercise, not of its terms of reference and scope.

It is understood that such studies can have a number of applications from for example focusing on one aspect such as the condition of the road surface through to a more comprehensive brief which could include traffic studies, safety audits and environmental impact assessments.

Dependant on the scope and extent of such a study, it could provide evidence for areas that need maintenance, enhancement to safety, improvement in traffic flow, changed road layouts and traffic control measures. It could identify and address safety hazards to reduce accidents and improve road user safety.

Summary and possible next steps

1. That the Parish Council should express its appreciation for the efforts being made by Cllr Fordington and the continued support of District Cllr Jones Williams.

2. That the Parish Council should formally write to all concerned to
 - a) request the terms of reference for the Road Study and at what point this will be shared with the Parish Council,
 - b) express disappointment that this has been undertaken without making the Parish Council aware and
 - c) to establish whether the County Council is intending to consult with the Parish Council, in order to to take into account their views.
3. That the Parish Council should update the wider stakeholders (parishioners, our MP, the respective CEO's of the councils, The Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable), of the present position.
4. The Parish Council should discuss and consider whether any other steps could be taken to secure the goal of getting the officers of the County Council to listen to the views of parishioners and to consider the Parish Councils proposals.

Richard Burrows
Chair