

Uplyme Neighbourhood Plan Summary Note of Meeting – Devon County Council Highways – 17 April 2015

Brian Hoare - Devon CC Highways

Andrew Hoyle - Devon CC Highways [Development Management]

John Garland - Chair Uplyme Parish Council & Neighbourhood Plan group

Simon Williams - Neighbourhood Plan group

The purpose of the meeting was:

- To enable the Highway Authority to advise on any improvements or changes that may be planned in Uplyme which may need to be referred to in the Plan
- To discuss proposed improvement within the village being considered by the Plan Group
- To highlight the fact that the Plan may propose small scale housing sites to be developed and that as part of site appraisal that would be undertaken, there would be a requirement for a Highways input in respect of site access and related matters.

SW went through the PowerPoint presentation to provide the background and update as to the stage the Uplyme Neighbourhood Plan had reached, with a brief explanation of the overall process being provided and the outcome of the latest consultation and exhibition in January. There had been consultation with range of other authorities and agencies as well as the public and it was therefore important that the Highway Authority was also involved.

JG explained that the main highway problem referred to in consultation exercises was the situation at the 'pinch point' close to Grogg Lane where there was no footpath for pedestrians and poor visibility. This was dangerous situation especially for the many school students that walked this route.

BH advised that a scheme had been drawn up for a 'Priority Gateway' in this location and had thought that this plan had been seen to the Parish Council in 2014.

However JG was not aware of this and BH agreed to send further copies. *[Hard copies by post and as a PDF by email would be beneficial]*

However, BH advised that there was currently no funding available for the scheme which had been estimated to cost £35,000. There was discussion about the potential for this being funded by Community Infrastructure Levy funds, once the Neighbourhood Plan was adopted and if sites came forward for development which could be required to contribute. BH also advised that Cllr Jim Knight had a small fund for highway schemes and that the matter should be raised with him.

In the meantime contributions could be sought from any other developments and a request was made for a sign warning of 'Pedestrians in Road' or similar as an interim measure.

BH advised that the policy of the Highway Authority was to try and reduce highway signing generally, but it is accepted that in this case, the highway danger had been recognised by DCC and therefore there was a case for the sign. However funding was again an issue for DCC; with the cost of the sign and its installation being £5-600.

JG confirmed that subject to consideration and approval by the Parish Council, it was possible that the Parish Council could fund this sign and the matter would therefore be raised with the Council. If this was possible JG will write to BH who will then take the matter forward. If approved, JG to arrange for a letter to be sent by the Parish Council to BH, formally requesting the sign and offering for the Parish Council to pay for its provision and installation.

The other issue that was always raised by the public was the lack of a footway in front of Stanbury as this was on the main road and route to the shop and village hall. BH enquired whether the owner of the land had been approached with a request to make a strip available to enable the footway to be installed and this was the first step that should be taken locally. This to be considered by the Plan Group and Parish Council.

There was general discussion about traffic calming measures at the approach to Uplyme from the north as traffic speeds generally exceed the limit. The issue of access to the proposed new school site, on-site parking issues and other minor improvements set out in the Neighbourhood Plan consultation exhibition were also considered.

With regard to possible future housing sites, the Plan that had been generated at the last consultation event with the plan with 'yellow blobs' identifying sites proposed by the public was shown and discussed. It was agreed that some sites were not realistic but others had potential for development. These would all be subject to a site appraisal as part of the Neighbourhood Plan work and DCC Highway agreed that they would support this work by attending site visits to advise on access and highway issues in due course with AH attending. It was confirmed that a 'Call for Sites' had been issued so that any other landowners could propose sites for consideration as housing allocations.

Reference was also made to the proposal for a 'Rural Exception Site' at Venlake End which it was understood was now subject to a planning application and had highway implications. BH/AH to look into this scheme.

There was brief discussion about the Hunters Lodge junction issue and also with regard to the potential and heavy traffic destined for Lyme Regis, being signed to use the road from the A35 via Trinity Hill to the Sidmouth Road as this was already a DCC designated 'Principal Gritting Route'. This issue to be considered further.

The meeting was very positive and beneficial in taking the Neighbourhood Plan work forward and in ensuring that the DCC Highway officers were aware of the Plan and its emerging proposals.

SW
21 April 2014