



**Central Area Forum
Chapel-en-le-Frith High School
Thursday 7th February 2008**

Reference: 01 CNL 07/02/08-

Question:

This concerns the speed of traffic on this section of Stoneheads and our worry that a major accident is due to happen any day now due to the ferocious speeds of an increasing number of vehicles. The speed humps do not deter a significant number of motorists, that is a fact of which the police are well aware.

The speed hump situated immediately outside the drive of this property forces many of these drivers to drive closer to the nearside of the road where and when, if we are attempting to exit, places us in mortal danger. This very morning I witnessed a new and even more terrifying incident. A fast, very fast moving car overtaking a lorry - both coming down the hill - the car inches from our exit at an estimated 45 m.p.h.

Is there any way that these increasingly dangerous developments can be stopped?

Answer:

(Police) - This has been investigated by our North Roads Policing Traffic Management Constable. We have assumed that your concern relates to Whaley Lane as Stoneheads is a cul de sac. On checking records, we can find no previous complaints about excessive speeds on Whaley Lane. The first thing we need to do is arrange a speed survey to establish the extent of the problem described. When the results are received, they will be compared against the collision history and the site will be formally categorised for enforcement purposes.

The Safety Camera Team will conduct a new speed survey and report the results in due course. Please note that the demand for our survey equipment is currently very high and I am afraid that Whaley Lane will have to take its turn in the queue. In the meantime, local officers will keep an eye on traffic speeds when in the area.

Derbyshire County Council's Area Traffic and Safety Officer who has responsibility for this area, informs us that there are no proposals for any further safety work in the area. DCC also has access to the police database which contains brief details of recorded personal injury collisions and will want

to know what speeds are being achieved before responding to your request. I shall ensure that DCC is provided with the results of our speed survey.

For the time being Officers of our North Area Roads Policing Unit will pay attention to road speeds when in the area and exigencies of duty permit.

Reference: 02 CNL 07/02/08-

Question:

Request to look at the junction of Yates Road and Jubilee Street, New Mills. The pavement is cracked and sinking, there is a leak in the road (which has been reported at least 3 years ago), paint on the pavement.

Plant bulbs in the grass verge.

Yellow lines on the junctions.

This estate is a real mess and we must start somewhere. It seems to the residents that because it is a Council estate it is left on one side and neglected. People need a sense of pride in the area they live in and this will hopefully develop into tending their own areas.

Answer:

The DCC Highway Manager advises that there are no actionable defects on the footway at this junction that require repair by the County Council. The condition of the footway is monitored during routine inspections and any defects noted will be repaired as necessary.

The leak in the road is a natural spring that dries up and then re-appears during the course of the year. It is not considered to be dangerous by DCC and no further action is proposed.

The paint on the footway has apparently been there for some time and although it is not considered to be dangerous, the Borough Council's Streetcare section will consider whether it can be removed by jet washing.

Reference: 03 CNL 07/02/08-

Question:

Surely it is an offence for parking on a double yellow line? Why do Police officers ignore illegal parking and drive past? Do the PCSO's have the power to give out fixed penalty notices?

Answer:

(Police) - It is a problem since there have been reduced numbers of traffic wardens. It is likely that Police are on their way to an incident when they drive past. The Team does its best to cover all incidents. PCSO's call the regular Police to issue fixed penalty notices.

Reference: 04 CNL 07/02/08-

Question:

Why are there no Derbyshire Councillors in membership of the Police Authority Board?

Answer:

(Derbyshire Police Authority) - Appointed Councillor Members must reflect the political balance of the parties on those councils within the relevant Police Authority area, and the Police Authority has no influence over the geographical location from which these Members are chosen.

Lay Justice Members are recruited and appointed by the Police Authority and will increase by 3 to 8 as from 1st October 2008.

Updated Police Authority Regulations will state that at least one Independent Member of the Police Authority must be a Lay Justice for an 'area all or part of which constitutes or forms part of the Police Authority area'.

Recruitment selection is carried out by:

- 3 Members of the Authority;
- 1 individual appointed by the Home Secretary; and
- 1 individual appointed by the above panel members from a list of candidates prepared by the Home Secretary.

The selection panel produces a 'short-list' of candidates that contains twice the number of applicants to appointments to be made. In exercising their function the panel must have regard to the desirability of producing a short-list that is representative of the interests of the communities covered by the Police Authority, and, includes people with the skills, knowledge or experiences which are under represented among existing Members. Candidates on the short-list will be interviewed by a panel of existing Police Authority Members prior to appointments being confirmed.

Eligibility specifies that applicants must have lived or worked in the area in the area covered by the Police Authority during the whole period of 12 months ending with the day of appointment.

The Derbyshire Police Authority Chair is mindful that there is no Member based in the north of the County; this will be taken into account when recruitment takes place later in the year. The Authority is looking for candidates with the right mix of skills, abilities and experience; geographical location is a secondary consideration.

The current Chair originates from the Hope Valley, and seeks to actively represent the needs of this area, attending High Peak Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership meetings, consultative groups and forums; and ensuring that the needs of the High Peak are being fully represented.

Carol Brister represent the High Peak on the Police Authority (see <http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/policeauthority/10.html>).

Reference: 05 CNL 07/02/08-

Question:

Could there be more flexibility on the speed limits in particular areas? I.e. reduction to the 30 mph limit on the Little Hayfield road, which experiences fast moving lorries traveling close to pedestrians on this narrow highway.

Answer:

DCC – the national speed limit has to be applied on A roads, but in some parts of the country exceptions have been made to further reduce speed limits. We will take this back to County to consider.