

From:- J Hayes
C Muff

25-09-2023

A brief report and suggested solutions to the Traffic problems in Gayton

Background

Both Charles and I are members of the Gayton Community Speedwatch team and regularly check speeds of motorists at various locations within the village envelope. As a result of this and our observations I feel we are well placed to comment on the issues as we see them.

We feel that there are **three** major issues:-

1. The transition from 60mph to 30mph at the entrances to the village from the B1145 and the B1153 approaching from Grimston and the entrance from the road to East Winch(see photos 1-4 as examples)
2. Between Lansdowne Close and Vicarage Lane there is a bend and narrowing road with Commercial and Residential parking (See photos 5-8 as examples)
3. The narrowness of the pavement at two points on the B1145, on the Rampant Horse Corner and Church Terrace.(See photos 9-12)

(Note. References to Rampant Horse refer to the public house that was there before conversion to housing)

Reasoning

There have been a number of incidents, both reported and not reported involving vehicles travelling through the village of Gayton – a car on its roof on the Rampant Horse bend (within the last three weeks!), a horse spooked and an injured rider, parked cars damaged by collision, and individuals very worried about being near or crossing the road as reported on the local Village Facebook group on many occasions.

The bend and entrance to the new Draper Gardens has become extremely dangerous due to speeding motorists and the proximity to the bend at the Rampant

Horse exacerbates this situation. Following an earlier report the Junction was remarked which we are pleased to report this appears to have been successful in preventing further collisions with the kerb which had previously happened (A motorcyclist was badly injured when he was thrown from his motorbike when he hit the kerb at night.)

There are an increasing number of Heavy Goods Vehicles travelling through the village. A few years ago the HGVs travelling to the feed factory at Bawsey from Attlebridge were designated to travel on the A roads via Fakenham and approach Bawsey from Kings Lynn (QE roundabout) but this no longer happens –not only with the feed lorries but also many other HGVs which trundle through the village 24 hours a day!

Whilst we acknowledge that the B1145 is a designated trunk road we feel it essential that some method of reducing the speed between Lansdowne Close and Vicarage Lane is sought. The official limit is 30 but we feel that due to parking congestion (Caused by the removal of an off road parking facility for residents) and the proximity of the entrance of the new Draper Gardens development to the dangerous bend at the Rampant Horse and the narrowness of the pavement at that corner a traffic calming measure should be sought. The 30 limit between these points is inappropriate for the Hazards that exist.

There is an issue with footways:-

- Where the pavement at Church Terrace Cottage, on the B1145 near the Parish Church is very narrow, and many people have to stop until vehicles have passed before walking it, especially at night.
- The pavement on the Rampant Horse bend near the Old Chapel is even narrower – not even wide enough for a mobility scooter/wheelchair or pram. Ther is not only a danger but it has happened that wing mirrors on passing vehicles have hit pedestrians, luckily not causing serious injury----YET!Again, people tend to wait until it is clear of traffic.
- Grimston Road has a trod on the left side going out of the village and crossing the road by the bend near the bungalows is hazardous due to vehicles entering the village at speed.

Potential solutions to consider

We suggest that the following ideas should be considered to reduce the risk of injury caused by the above issues. (As suggested by members of the local voluntary Speedwatch team.)

The entrances to the village on the B1145 and B1153 and East Winch Road are marked 30mph immediately from the National Speed Limit (60mph). Currently people are still exceeding the speed limit when they reach the flashing 30mph signs some considerable way into the village and past the major hazards at those points.

- Service station/ shop/ retail access west B1145
- Crossroads/ Residential Home/ Bus Stop east B1145
- Bends and junction north B1153
- Bends/ very narrow road/ blind junction south B1153

Potential solution is to reduce the speed limit to 40mph some distance away from the transition from 60-30mph making the transition 60-40-30mph and giving drivers the opportunity to slow to 30 at the transition point. This will increase awareness and opportunity to reduce speed in line with the law!

Regarding the other issues in the centre of the village on the B1145 it is proposed that consideration is given to making a 20mph zone between Lansdowne Close and Vicarage Lane which will help to reduce the risks associated with the following

- Draper Gardens junction and proximity to Rampant Horse bend
- The narrow footway near the old chapel
- Parked cars on both sides of the road between Lansdowne Close and Vicarage Lane. (This has been caused by removing the facility to park cars off the highway which existed previously giving property owners no option but to park on the Road)

We would like to request a visit, meeting and discussion with the Highways Dept., County, Borough and Parish Councillors to find a solution to the problems of inappropriate speed on the roads day and night. The evidence of collisions, incidents and near misses is clear for all to see and it is only a matter of time before more injuries are caused by the problems associated with inappropriate speeds.

Photos of 60/30 transition



1. Entrance into Village
B1145 Kings Lynn



2. Exit Village B1145 towards
Kings Lynn



3. Entrance into Village B1145
From LitchamLitcham



4. Exit Village B1145 towards
Kings Lynn

Congestion Issues in Centre of village/ Dangerous Corner



5. Congestion B1145 Village Centre

6. Congestion near Rampant Horse bend



7. Rampant Horse Bend with Draper Gardens junction

8. Coming around Rampant Horse bend to parked cars

Narrow footways



9. By Church Cottage 25" or 0.63m (Minimum)

10. Rampant Horse bend 23" or 0.58m (minimum)



11. Rampant Horse bend

12. Rampant Horse bend