

Meeting at the Mill and on Mill road – 7 July 2020

Attendees: Justin Le-May (Highways), Campbell J, Caroline F, Fran W, Jo C, Suzanne H and a Mill Road resident

Points of note:

- Bollards - if Highways put them in then they responsible for maintaining, which is expensive - Highways are currently 'de-cluttering' rather than increasing the number of bollards they are responsible for.
- Parking towards Mill House - Justin saw this as acceptable - it is highways verge, parking there isn't causing a blockage (Jeff advised that it occasionally does if a 'motorhome' size vehicle also parks on the opposite side. Bollards that used to be there will not be replaced.
- People can park on grass verges as long as it isn't a hazard as it is Highways Land. Residents who install their own parking deterrents / bollards can probably expect to be asked to remove them if Highways consider them a hazard. Justin pointed out a large flint that had been placed on a grass verge as a deterrent and that if it caused damage to a vehicle the landowner would be liable.
- Asking people to move their cars/not park - some people can be offensive and often point out the fact that they is nothing saying they can't park there.
- Safety - Justin advised that statistically its a safe road - it doesn't have a history of accidents. There may have been accidents but they have not been officially recorded hence it appearing to be a safe road.

The pinch point between the Mill car park entrance and the end of the picnic area (towards Horstead House)

- Both Caro and Jeff agreed this is where our main issue is
- Justin suggested moving the bollards closer to the water so there would be room to park more cars along the road but hadn't realised that would encroach on parish land.
- Justin asked if there was any land where we could establish a car park or if the existing car park could be extended.
- Justin discussed clearing the mud off the road and re-banking the bank on the side opposite the water – Jeff pointed out that the drains in the area often flood and it wouldn't be long before it was back to the same state again.
- Yellow lines were discussed – concern that they would be covered in mud or with cars parked they wouldn't be overly obvious.
- Jo suggested creating a 'clearway' (my understanding of this is it would be the yellow lines and additional signs saying no parking) – these can have the option of being 'seasonal' – ie no parking here between April and October, but the general consensus was that it shouldn't be seasonal as it may lead to confusion.
- Temporary advisory signs were also discussed – while these are not enforceable, it would give some back up to those asking people to not park there.

Conclusion

- Justin will look to supply two temporary signs – its likely to take 6-8 weeks for these to be made up and installed.
- Justin will investigate creating a 'clearway' – this isn't something he has done before.
- Money – Highways will supply the temporary signs but anything else we will need to find funding for – Justin is guessing it will cost between £6,000 and £12,000 (the same as for yellow lines). Fran has pledged some of his 'funding'. The Parish Council will need to investigate other sources.
- Timescale – Justin advised that its likely to take 9-12 months to get this in place.