



You are here by summoned to virtually attend a meeting of Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council, which will be held on Thursday 21st January 2021 at 7.00pm via Zoom conferencing system. This meeting is accessible to the public at the following link:

PC Surgery: a representative from the Council will be available on line (link above) from 6.30pm for parishioners to raise any concerns.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81754503133?pwd=THE5cWtZa2JkMjR0bSt0amFJOExrUT09>

Meeting ID: 817 5450 3133

Passcode: 148706

Email office@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk Telephone 07495789051 for assistance.

All attendees will be on mute as they enter the meeting and will be unmuted by the Clerk/assistant Clerk upon raising a hand. Please arrive in the virtual waiting room at least ten minutes before the start of the meeting in case of any connection issues.

Any members of the public who wish to speak at the meeting please contact the Clerk in advance

The Council, members of the public and the press may record/film/photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Parish Council Manager (in advance) who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, all persons attending this meeting are hereby notified that this meeting will be tape-recorded by the Parish Council. The purpose of taping is that recordings act as an aide-memoire to assist the Parish Council Clerk in the compilation of minutes.

Public Forum

Democratic thirty-minute period/public discussion time: From 7.00pm residents are invited to give their views to the Parish Council on items on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself (standing order 3 f). No member of the public may speak for more than five minutes (standing order 3g)

Please ensure that all mobile phones are switched to silent during the Parish Council meeting.

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 96.To consider apologies | -decision |
| 97.Declaration of Interests
To receive declarations of interest and consider dispensation requests & Code of Conduct | -Information |
| 98. Signing of the minutes.
To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of 9 th December 2020 | -decision |
| 99. Clerks report
To receive report from the Parish Clerk | -information |
| 100. District report
To receive the report from the District Council | -information |
| 101. County report
To receive the report from the County Council | -information |
| 102. Financial matters
To consider financial matters including: | -decision |

- a. To approve the expenditure for December 2020
- b. To receive the Unity Trust Reconciled Account to 31st December 2020
- c. To receive the Unity Trust Working Reserves Reconciled Account to 31st December 2020
- d. To note payments/decisions made under delegated powers

103. Planning recommendations

-decision

To consider planning matters including

- a) Planning application 20/00748/FUL
 Planning application 20/01120/FUL
 Planning application 21/00016/TREE
 Planning application 21/00008/TREE
 Planning application 21/00028/REM
- b) Planning applications received after the agenda papers distributed

104. Working group reports

To consider the recommendations: -decision

Christmas: Specifics for the tender for the LTA of three years as detailed below:

- To supply all new displays, fit & demount each year
- To support our annual switch-on event
- carry out annual equipment testing, pole stress tests and electrical tests and provide the clerk with copies of each
- supply any details required for the relevant licenses
- repair (if needed) any displays (cost to be quoted prior)
- Supply 11 column motifs (a variety of choice is required)
- Store all equipment (including any owned by LSWA PC)
- Provide an out of hours' service for any arising issues
- Advise LSWA PC on any foreseeable issues for subsequent years
- Tender is not to exceed £6000 for the annual hire, install and dismount costs
- Enter a long term agreement covering three Christmas periods beginning Christmas 2021
- G39 certificates required for all contractors
- Other business:
 - Time lights are on for each day 3pm-12am for all 1pm -12am for the trees
 - Event- date 20th Nov 2021, event to be bigger with a full Christmas Market Street, new gazebos required in the summer to accommodate more stalls
 - Banners- to reuse and replace (as the children move through the school) every 5 years
 - New tree lights for WA are required, warm and white to be purchased

Christmas Lights Competition

105. Broadholes Lane change of use Consultation

- information/decision

To consider the responses received and further stages

106. NALC Foundation award for Quality Council

- information/decision

To consider an application and associated costs £100

107. A5 report

- information/decision

To receive report on issues along the A5 that Cllr Anderson wishes to share with other local councils

108. Rights of way request

- decision

To consider a request to reimburse £86 to a member of the public for repairs carried out to stiles

109. Grants request

- decision

To consider any grant requests received

110. Items for future

Each councillor may use this opportunity to report on matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas. **Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.**

111. Date of next meeting: Thursday 4th March 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88050035792?pwd=dGsrZGk2ajFocFdTd1ZHVjk0eGdqQT09>

Meeting ID: 880 5003 5792

Passcode: 144661

Crime and Disorder Implications

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications when exercising its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions and to do all that is reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area. Where relevant any decisions made at the Parish Council meeting have taken this duty of Care into consideration.

Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council

Clerks Report

Information

- 11.12.20 Overgrown footpaths along the A5 reported, ref 4220356
- 11.12.20 Pothole at Marston Rd by the field entrance, chased repair with SCC
- Forwarded a query to SSC regarding the removal of trees along Broadholes Lane
- Additional dog fouling signs requested from SSC
- SCC have confirmed that the pot hole repair at Marston Road will be completed by the end of January
- It has been confirmed that Lapley Road and the A5 are treated with grit and not The Avenue, it does not qualify for a grit bin
- SSC are investigating any constraints around usage at Broadholes Lane Playa area

Police information

- Clerk has spoken with PCSO Price; overall incidents have been reduced in the parish. There has been a breach of Covid regulations within a Wheaton Aston Business which has resulted in fines to both the owners and users.
- Police are aware of speeding issues in Stretton and are awaiting further details on a particular vehicle

Maintenance

- Repairs at Primrose play area appointed
- Repairs to large pothole at Marston Rd are due to be carried out at the end of January ref 2209987

Consultations

Meetings/Events

Training/CPD

- 12.1.21 Xmas working group meeting 7pm
- 14.2.21 SLCC Branch meet (Clerk)
- 19th January Planning (Cllr Anderson)
- 27th January Planning training (clerk)
- 27th Jan effective communication training (Clerk and Cllr Millington)
- 22nd Feb Procurement and Contracts (Clerk)
- 3rd March Basic Parish online training Am (Clerk and A/Clerk)
- 3rd March Advanced Parish Online training (Clerk and A/Clerk)

Items emailed to councillors

- 7.12.20 SSC climate funding
- 8.12.20 SPCA courses
- 9.12.20 SSC tax base
- 9.12.20 Details of NALC council awards
- 10.12.20 SPCA newsbulletin
- 10.12.20 SSC Covid update
- 10.12.20 SSC Locality 2 update
- 11.12.20 Brewood Pc response on A5
- 16.12.20 Planning ref 20/01090/FUL
- 15.12.20 Planning app 20/00661/FUL
- 16.12.20 Planning application 20/01072/FUL
- 16.12.20 SCC Marston Rd pot hole repair

- 16.12.20 Planning ref 20/01090/FUL
- 5.1.21 Appeal notification: 20/00399/FUL
- 5.1.21 Covid marshall update
- 5.1.21 SPCA newsbulletin 31.12.20
- 6.1.21 planning application 20/00748/FUL
- 7.1.21 SPCA newsbulletin
- 11.1.21 Planning application 20/01120/FUL
- 12.1.21 SSC Covid Marshall work plan update
- 13.01.21 SCC planning application 21/00016/TREE
- 13.01.21 SCC Planning application 21/00008/TREE
- 13.1.21 SSC advice on rights of way
- 13.1.21 Planning application 21/00028/REM
- 14.1.21 SPCA newsbulletin

Use of devolved powers

- £30 SPCA Procurement and contract course –Clerk
- £149.85 spent at Spar for goods for Xmas hampers
- £150 vired to local donations to cover costs of Xmas donations
- £16.99 for Xmas gift bags for hampers
- New timer required for Column 2, Xmas lighting
- Applied to the county council Climate funding for £500 to progress the paperless council aspirations
- Response to planning application 20/01090/FUL-No objection
- Response to planning application 20/01072/FUL- LSWA PC do not object to the application but would like the decision to reflect the consideration for adequate lighting for neighbouring proprieties due to this being a two storey development
- 11.1.21 £12.99 Plastic wallets Amazon
- 11.1.21 £35.99 Headset (for meetings) plus £6.19 3-year insurance Amazon

Lapley Stretton & Wheaton Aston Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - payments approval list

Start of year 01/04/20

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Heading	Invoice date	Details	Cheque
193fp33975605		£14.39	100/6/1	15/12/20	Mrs Amy Watson - zoom monthly charges	£14.39
	7aw					
194		£22.38		15/12/20	Amazon -	
1		£16.99	170		xmas gift bags for hampers	
2		£5.39	170		printer cables	
195fp23310919		£2,896.80	160/1/1	15/12/20	Turnock Limited - xmas lights	£2,896.80
	Otc					
196fp30675353		£921.60	160/1/1	15/12/20	Turnock Limited - vh icicles, pole tests, elec tests	£921.60
	530tc					
197fp15143059		£222.00	160/1/1	15/12/20	Turnock Limited - new timer long street	£222.00
	tc					
198	fp	£335.40	160/1/1	15/12/20	Turnock Limited - Lapley tree lights	£335.40
199fp87030972		£480.00	100/11/2	15/12/20	Mazars LLP - external audit costs	£480.00
	9mz					
200fp97879868		£130.65	100/12	15/12/20	Ricoh U K Limited - charges	£130.65
	3ri					
201		£5.99	100/10	15/12/20	Mainstream Digital Ltd. - charges	
202fo59636985		£500.00	100/16	15/12/20	Staffordshire County Council - website hosting	£500.00
	8ssc					
203	fx card	£33.99		15/12/20	Amazon -	£33.99
1		£21.48	170		batteries	
2		£4.89	170		cable ties	
3		£7.62	170		cable ties	
204fp14989905		£246.00	120/1/6	15/12/20	A F E B Limited - Stretton bench install, godfather post	
£246.00	8afeb				installs	
205fp77844025		£260.00	100/2	15/12/20	South Staffordshire District Council - rent	£260.00
	ssc					
206fp18236664		£204.00	160/1/2	15/12/20	Weston Sawmill & Nursery - xmas tree	£204.00
	8wsm					
207fp16807281		£1,237.00	120/1/1	15/12/20	Ditton Services - monthly charge	£1,237.00
	ds					
208fp27835985		£220.00	100/4/1	15/12/20	Pink Print - news and views	£220.00
	3pp					
209fp70317774		£115.00	100/4/1	15/12/20	Pink Print - n&v delivery costs	£115.00
	2pp					
217		£22.35	120/1/5	15/12/20	Mr. Malcolm Bissell - November expenses	
				date		
218fp93525072		£149.85		15/12/20	Spar - items for Xmas hamper	£149.85
	7spar					
	1	£44.85	180/3		vat excluded items	
	2	£105.00	180/3		vat inclusive items	
219		£28.20			Unity trust bank charges	
220		£50.04			EE monthly charges	
		£3,527.22			Confidential	

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

Unity Trust - Current Account

Statement Number	14	Bank Statement No.	14
Statement Opening Balance	£82,575.13	Opening Date	01/12/20
Statement Closing Balance	£69,852.13	Closing Date	31/12/20
True/ Cashbook Closing Balance	£69,516.73		

Date	Cheque/ Ref.	Supplier/ Customer	Debit (£)	Credit (£)	Balance (£)
30/11/20	chq	Mr. Alan Cadman	2,450.00	0.00	80,125.13
30/11/20	fo955258318ds	Ditton Services	1,237.00	0.00	78,888.13
30/11/20	fp 991725186ds	Ditton Services	540.00	0.00	78,348.13
30/11/20	fp97250869ds	Ditton Services	2,366.40	0.00	75,981.73
10/12/20	fp101220	V Renfrew	0.00	80.00	76,061.73
14/12/20	minute dec 20		3,259.00	0.00	72,802.73
17/12/20	dd171220ee	EE	50.04	0.00	72,752.69
24/12/20	bacs 171220ssc	South Staffordshire DC	0.00	170.00	72,922.69
30/12/20		Transfer	0.00	8,506.00	81,428.69
31/12/20		HMRC	180.35	0.00	81,248.34
31/12/20		HMRC	0.20	0.00	81,248.14
31/12/20		HMRC	0.40	0.00	81,247.74
31/12/20		HMRC	58.40	0.00	81,189.34
31/12/20		HMRC	4.40	0.00	81,184.94
31/12/20		HMRC	37.00	0.00	81,147.94
31/12/20		HMRC	323.24	0.00	80,824.70
31/12/20		Mr. Malcolm Bissell	22.35	0.00	80,802.35
31/12/20		Mainstream Digital Ltd.	5.99	0.00	80,796.36
31/12/20	basc 311220UT	Unity Trust	28.20	0.00	80,768.16
31/12/20	fo596369858ssc	Staffordshire County Council	500.00	0.00	80,268.16
31/12/20	fp139289731ds	Ditton Services	394.61	0.00	79,873.55
31/12/20	fp149899058afe	A F E B Limited	246.00	0.00	79,627.55
31/12/20	fp15143059tc	Turnock Limited	222.00	0.00	79,405.55
31/12/20	fp16807281ds	Ditton Services	1,237.00	0.00	78,168.55
31/12/20	fp182366648ws	Weston Sawmill & Nursery	204.00	0.00	77,964.55
31/12/20	fp233109190tc	Turnock Limited	2,896.80	0.00	75,067.75
31/12/20	fp278359853pp	Pink Print	220.00	0.00	74,847.75
31/12/20	fp3067535353tc	Turnock Limited	921.60	0.00	73,926.15
31/12/20	fp339756057aw	Mrs Amy Watson	14.39	0.00	73,911.76
31/12/20	fp37340450ad	Mrs. Alexa Davies			
31/12/20	fp478490409kd	Mrs Karen Daker			
31/12/20	fp624571773mb	Mr. Malcolm Bissell			
31/12/20	fp703177742pp	Pink Print	115.00	0.00	73,234.54
31/12/20	fp713997482aw	Mrs Amy Watson			
31/12/20	fp7255181jm	Mrs. Josie Morris			
31/12/20	fp77844025ssc	South Staffordshire DC	260.00	0.00	71,340.35
31/12/20	fp870309729mz	Mazars LLP	480.00	0.00	70,860.35
31/12/20	fp904710964spf	SCC Superannuation Fund	727.72	0.00	70,132.63
31/12/20	fp935250727spa	Spar	149.85	0.00	69,982.78
31/12/20	fp978798683ri	Ricoh U K Limited	130.65	0.00	69,852.13

Uncleared and unrepresented effects

31/12/20	fp43245656tc	Turnock Limited	335.40		69,516.73
		Total	335.40		

Unity trust working reserves

Statement Number	6	Bank Statement No.	6
Statement Opening Balance	£15,958.66	Opening Date	01/12/20
Statement Closing Balance	£27,723.66	Closing Date	08/01/21
True/ Cashbook Closing Balance	£27,723.66		

Date	Cheque/ Ref.	Supplier/ Customer	Debit (£)	Credit (£)	Balance (£)
14/12/20	minute dec 20		0.00	3,259.00	19,217.66
08/01/21	dec minute 20		0.00	8,506.00	27,723.66

A5 report agenda item 107

Evidence in support of speed reductions and possible weight restrictions on the A5 Gailey – Weston-Under-Lizard and Diversion Route usage.

CLlr Anita Anderson

January 2021

Summary:

- Speed limits need to be reviewed: The road is too fast especially where there has been more residential development.
- Not policed in areas where needed: Speeding and dangerous manoeuvres occur on a regular and daily basis.
- Junction improvements needed.
- HGV's are too big for this stretch.
- The use of this stretch as a diversion route whenever the M54 is closed.
- Mitigation measures for residents living in the A5 on respect of noise & pollution and in view of WMI development.

I (CLlr Anita Anderson) live on this stretch and have done for 18 years. Over the last 2-3 years I and other residents have raised constant concerns in respect of the above issues on this stretch of the A5 which is not a trunk road. Undoubtedly, over the years this stretch has become busier and indeed one of the Stretton residents who has lived here all his life and stated that **the M54 was built to alleviate traffic on the A5 but it is as busy now as before the M54 was built.**

1973 Debate on M54

HANSARD 1803–2005 → 1970s → 1973 → December 1973 → 19 December 1973 → Commons Sitting → ORDERS OF THE DAY

ROADS (CANNOCK)

HC Deb 19 December 1973 vol 866 cc1531-44

“I want to speak briefly about two particular sections of the A5. Ivetsey Bank and Weston-under- Lizard are both accident hazards. Ivetsey Bank crossroads are on the crest of a hill.

*Something must be done about that, and done soon. But perhaps the most crying need of all is for the village of Weston-under-Lizard. This charming and delightful rural spot is an obvious candidate for a bypass, and for some 50 years a by-pass has been on the cards and pressed for by local people. Surely the time has come when their pleas and prayers should be answered. **Every walk taken in that village is almost a walk with death.** The peace of the area and the nerves of its people are shattered. Will my hon. Friend give a little hope that these people will be able to live in an atmosphere of tranquillity, calm and safety?”*

“The attitude, on environmental grounds, of the CPRE and the important article in Country Life in the summer served to underline this dissatisfaction. The reason was the fact that the landscape through which the southern route would carve its way is of quite outstanding quality. I do not want to expand upon its beauties at great length because I want to leave time for my hon. Friend the Member for The Wrekin to make some comments. But it is a beautiful landscape. I should like to mention one or two places. There is Chillington, within my constituency, which with its wonderful Capability Brown landscaped park and the countryside around is one of the gems of rural England. The whole area between my home village of Brewood and the neighbouring village of Codsall is tremendously attractive. In my hon. Friend's constituency, around Tong, the gems are there for all to see.”

It seems to be a case of what goes around comes around and history seems to be repeating itself.

More recently I have submitted emails to our 2 MP's, The County Council, The Chief Constable, Staffs Safer Roads Partnership and the Highways and have been assured that a speed review has been included in County Council budgets for the future.

NB: Emails can be forwarded if needed. I am sending regular emails reporting incidences when they occur to the group listed above. This includes recent dashcam footage of a very large HGV that travelled from the A5 through Wheaton

Aston, turned left and through the lanes to Church Eaton. It got stuck in the narrow lanes when trying to pass a camper van coming the opposite way.

I have been informed that some of this budget allocation would need to come from the 4 Parish Councils hence the inclusion of this project at Parish Council level.

There is an extensive roads report that is also attached that was put together for the purpose of opposing the WMI. The report contains information about this stretch of the A5. Not all of that report is relevant but there is a degree of information in there that is.

Following emails in 2018 to the structural engineer for Canals and Rivers Trust responsible for Stretton Aqueduct, they stated that there were some conditions reports against the Aqueduct and stressed how significant and important that historical structure is.

Some of our residences date back to the 16th Century and were not built to cope with HGV's. Yew Tree Cottage opposite The Bell Public House is an example of such a property. This is included in the resident's feedback attached.

(Ref: Freight Strategy for the County of Staffordshire Nov 2018) Impact of HGV's on the Local Network and Rural Areas P14

The small proportion of HGV traffic that is using the rural network inappropriately however is of considerable concern to local communities.

HGV's are particularly unsuited to narrow rural roads. The most frequently cited causes of concern raised by local communities relate to:

- 'rat running' through rural areas to avoid congestion or to take a more direct route;
- subsidence and damage to highways;
- noise and impact on the tranquillity of the rural area;
- the size and speed of vehicles and an increase in perception of vulnerability for pedestrians, cyclists and people horse-riding;

- damage and erosion to verges, walls, hedgerows, other vegetation and tree canopies over narrow lanes;
- damage to buildings and other structures;
- congestion and blockages to roads;
- difficulties in crossing roads and dangers to children playing in rural communities where there is a regular flow of HGV traffic;
- dust pollution; and
- mud and other hazards on the highway.

Email 18th February 2018 from the Director of Maidens Haulage following report of speeding HGV.

"We will always use the shortest route to get from A to B as long as it is safe to do so and there are no restrictions. We very often use the A5 to get to the M6 North as do many other transport companies delivering into Telford. Many other transport companies do the same, as this is the shortest route. We would be travelling an additional 15.4 miles if we were to use the M54. On average 35 of our vehicles will travel north on a daily basis, that would be an additional 539 miles per day and over 140,000 additional miles per year, not good for our carbon footprint."

In respect of Weston Park and Bradford Estates. - On the A5, the above raise serious concerns for Bradford Estates as the condition of the wall on the southern side needs some urgent attention and they have been liaising with Weston Park to get works undertaken as soon as possible. There are a number of places where the wall has become weakened and their worry, which they have flagged time and again, is that another collapse could cause a fatality. This is also detailed in an email to me from the Director at Bradford Estates.

A root cause for the wall being weakened is of course the vibration from lorries and traffic. A reduction in speed limit is surely justified on grounds of the listed wall alone, isn't it? This is only going to become a bigger issue with the development of the WMI at Gailey.

Bradford Estates would welcome a reduction through Weston-under-Lizard at 30mph and extending this to run the length of the wall. Weston Park would agree to this as would the residents. Bradford Estates would be happy to assist in achieving this. The Chairman of Weston/Blymhill PC suggested to Bradford Estates that they were already pursuing this and that the Council were dealing with the matter

Accident Data

Along certain sections, the A5 operates less as a trunk road and more as a local route providing function for industrial and local traffic travelling a short distance along the A5 in order to access employment, education/training and health facilities (Brewood, Penkrigde & Wheaton Aston Medical Practices). This is true of the above section of the A5 following the detrunking order of April 1995.

Traffic flow data taken from 2012, 2015 and 2018 has indicated the following:

Total 12hour (7am-7pm) 5 day average vehicle flows in the vicinity of the petrol filling station have risen from 8089 in 2012 to 9923 in 2015 and up to 10391 in 2018; (Ref: Desk Top Assessment Connectivity Strategy Officer Transport and the Connected County Staffordshire County Council Email dated 18th Oct 2018).

This leads to high levels of turning movements at junctions, which can result in delays, congestion and accidents.

I wish to draw attention to the Crackley Bank junction where Shropshire Council have recently installed traffic lights. Below is the explanation and figures upon which that decision was made.

The council maintains a record of reported accidents each year which will include the seriousness and cause of each accident . This enables the service to identify sites where there are regular clusters of accidents for which some form of intervention may be appropriate and further investigation necessary. This allows the council to better prioritise the limited budgets it has available to area's where the biggest accident savings can be achieved.

For this site it was first identified as an accident cluster for review in 2016. The accident record for this junction is provide below although please note that the figures relate to a cumulative figure of the number of accidents in the preceding 3 years rather than within the year itself.

Year	No. report accidents over the previous three year period
2016	5
2017	5
2018	4
2019	3

Such a review would consider the types of accidents that have occurred and look for trends for which engineering measures may be appropriate. In this case the accident record identified a number of collisions from traffic emerging from side roads and therefore some form of junction control was considered necessary. Thereafter, a mix of engineering expertise and typical traffic levels on each arm of the junction will determine the type of control appropriate with roundabouts being usually better suited to areas where each arm of the junction have more balanced traffic levels and traffic signals where a main road has a considerably more dominant traffic level, however this can vary on a site by site basis.

Recent Information from Cllr Mark Sutton.

Data and Information

"I have spoken with our Accident Investigation Team and they have carried out an analysis of the recorded incidents along the A5 between the county boundary and Gailey (not including the roundabout itself) and in the most recent three years of complete personal injury data that we have available, there have been 15 collisions recorded (one fatal, six serious and eight slight).

We understand the fatal collision involved a vehicle overtaking another car when travelling towards Gailey.

Two serious and one slight collision have taken place in the 40 mph section at **Weston** where we are currently considering reducing the speed limit. One serious collision involved a vehicle turning right from Hatch Lane and an oncoming vehicle has had to take evasive action and has struck the offside kerb, whilst the other serious collision was a single vehicle loss of control.

Four collisions have taken place at the **Ivetsey Bank crossroads**, however there is no treatable pattern between the four collisions. The serious collision was again a single vehicle loss of control and the three remaining slight injury collisions all involved different manoeuvres and so this is a site that we are aware of and we continue to monitor but are not proposing any remedial measures at this time.

There have also been three collisions, two of which were serious, at the junction with **Claygates Road**. One of the collisions was a motorcyclist who failed to stop at the Give Way and has proceeded straight across the junction and came to rest in the field. The other two collisions involved a vehicle turning right from Claygates Road and colliding with a vehicle travelling westbound.”

We know that there have been several collisions occur since this information was sent by Cllr Sutton in October 2020 and that there are many many more unreportable dangerous and serious manoeuvres that take place on this stretch and a further email trail can be provided in respect of this. It would be interesting to know what the rolling data is for this stretch rather than just a single given (eg: four collisions at Ivetsey Bank). During what period of time and what is the rolling data?

Crash Map view of Claygates Road Junction to Gailey - a vulnerable accident spot.



1. Jan 2019 - This happened as a result of a driver losing concentration and demonstrates how close to the road and how vulnerable some of our homes are in the nearby area. The vehicle just missed the oil tank and the house and the driver was inches away from death from a concrete plinth that sheared through the vehicle.



2. Below Photos taken June 2018 on the A5 (detrunked) Weston- Under-Lizard Where Road Narrows. A resident had stopped to turn right and the lorry behind was travelling too fast and too close and could not stop. He veered onto the other side of the road and collided with an oncoming van.



3. This happened at the Junction of The Avenue on the A5 in July/August 2020. It happened as a result of a vehicle overtaking on the single unbroken white line. He didn't see that vehicle coming the other way. The driver ended up in hospital.



Residents feedback gathered approx. 12-18 months ago.

With being a resident of Weston under Lizard by Weston Park, drivers of all vehicles are no longer respecting the 40mph speed limit especially at night. You can hear the lorries and motorbikes especially speeding up at night waking my daughter.

– WC Weston Under Lizard

Dear Anita,

Many thanks for your leaflet about gathering data about the current traffic on the A5 between Gailey to Weston. As a resident of Weston-under-Lizard for the last 3 years and living in close proximity of the A5, the speed of vehicles is very noticeable.

Through the village the speed limit is 40mph, however many vehicles complying with this is very low especially if travelling from Telford to Gailey, as it is a slight decline hill. Our main concern is the speed and volume of larger sized lorries. You can easily tell if a lorry is speeding due to the noise, wind speed off the vehicle and the shudder of the lorry passing the house. My husband would like to mention the particular time that lorries are likely to speed is at 3am when my husband leaves work on a local dairy farm, on many occasions when he has left the house to walk to the car, he has been blown into the fence when walking along the footpath and all when he gets on to the A5 driving at below 40mph he is over taken by lorries on a solid double white line.

During the day the amount of lorries travelling per hour is under 10, however you still feel the effects when you're in the garden especially from the noise including motorbikes which startles my 2 year old daughter which sometimes makes her cry because it was so loud. Thus making her feel not safe in the garden and normally have to go to the village playground even though the motorbike noise can still be heard.

Also during the night the sound of lorries and vehicles have woken all 3 of us in the house hold, despite all windows with internal glazing being closed.

I would also like to mention that in the previous years with the V festival, despite the volume of traffic being high the noise being very low due to the 30mph being in place and normally the lorries would use the M54 instead of being in the traffic management in place through Weston-under-Lizard.

Please feel free to pass this email on to the councillors as the speed of vehicles depends on the safety of the village residents and it will only take one speeding lorry to crash into someone's garden or house and cause a lot of destruction or a speeding motorbike over taking on double white lines to cause a head on RTC.

Kind Regards

– WPB

Hi Anita I Would just like to mention a couple of things that are a real issue to me and my family living in this area. I understand you are the local parish councillor for Wheaton Aston so I will start with that first. We live 4 miles from Gaily Island where there is a bus service on the A449, going the other way we are one mile from Bishops Wood where there is also a bus service. We are unable to access either of these locations without the use of a car as there is no useable footpath either way. We are forced to drive everywhere, something we would not do if we were able to access bus services. The "connect" bus service is not any use to us as the places we go are not offered on this service. I understand you are on the committee called " Stop West Midlands Interchange (in South Staffs Greenbelt) " we, my husband and I, have some serious issues with this as well. The A5 is used continuously day and night by all manner of traffic. This causes a lot of pollution which in itself is a serious issue. I have a serious lung condition which is exacerbated by the high levels of toxins emitted from cars and lorries. In the six years I have lived here the traffic appears to have got worse especially lorries that use the A road and when one breaks down, as they do, the traffic comes to a standstill and a ten minute journey suddenly becomes much longer. There is also very dangerous overtaking that goes on, very often as a result, although not always, of people getting stuck behind slow moving farm vehicles or lorries. This is EXTREMELY dangerous for oncoming traffic as there is nowhere to go if there is an error of judgement from the vehicle overtaking, which incidentally is sometimes lorries. The area I live in which is ST 19 has become more built up over the past few years so obviously there is more residential traffic to contend with without increase in lorries which would definitely, without a doubt get considerably worse if the Gailey Freight Hub goes ahead, slow moving, or traffic at a standstill produces more car/lorry emissions which are a danger to all. I sincerely hope the people who are in a position to help will take my concerns seriously. Thanks.

I forgot to mention about noise pollution especially from motor bikes. Also, forgot to mention that I use the A5 at night and lorries are a major problem as they very often don't dip their headlights and being a windy, narrow road it can be a hair raising experience.

A5 Traffic Weston Under Lizard

Dear Anita,

Thankyou for introducing yourself.

My name is I have lived in Weston under lizard now for five yrs. We moved from Bedfordshire, from an area that has had similar problems with heavy traffic travelling above speed through small villages and rural areas. Certainly when we first moved to Weston the traffic didn't seem so heavy but speed has always been a concern and now with the big lorry's trundling down the A5 at all hrs this to has become a concern along with heavy traffic. We have a grandson who lives with us at the moment along with having children of school age. The road worries me as far as an accident waiting to happen (a long with those already tragically that have occurred). I love my village and being so close to Weston Park itself, but I feel the traffic load we have scars the village sadly. Would it be possible to propose some speed calming measures such as humps with pedestrian crossing (keeping in mind the park itself) or maybe some chicanes. It seems things like this would have a twofold effect of slowing cars down and deterring heavy goods vehicles from travelling down this rd. Thanks for your time and concern.
Regards

– Bishops Wood Resident.

Hi Anita

I have hijacked one of your flyers left in Weston under Lizard as you have been asking for comments on the current traffic position on the A5.

I live in Bishopswood and have to travel from there (ST19) to Stafford (off Beaconside ST18) each day. The increase in traffic is enormous – and particularly the 40 ton HGV portion has increased considerably. The junction at the top of Ivetsey Bank Road is extremely difficult to cross and the increase in Wheaton Aston traffic as a result of various new builds is noticeable also. The speed of the traffic is certainly not the 60 mph it should be and there are regular commuter bikers who take everyone's life in their hands.

The “ pinch points” as the West Midlands Interchange informed us, can be ironed out by larger and more frequent roundabouts which is errant nonsense but doubtless will be fallen for in due course aided by those conglomerates out to make a fast buck.

The default position in the morning is queue to make a right turn on to the A5 then a queue at Gailey then a queue to join the M6 either at Junction 12 – where there are so many 40 ton HGV some mornings filtering in is difficult as the drivers simply will not move over or slacken speed. The reduction from 4 lanes back to three at Junction 13 results quite often in a convoy of trucks driving so close together that there is no room to change lanes anyway. Exiting at Junction 14 is the same, on my journey I am then stuck on the approach to Beaconside which is also queued back to the motorway because of new house building and temporary lights for access.

If there is an accident on the M6 the default position is to close the motorway down which has happened on three occasions recently when it took myself and three of our employees to ST18, 3 hours to get to work. All other routes to Stafford were gridlocked and as we run a garage/workshop we had cancelled MOT services as we had no one on site. As you can imagine the knock on from that is not good for the business and you can only imagine the diesel particulate output on that morning. The fallback traffic on the A449/A5 just results in gridlock.

We now have the advent of an upgrade to a “ smart “ motorway between J13 and J14 (a euphemism for we'll be able to increase fines income) and the queues are already forming - the average speed cameras are up but not working yet - when there is another accident the result will be exactly the same a 3 hour journey to work. The definition of “ smart” should be enlightening – presumably another indication that the hub will go ahead whatever.

To increase the traffic flow from the proposed rail hub on to A5 or the M6 is a proposal not remotely justified within such a green belt area.

We are losing our green status in South Staffordshire and allowing more and more traffic on these A roads is increasing pollution tremendously – you only have to look at what hedging we still have along the A5/A449 it is black with pollutants – and we are still approving house building where established trees and hedging are grubbed up and replaced with domestic sized landscaping.

There are hundreds of houses being built on my route to work , not one has solar panels or rainwater harvesting systems, or sustainable water permeating driveways. The extra costs for these items on a large scale could be cost effective but no one really cares about carbon neutral/sustainability. The noise barrier such greening provides is very necessary and often overlooked. We also have proposals to build hundreds more at Junction 3 M54.

I assume a giant Section 106 payment to cover the items that do not comply on these large builds suits everyone all round or indeed just re classifying green belt to allow building.

I do apologise for moving off topic but suffice to say any more traffic on the A5 is not a good idea !! My daughter lives in Weston under Lizard and we are all aware of traffic noise when in her garden now – I have taken the liberty of forwarding your flyer to neighbours so hopefully more comments will appear.

I have just come back in from a dog walk across the common in Bishopswood and the noise of the traffic even at this time of the evening is a constant as you confirm from your own experience.

Weston Close, Weston-Under-Lizard.

Finds it extremely difficult to turn out the Close and indeed a neighbour was crashed into whilst trying to do so. The potholes in the A5 make the lorries very noisy at night especially if they are carrying pallets.

Weston Under Lizard Rectory Drive.

Dear Councillor Anderson,

I am responding with a few thoughts/comments having received your note pushed through our letter-box.

My wife, daughter and I were one of the few local residents who attended one of the public consultations regarding the proposed Gailey Freight Hub. I also submitted my comments, which largely revolved around traffic volumes travelling along the A5 between the A41 and the A449 through Weston-under-Lizard, to the appropriate parties ahead of the deadline for comments copying in local MP Jeremy Lefroy.

I continue to be concerned that (apparently) little attention or fieldwork analysis has been undertaken of the likely volumes of freight traffic that will travel up and (more likely) down the A41 from the ports on the North West coasts and other distribution hubs in the North West destined for the Gailey Freight Hub (if it is established). The A41 is already a tremendously busy road for HGVs and articulated lorries and there is ample evidence of premature wear and damage to the road on the stretch of the A41 from Whitchurch to the A41's junction with the A5 where freight traffic would have to turn left to travel along the A5 to reach the Gailey Freight Hub via the A449 junction. When I challenged representatives of the developer at the Public Open Meetings they were rather vague about all of this and if I am cynical, this is either because they have not done the underlying analysis looking at predicted traffic volumes or alternatively they have and they don't want us to know the results. They also tried to suggest that freight traffic coming from the North West would use the M6 but this is already a heavily congested stretch of the M6 made worse by the current roadworks on the stretch up to and just beyond Manchester.

You will know that the narrowest part of the A5 is the section which passes through Weston-under-Lizard where there are double white lines and at many points, particularly where there is not a clear view of the road ahead, there is barely enough room for two articulated lorries to pass by each other; indeed I have already seen one incident where one lorry lost its driver's side mirror when the two collided for this very reason.

The issue of motorcyclists is quite a separate issue but one which does concern me greatly. There are many yellow signs along the A5 proclaiming "Beware Bikes" almost pointing the finger at every other road user rather the motorbike riders themselves. Only last week there was yet another fatality near to our village and whilst it is highly regrettable than anyone is killed or injured, I cannot help feeling that the speed at which many motorcyclists travel along the A5 is largely responsible. The speed of motorbikes is a particular issue on a Sunday morning when we can often hear the noise of high revving engines passing through the village at speeds which are most obviously significantly in excess of any speed limit let alone the 40mph which applies through the village. Where are the speed camera vans or the police for that matter when this is going on? If the police were out on a fine sunny Sunday morning they would catch loads of motorbikes speeding through Weston or anywhere else along the A5 where it is not uncommon for motorbikes to be seen coming close on your tail in the car, weaving in and out at high speed. I would add that there have been many occasions when both my wife and I have been overtaken by other cars on the double white lines whilst driving through Weston under Lizard. Hope this helps.

Regards

Weston-under-Lizard TF11 8QQ

A5 resident FB feedback

We are sick and tired of the lorries coming down the A5 as if they think they are on the motorway they have no respect for the speed limit at all they are doing speeds up 60 mph when they should be doing 50mph on a single carriage way that is the law we have reported to the police and the council and they don't want to know about the speeding vehicles it's about time the police and council do something before innocent people are killed or injured we cannot sleep at night they need to see what's going on for themselves then they might understand what are we paying our taxes for well it's about time they start earning their wages.

Hi Anita I would be happy for you to use my feedback hope it works as we speak now its that time of night again Hgvs on the A5 ignoring the speed limit another sleepless night again i just want someone do something about it we are fed up with it night after night the police don't want to no and the council are a waste of time please keep me posted thank you.

Further phone following flyer drop.

Lorries are turning down The Avenue and speeding down the middle of the road. The road is in very poor condition. A friend, whilst turning right into The Avenue has been collided with as the vehicle simply did not see her. Vehicles

overtake on double white lines. The grass verges need cutting back as they block visibility when turning out of the junctions on the A5. HGV's are travelling in excess of the 50 mph, the lorries coming from Liverpool /Ireland have no limiters on them and are reaching 60mph. The speed cameras are in situ at the wrong times of day and there is not enough consistency in the information they must gather.

email

Hi Anita

I'm responding to your letter about the traffic issues along the stretch of A5 (Gailey to Weston).

I agree there's been a significant increase in traffic on this stretch of the A5 over the last 18 months - 2 years. We notice it all the more because we live on the crossroads in Stretton to Brewood and Penkridge.

We've also seen an increase in the traffic at evenings, particularly lorries, travelling at speed which has made sleeping more difficult. I've been reliably informed that triple glazing has been installed in a property on the A449 which was funded by the Ministry of Transport to alleviate such noise issues on that stretch of road. Is this something you could look into during your enquiries?

Thank you

Gailey

I live next to Gailey Island and the traffic by there has never been good, but recently it seems to be getting worse, especially during rush hours and a bit after 3 a lot if the time it backs up all the way to Stretton Mill.

On many occasions when going to work towards Penkridge or when taking my partner to work towards Wolverhampton, I have been cut up by cars, lorries and even tractors whilst going round the island. It's very dangerous and now it's even worse now the grass hasn't been cut.

I have never been keen on pulling into where we live either because as soon as cars approach the A5 they put their foot down to do 60 and probably more and they try and overtake me when I pull into our drive! It's always been dangerous, but it's especially worse now because we have our 7 month old son in the back of the car!

I think that lorries shouldn't be allowed to use the A5 and motorbikes and cars should stick to the speed limits. I personally think that when you come off Gailey island onto the A5 the speed should be dropped to either 40 or 50 and then gradually go up to 60 further down the road.

I think if were the case there would be a lot less accidents on the island and the stretch of road approaching it.

Regards,

Weston Close Weston Under Lizard- telephone call 6.15pm

Called to inform me of an incident/accident in Weston that had just occurred. ?? had stopped and was waiting to turn right into his property. A lorry behind could not stop and swerved around him. A van on the other side of the road stopped when he saw a lorry coming towards him and a car went into the back of him. No-one hurt but the lorry drove off and didn't stop.

When the mum and daughter were killed last year nothing was done. No speed cameras, nothing at all was done. On the A449 in Shrewsbury in every village there is a 30mph limit and speed cameras and that's what is needed here all along this stretch of the A5.

He and his family have considered moving because the road is getting so busy and dangerous but why should they? ?? is the church warden at St Andrews and loves it here. He is concerned for his wife and 2 year old daughters safety though. ?? is going to try to get onto the Blyhill Parish Council to also try to do something about this dangerous road.

From

To: Anita Anderson

A5 traffic

Good afternoon Anita,

we live just off Congreve Lane - in response to your flyer regarding the traffic issue along the A5 between Gailey and Weston please see below my comments:

on an average day the volume of traffic along the A5 appears to have increased over the last 3 years.

this increase in traffic is exacerbated when the M54 is closed or in any way impaired

- the noise from lorries and motorcycles is actually quite disruptive in the early evening, overnight and on Sundays.

- the absence of footpaths along the full length of the road means that public footpaths/bridleways on the opposite side of the road are inaccessible.

- trying to walk along the footpaths that are in place is not a pleasant experience due to the speed and volume of traffic

Good luck in your campaign

best wishes

From

To: Anita Anderson

A5 Traffic

Hi Anita

Thanks for your recent note through our front door.

We have lived at our current address, part of a block of three cottages called Old Hall Cottages, for almost 3 years now and we love living here and being part of such a great community.

We are up near Ivetsey Bank, directly on to the A5. The general workweek volume of traffic for us is something we have always been used to. I wouldn't say it has got any worse since we first moved in. It is relatively easy even in heavy traffic to get on and off our driveway. And the noise itself doesn't bother us generally.

There are two issues however we do have. The first is the blatant disregard for the speed limit. Especially on a Tuesday evening which seems to be a popular night for motorcycles to gather and also Friday night and Saturday, all day. These road users are driving for "fun" not as regular commuters which leads me to our next issue.

Just half a mile up the road from us towards Weston Park the A5 goes down to 40 and no passing on both sides. As traffic comes through this part of the A5 the road opens up to 60 and there is a lovely great stretch of road laid out before them. This puts us directly on a point in that stretch where regularly cars and motorbikes are speeding and overtaking outside of our front door, it being the first time they can really open up and pass slower traffic. Its dangerous. They are driving way too fast and are passing areas where other road users are trying to join the main road from various entrance and exit points.

Apart from the obvious increase in noise this brings as traffic is passing way past the speed limit. I have noticed an increase in horns heard from the house during this period as no doubt dangerous manoeuvres are taking place. Just driving along the A5 during these times, you can see people speeding in traffic, overtaking dangerously on bends and in front of oncoming traffic.

We also, even though there are only the three families in our block, are a residential group and there are plenty more scattered down our stretch of road. We wouldn't dream of having such lax regulations governing residential areas with more residents and it does annoy me that more isn't being done to try and control this huge issue.

Even though as a responsible road user this would hinder my journey at some points, I personally would like to see the entire stretch of A5 from Gailey through to this side of Weston be brought down to a 50 limit, with more no passing lines put in place. I know if we had both in front of our house, I would feel much safer, especially as we have little family members visiting and expecting our own in August.

If you need any further information please let me know.

Kind Regards

From

Dear Anita thank for letter regarding the traffic on A5 .. I live in Yew Tree Cottage opposite Bell inn on the A5 , we are currently for sale as we are needing to move areas for work however the increased traffic likely due to the Proposed Freight hub is making this process very hard .. the traffic is usually heavier morning and evening and quiet in day and evening and weekends however the amount of lorries proposed to use the new hub will I think impact heavily on the road ... part of our cottage is 16th century and was not built to cope with thundering lorries also I am worried that we will have trouble getting on and off the drive as well as the noise and the pollution .. when the motorway is shut for whatever reason the traffic zooms down the road all day and all night very much like the motorway itself ... and I fear that this is what the stretch of road will become .. I hate to be NIMBY about the situation but it is not fair that for something that was not proposed when I moved here 14 years ago will impact so greatly on our lives ... if we struggle to get off our drive then all the outlining villages will have the same problem as they won't be able to get onto the A5 either ... the road at the moment (apart from when motorway is shut) is not actually busy and doesn't interfere with us .. but there are always crash's where the lanes meet the A5 ...the road is not wide enough for the huge lorries .. our pavements (where there are some) are to narrow and the speed of traffic is to fast ... especially the motorbikes one of my customers actually said I went past your house at a hundred the other night .. he thought that was great I did not ... my previous neighbour had tried to get the speed reduced through the village (past all the houses and the lanes) to the same as Weston for 10 years to no avail ... We are a rather forgotten here I feel ... and feel very sad about the whole situation .. I chose to live semi rural .. if I wanted to listen to lorries and cars and bikes I could have chosen city living ... we here will be just as affected by the hub as the residents of four ash's for example (but they won't have the noise from traffic at speed) they will be compensated we however will not .. I have already written to Jeremy Lefroy and Gavin Williamson and completed the questionnaire we were sent .. If we don't manage to sell (without reducing house price dramatically which isn't fair) I have loved living here and would want to be happy to continue to live here

as it's a lovely area .. so I do feel very sad about the whole situation .., the road it is a major worry to me .. my neighbours who rent from Mr Monkton have already left and as he owns most of the property in my village I am sure it doesn't concern him as there are always people to rent whilst we are stuck ...
Apologies for Waffling but I don't wish any more traffic on the road than there is at moment .. I would like better road system with lower speeds .. usable safe pavements and no Freight hub and if it does go ahead I would like all residents to be compensated not just those on their doorstep ... this hub will affect everyone who lives in its vicinity .. kindest regards Carrieanne Hyde

– Telephone call Farm resident Brewood side

has witnessed 2 lorries overtaking each other on the double white lines outside the farm. The overtaking lorry did not get completely past until Café India. A foreign arctic lorry turned onto the driveway and attempted to turn around on the tarmac. Resident chased after him and made him drive to the top of the path and turn around on the hardcore. He would have torn up the tarmac and there was very little room.

To: Anita Anderson

A5 TRAFFIC

Ivetsey Bank, Staffordshire, ST19 9QT

Dear Anita,

In reply to your letter to the residents of the A5 (Gailey to Weston stretch).

I have emailed the highways department on numerous occasions about the safety aspect of pulling into my driveway, I have had feed back but still no outcome of what I have proposed. The speed of the traffic makes it very hard to pull into the driveway safely as other drivers assume we are pulling in for petrol. It seems to me that the bollards were put in the wrong place and are a real health and safety issue.

I am also concerned about the amount of motor bikes, heavy goods traffic and their size. There is no speed cameras along this stretch and to have national speed limit is purely a joke, 50 mph is more than adequate. I also think that a set of traffic lights by the crossroads would be a good idea.

I also think that there has been an increased amount of traffic noise throughout the night.

I know that you are never going to stop the traffic on the A5 but think that there are many ways that it could be managed better.

I am against the opposed freight hub as I am sure there are other areas where this would be more suitable to be located. I am willing to do anything to help this from going ahead and hope that other residents are with you on this as it will spoil what green belt we have left.

If i can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Suggested plan:

- Cllr Sutton to send ball park figures for the review.
- Liaise with other Parish Councils to get them on board.
- With a view to reduce the speed to 30mph through Stretton and Weston and 40mph along the remainder and the speed enforced.
- With a view to considering a weight restriction on the whole stretch to protect our vulnerable residents /residences and listed structures.
- Junction improvements at Bishops Wood, Wheaton Aston junction.
- A review of this stretch being used as a diversion route by the relevant authorities and could the A41 through Wolverhampton be considered?
- Freedom of information request submitted in June 2020 to Shropshire County Council in respect of the decision to install traffic lights at the Crackley Bank crossroads and the speed reduction and junction improvements on the A41. No information back to date.