

Dear Ryan

Firstly I would like to thank you, Richard and Kim for their time on Tuesday taken to discuss possible traffic calming proposals for Norton.

We discussed the possibility of a priority working chicane on the Daventry Road approach to the village, just prior to the Weedon Lane junction. Due to the allotment access, the proximity to the junction with Weedon Lane, the field access, and properties east of the Weedon Lane junction any proposed feature would have to be introduced the Daventry side of the field access. Also discussed the possibility of relocating the start of the 30mph speed limit closer to Weedon Lane with a section of 40mph "buffer" prior to this. However on reflection the location of the existing speed limit and gateway feature would probably be appropriate if a chicane was introduced in this area.

For reference a typical costs for a priority working feature is round £25,000 + VAT. There are different variables at each site, such as distance to the electrical supply for the illuminated signs and lighting columns needed to illuminate the feature at night and if there are drainage implications. To ascertain an accurate price a feasibility / design study would have to be undertaken, which would involve obtaining vehicle speed data for this section and investigation of underground utility equipment in the area as well as undertaking design of the feature. This would cost in the region of £1,500 + VAT to undertake.

With regard to funding, every year Northamptonshire Highways receive many requests for new features such as traffic calming, pedestrian crossings, sections of footway etc. which far exceeds our available budgets. Any such requests are now put forward into an annual bidding process for funding from a central countywide "pot" of money. These schemes are then prioritised on the number of benefits the scheme gives and the value for money they offer and the top 8 or so schemes then go forward for that year's programme of works.

As part of the ranking process, if a Parish can commit to funding the scheme in part, this adds weight to the potential score. This works as a "sliding scale" dependant on the amount of contribution from the Parish i.e. the higher the percentage the Parish can commit the more points it will score. I've added the traffic calming proposal to our "wish list" of future schemes for inclusion in this process. All outstanding requests remain on the list for subsequent years and it will be included in the process when this is undertaken again in the new year (subject to confirmation of budgets). Being on our "wish list" also helps to highlight locations where we have had scheme requests should funding from developers become available via the Section 106 process at a future date.

Electronic signs indicating vehicle speeds were also discussed and there is a scheme where the Parish Council can purchase battery operated or solar devices that indicate the speed of individual vehicles. These devices can be moved around various locations within the village and have proved effective in "reminding" drivers of the speed limit. The cost of the mobile units, depending on specification, is around £2,500 - £3,000, the higher end models can record data (i.e. speed and volume) that can be downloaded onto a computer. Solar powered units are also available but are considerably more expensive.

As well as the purchase of the device the Parish Council would also need a licence to allow it to be used on Highway and possibly some additional posts if there weren't any suitable posts, in the appropriate locations required, to mount the device on. If the Parish Council require more details of the self-purchase scheme then the contact is Steve Barber at sbarber2@kierwsp.co.uk or via the Highways Switchboard number on 01604 883400.

I have also put one of our notices, requesting that the resident cuts back the vegetation overgrowing the footpath, into the post box at No 25 Daventry Road (on the corner of The

Broadway). I'm not sure if the property is still occupied as the front garden was generally overgrown and the post box quite full. It may also be worth the Parish Council also trying to contact the resident if they know the occupier?

I hope that this is of assistance, if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me or Steve Barber directly.

Kind regards

Ian

### Ian Boyes

**Asst. Community Liaison Officer (Daventry & Kettering Area)**

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Once reported you will be issued with a unique reference number and be able to follow the progress of your enquiry.

- Website: [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor)
- For information and transport and highway updates follow us on Twitter @nnhighways
- To view road works and diversion routes go to [roadworks.org](http://roadworks.org)



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