

Ward Councillors' Report to Shevington Parish Council

30 November 2022

Dist Cllr Vicky Galligan reported the following:

Parking on Grass Verges in Miles Lane Near Broadriding Road

The Area Traffic Engineer has replied to the enquiry about parking on grass verges:

“Unfortunately, this has been an ongoing issue for many years. In the past, the Council has installed a number of bollards within the verges, and then repaired those bollards as and when they have been knocked down time and time again. The bollards themselves also created a particular obstruction for the Greenspaces Teams when they attempt to mow the grass there. The parking itself does not present any particular road safety or traffic congestion problems from a network management perspective, and so we're afraid that we do not propose to take any further action there on this occasion. However, we will ask the Highways Inspections Team whether or not they would consider charging the owners of the vehicles for the costs of repairing the verges, which may ultimately deter such parking from occurring in the future.”

Adoption of Roads on the Taylor-Wimpey Estate

Wigan Council's officer has sent the following reply to an enquiry about the possibility of the roads on the Taylor-Wimpey estate being adopted:

“I have provided a response similar to the one I recently gave to a resident of the estate who was enquiring about the status of the development and in particular in respect of street lighting.

The developer has requested three Section 38 Agreements for the estate, one for each phase. A Section 38 is the recognised legal method for adopting roads and footways on such sites, however it is a voluntary agreement so we can't force a developer to enter into one.

The Section 38's were requested some time ago now and despite a number of chase-ups by myself and our Legal Services, the developer has failed to secure any agreements to date and without these we are unable to progress the adoption of the roads and footways.

However, in recent months there has been some movement from the developer and subsequently we have identified a land ownership issue at the site entrance - basically the developer doesn't own all of the land and therefore is unable to dedicate the area in question.

Given the area is at the site entrance, it affects the whole development and therefore the situation will need to be resolved in full in order to get the agreements in place. We are currently working with the developer to try and resolve this matter, however the onus is on them to meet any legal requirements and assist with progression.

It should also be stated that there are extensive and problematic remedial works which will be required to bring the roads and footways up to our adoptable standards and this is further complicated as the estate is occupied and has been for several years now.

Given all the above, it is very difficult to say when or even if the development will be adopted, however we will continue to do our best and work with the developer to try and get agreements in place, but like I have said, the onus is on them and also the land ownership issue needs to be resolved first.

Appendix A

With regard to speeding vehicles, as part of the works required to bring the estate up to our adoptable standards a 20mph Traffic Regulation Order has been proposed, which will include installing the appropriate signage on site, however this may only be possible once the Section 38 Agreements are in place.

Also, two flat top speed ramps are proposed for the new section of Vicarage Lane, which again will be part of the required works. The ramps can be requested with the developer, however we can't force their installation, this could only be done if there were Section 38 Agreements in place and the site was ready for adoption.

Dist Cllr Mike Crosby reported the following:

Fly Tipping

The fly tipping that was observed on the site of the former Baby Elephant car park has been reported and cleaned up.

Shevington Extra Care Provision Update

The planning application for the scheme will be considered by Planning Committee on 6th December.

Fencing beside Shevington Lane

Damaged fencing between Crow Orchard Lane and Shevington High School was reported several months ago. It will be replaced within the next eight weeks.

Road Maintenance

The mini-roundabout at the junction of Shevington Lane with Crow Orchard Road will be re-surfaced in the 2023/2024 financial years maintenance programme.

Lancashire County Council has eventually cleared the drain at the other end of that stretch of road, above the M6, after it was reported by us several months ago. We look forward to them re-surfacing the road sometime too.

Councillors Weekly Surgeries

As you may already be aware we suspended our face-to-face surgeries during the COVID pandemic and the closure of the library. Our library has re-opened on Saturday Mornings and we have resumed our weekly surgeries where residents can come and talk to us about issues they are facing, which can be useful for people without internet access. In addition to this, we are available round the clock for contact by email.

Councillors' Surgeries are held every Saturday morning between 10am and 11am in Shevington library.