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Highways

2 messages

Timothy Browse <timothybrowse@knowstone.org.uk> 9 August 2018 at 17:51
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Dear All,

Late yesterday evening, Jeremy F-B and I were invited to meet with Jeremy Yabsley and Richard Sables during their "tour" of the area this morning. As the invitation was last minute, and knowing Jeremy F-B was on holiday, I accepted the invitation to meet with them to discuss the crumbling grate and HGV signage in East Knowstone, so as not to delay these two problems any further.

HGV signage

Back and forth, back and forth, the idea was floated that the "HGV alternative route" sign should be removed and replaced with a normal sign to East Knowstone, on the basis that anyone with an HGV who regularly visits East Knowstone (to deliver/collect etc) will be aware that it is not a suitable through route. In the rare occasion that an unknowing HGV is diverted off the A361 (for whatever reason), they will legitimately be able to make their way to the B3227, then on to the motorway, and will not be tempted to drive down through East Knowstone by an "HGV" sign.

Fair View grate

It is quite clear, from Richard Sables, that he will not be able to "sell" the idea of Highways department providing money to refurbish this grate. The main reason, as we all have established, is that the actual grate (not the "pipeline" leading to and from) is on private land. Two aspects were considered -- 1) the health and safety situation of the elderly occupants of Fair View, and 2) the potential flooding of Eastacott Farm farmyard and ground floor of the house. Helpfully, Jeremy Yabsley is now going to investigate the possibility of grants coming from Flood Defense schemes, etc. It would appear that there are a few schemes running which possibly, with his authority on the Council, may swing some funds our way. But, there also is a strong possibility that Knowstone Parish Council will be approached to supplement the cost of some of this work, after discussion/vote. It was agreed, however, that it was a poor decision made a long time ago, in the good old days, to mix Highways and private land for this enterprise.

I am sure it is fair to say that, during these discussions, it is quite difficult to tie anyone down to a firm idea/decision at these sort of meetings. The above is my interpretation of the meeting; however, I have asked Jeremy Yabsley to send a synopsis of what was discussed and the next steps on how we will try to sort out these problems. In the meantime, Jeremy Yabsley and Richard Sables will take the discussions further in their departments, and at the next KPC meeting, Jeremy will discuss his findings during his allotted agenda time. If JY is unable to attend, presumably we can shift discussion of these two items under J F-B's Highways report??

Regards,

Timothy