

**Safer Neighbourhood Meeting re. Ripon Road Safety Measures**  
**Methodist Chapel, Ripon Road, Killinghall : 19 November 2009**  
**Report by Roger Lynn to Killinghall Parish Council**

This meeting was organised under the auspices of Lower Nidderdale Safer Neighbourhood Group and was chaired by Val Blackburn. Heather Garnett (County Councillor), Nick Widdowson (North Yorks Police) and James Malcolm (Highways Department) had been invited to assist discussions. It was attended by around 40 residents of Ripon Road.

The meeting was opened by Val who explained the procedure and format. There followed an update from Heather Garnett who outlined the current position in relation to Ripon Road.

In accordance with the usual format for such meetings, it split into small groups who discussed the various issues and the likely solutions. At the same time the representatives of the County Council and Police circulated amongst these groups to provide information and answer questions.

Representatives of the various groups were then requested to outline their main priorities and preferred solutions. These were as follows:

1. Speed matrix signs
2. Direct appeals to HGV Companies
3. Replacement of the road surface with appropriate surfacing. Complaints were made of vibration and shaking of properties caused by heavy traffic resulting in sleep deprivation.
4. Speed cameras (although not currently NYCC policy it was understood that a protocol is being formulated with a view to its introduction in appropriate location – i.e. accident ‘black spots’. It was even suggested by one group that funding might be available for this through the Parish Council.
5. New road crossings. **Although creation of a new Pelican crossing at the end of Church Lane was discussed, there was concern views from the existing bollards views were obscured by a blind bend at this point.**
6. Bypass
7. Specific points were raised by a group from Knox Mill Lane:
  - Speed Matrix Signs on Ripon Road (in both directions) in the proximity of Knox Mill Lane.
  - Provision of larger signage as this is a known accident black spot.
  - Red road surface.

Apart from the matters regarding Knox Mill Lane, these largely coincided with the issues previously identified by the Parish Council. In addition requests were however made at the meeting for introduction of speed cameras and complete resurfacing of the roadway.

James Malcolm indicated that he would report on the priorities raised at the meeting. On the question of road resurfaced he stressed that budgets are pre-planned in advance but he would be prepared to take matters forward.

Heather Garnett confirmed that she had taken note of the concerns raised at the meeting and would arrange for these to be addressed.

Nick Widdowson gave an update on police efforts to monitor traffic on Ripon Road. He also highlighted that a bid had been submitted for further funds to allow rejuvenation of the Speedwatch scheme in the Killinghall area.

In summing up Val Blackburn thanked people for their attendance and confirmed that the matters raised at the meeting would be analysed and prioritised. The meeting then closed.