

# Framlingham Town Council



## Report from Highways, Rights of Way and Parking Committee- March 2023

**The Committee has several positive items updates to report.**

### **Highways**

The Market Hill Parking lines will be repainted during the week of 27<sup>th</sup> March and the Hill will be shut for one morning. The spaces will be slightly bigger, which means that two spaces will be lost. Blue lines will denote the chargeable spaces and there will be signage explaining this. The disabled spaces and spaces to the sides of the Market Hill will also be re-painted.

Last year's Experimental Traffic Order regarding the partial road closure to the rear of the Market Hill on Saturdays has now been made permanent. We have heard that, pleasingly, East Suffolk Council will not be charging the Town Council for the road closure that is necessary for the Saturday Market.

The Pembroke Road Pedestrian Safety Initiative has now been finished and pupils seem to be adhering to the new layout and using the new safer crossing points. The pavement improvement works along Fairfield Road have also now been completed, bringing about the much-awaited removal of these traffic lights! A date for the site meeting to discuss various Highways issues in the town with a Suffolk County Council Highways Officer and County Councillor Burroughes is still awaited as Cllr. Burroughes has been ill. Our list of items to raise with them continues to grow and also includes some items raised at our Residents Drop-In Session on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

We share residents' frustrations that lots of these issues cannot be dealt with by the Town Council directly. Suffolk County Council's Highways department deals with most road, crossing and pavement problems. Issues like potholes, damaged signage, blocked drains, damaged barriers and public rights of way can all be reported directly to the County Council via this webpage: [Report a highways issue - Suffolk County Council](#)

## Lighting

The Town Council identified several 'dark spots' around the town and has been installing lighting to make these areas safer at night. A light has now been ordered for the bridge at The Fens and ground-level lighting has been added to the footpath Pigs Meadow. Domes will soon be added to help keep these lights clean and effective. We are also trying to install a street light in the Castle's car park but we need written permission from English Heritage and then Historic England before we can progress this. We have ordered another light for in the Churchyard but there is a 10 week wait on the light with the wildlife-friendly lens colour specification that we want.

## Action Plan 2020-2025

Pleasingly, several of the Committee's projects are now completed (making the road junction at Pembroke Road safer for pedestrians, replacing the street lights with LEDs) or are near completion (installing new pavement lighting at Pigs Meadow and The Fens, repainting the lines on the Market Hill).

The Committee is now looking into whether it might be possible to install coloured chicanes on roads in the town. These markings make the road appear narrower and alter drivers' behaviour positively, helping to make a safer and more-inclusive environment for pedestrians and cyclists. This would be an effective and low-cost traffic calming measure, but the Town Council would need Suffolk Highways' permission to do it. We are in contact with them and our County Councillor- this could be a really exciting project for the town. Please click [HERE](#) to read more about the idea. Our thanks go to Cllr. Bennett for the large amount of time he has spent researching this project and producing this paper.

After requests from residents, the town council has proposed 9 locations in and around Framlingham for the Quiet Lanes project. Whilst the project is not currently active, it was agreed to nominate the proposed lanes for consideration within future waves of the project. Please click [HERE](#) to see our proposed locations. We would welcome your comments on the scheme and our suggestions.

The Town Council has been in contact with Suffolk County Council's Highways team regarding two issues recently raised by residents and a business. We have asked if safety railings could be erected on the pavement outside number 10 College Road and neighbouring properties where the road 'bottle-necks' and vehicles sometimes mount the pavement, endangering lives. We have heard that this scheme would require the support of the County Cllr before SCC would consider it further and we are awaiting a response from Cllr. Burroughes in this regard.

We have asked SCC Highways if the zebra crossing at College Road could be upgraded to a puffin crossing with traffic lights following several near-misses here. Estimated costs of the project would be £120,000 and the location may not be eligible due to its proximity to the Pembroke Road junction. The County Council urges people

to report any incidences of vehicles not stopping at the crossing to Suffolk Police for further action.

The Traffic Regulation Order regarding extra yellow lines on Double Street and Fore Street to make junctions safer was approved on 16<sup>th</sup> February. Councillor Eastwood and the Town Clerk are meeting with ESC Officers on 17<sup>th</sup> March to confirm the locations of the extra lineage, and discuss possible additional locations mooted at the last site meeting.

Please note, the Deputy Town Clerk is responsible for this committee. She can be contacted on [dtc@framlingham.com](mailto:dtc@framlingham.com)