TRAFFIC SURVEY RESPONSE

Thank you for arranging this comprehensive survey of traffic through Great Casterton: the Parish Council appreciates the quality of the work.

The whole of this area is part of a "Safe Route to School" and we have the following comments:

1. The proposals for the crossroads on the B1081 are agreed and accepted. It is also agreed that signalisation is not acceptable.

2. The double yellow lining at the Pickworth Road/Ryhall Road is agreed, as is the proposal to extend it along the western kerb line of Pickworth Road to the vicinity of the School "Keep Clear" markings.

3. The provision of a drop-off/lay-by to reduce the number of parked vehicles on-street is agreed for the Primary School land and Ryhall Road, but not for the grassed area which is the only "green" space in the village and was fitted with posts to prevent any parking some years ago.

4. Paragraphs 3 and 4 have not been discussed with the Primary School because of the recent school holidays. It is also not clear where the finance for the lay-by would come from.

4. The Parish Council is disappointed with the proposals for Water Lane. This Road is manifestly too narrow at the crossroads end as is vividly shown in a Consultants photograph. Despite the 7.5 ton limit oversight vehicles continue to use as a short cut, and this is compounded by the relative narrowness of the A1 bridge further on. The Consultants recommended better enforcement of the 7.5 ton limit but it is difficult to envisage who would do this: certainly not the Police. It is therefore recommended that this proposal be re-looked at.

5. No mention was made about our earlier discussions with the Highways Engineer on speed reducing measures, such as rumble strips at the top of Pickworth road where it enters the village. Farm and other traffic continues to enter this narrow street at over 30 mph.

6. Finally the Parish Council and residents continue to be concerned about the chicane at the Crown Pub which is now a marginal asset. In the morning and afternoon schools entry and exit queues do build up, tempers get frayed, and when the road becomes clear in either direction vehicles speed up. This speeding up also occurs at other times of the day as well, particularly south going traffic leaving the village. The Parish Council's recommendation continues to be that the chicane is replaced by a speed camera.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this study.