

13<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## **SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO LORRY ROUTE REVIEW**

The Parish Council has previously represented to oppose a requested further weight restriction on roads in nearby Eye, unless it could be demonstrated that the proposed ban would not just move the problem elsewhere, as happened when the original weight restriction was implemented a number of years ago. At that time Stradbroke Parish Council experienced a significant increase in complaints about the number of HGVs travelling up Queen Street (B1118) to access Church Street/Laxfield Road (B1117). The Parish Council is awaiting a response to the questions raised in its submission regarding the proposed further weight restrictions in Eye.

The Parish Council has been undertaking an online survey of residents to gather views on how the highway/traffic problems that are experienced within the village can be alleviated.

Residents were asked to comment on proposals the Council are considering introducing in the parish to slow traffic and more importantly, reduce the number of HGVs apparently using the village not just for access but as a through route.

The current results of the survey show the following proposals have significant support:

- 20mph zone within the centre of the village (B1118/B1117 included) **73%**
- Double yellow lines at the junction of Queen St (B1118) and Church St (B1117) **65%**
- Speed indicator roundels on the highway **64%**
- Establishment of a lorry watch **63%**

A weight restriction on Queen St (B1118) would allow the establishment of a formal lorry watch scheme, in conjunction with Suffolk Trading Standards, which would result in formal monitoring of HGVs on the village roads to ensure that only vehicles needing ACCESS are using the routes. This monitoring in conjunction with the use of lorry exemption permits for those vehicles evidencing they need access through the village will enable much more sustainable use of the narrow village roads.

It is the Parish Council's intention to pursue improvements to the highway network in the village, to encourage more walking and cycling by providing a much safer highway network, with HGVs only using the village roads for access and all vehicles travelling at safer speeds.