

Bus Problems

Since the Amberline bus service stopped in October 2022 and replaced by the 138 service, the Parish Council have been trying to find a long term resolution to the lack of a regular and reliable service for residents. The Parish Council are aware of the difficulties many face, especially those who need to get to Derby and Nottingham for medical reasons. We have also been seeking an improved service that residents can use for work and social events which could reduce car use.

The contract for the current 138 service is due to expire in October 2025 so some form of solution needs to be provided before that time. In normal circumstances we accept that the County Council may struggle to provide the necessary financial support for the bus service, but in light of the fact that they will receive several million pounds in additional funding from central government up to 2026, we believe Horsley Woodhouse should be a priority case for better investment in bus services.

The Parish Council has therefore sought support from the County Council and from our local M.P. to provide an improved service. What we seek is not simply a 'replacement' but an 'improved' service. Our thoughts are laid out in our consultation paper which can be found on our website. A small amount of paper copies can also be provided for those without internet access. The paper is now out for consultation with those parishes and towns along the 138 route and the final paper will be submitted to Derbyshire County Council in March 2024. If you have any additional views that you believe may add value to the document please contact the Parish Council clerk.

Speeding and Traffic related matters

The A609 is a major route that passes through the village and the Parish Council have been seeking some support for permanent traffic calming measures to reduce speed, improve public safety and reduce the level of pollution. Research conducted by the Parish Council suggests that, on average, 6000 vehicles pass along Main Street and Church Lane every week.

Everyone in the village will have witnessed speeding vehicles but there has always been a lack of real evidence of the level of speeding and the potential of risk. You will have noticed that a Speed Indicator Device has been deployed at different locations over the last few months. The device was purchased with the support of the Police and Crime Commissioner but half the cost has been met from Parish Council funds. As well as providing a reminder to motorists to slow down and adhere to the speed limits, this device has been recording the speed of every vehicle that passes it. This information will allow the Parish Council to provide a proper body of evidence of the issues/risks faced along this route.

In addition the Parish Council is seeking to work with Kilburn and Smalley Parish Councils to provide a full picture of the issues from Bywell Lane in Kilburn to Dobholes Lane in Smalley. This work is ongoing but will result in a full report to be submitted to the Police and County Council in 2024 for their attention. More information will be made public at that time.