



Press Statement

17th January 2018

Road Traffic Collisions on TRA 36 Heytesbury Bypass

After two road closures for road traffic collisions that took place along Heytesbury Bypass on 23rd and 24th December, members returned to Parish Council business in the New Year, saddened that injuries had been sustained by those involved in two separate incidents. All three Emergency Services attended the scenes and road closures were set up to divert traffic travelling along the Bypass. Vehicles at the nearby TRA36 Cotley Roundabout were diverted into the village of Heytesbury and attempted to travel through onto Tytherington seeking alternative routes. Extreme congestion blocked local village roads and at one point a large coach full of tourists became stuck and was guided by residents attempting to reversing back along a narrow lane to find a more suitable route.

The road closures did not appear to have clear diversion signs and it was suggested that the traffic should have been diverted onto more appropriate roads and not into the village.

Councillor Liz Colvin said, “that she was keen for the Parish Council to discuss options or solutions to manage the resultant traffic chaos that had impacted on so many residents of the Heytesbury and surrounding villages during this busy time of the year.”

Members were united in seeking a solution and discussed the possibility of additional signs that might identify the roads unsuitable for diverted traffic. The matter would be referred to the Wiltshire Council’s Community Area Transport group of the Area Board to help with advice from traffic engineers. It was also resolved that the Neighbourhood Police Tasking Group be asked to bring the difficulties experienced in the villages to the attention of attending Police Officers to curtail any further occurrences. A letter informing the surrounding villages, who had also experienced problems from the diverted traffic would also be sent outline the Parish view.

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