



Bothenhampton & Walditch

Parish Council since 1886

8th September 2020

Mr D Carey
Community Highways Officer
Dorset Council

By email

Dear David

RE: MAIN STREET, BOTHENHAMPTON – POSSIBLE WEIGHT RESTRICTION

Residents along Main Street in Bothenhampton have recently expressed their concern to the Parish Council over the number of large and heavy lorries using the road. This has been particularly noticeable over the last year or so, largely due to several continuing housing developments in the village requiring frequent deliveries of building materials.

The residents are worried about the risk of damage from these lorries to the road surface, to parked cars, to walls adjacent to the road and to houses along the street, many of which are listed. Part of the wall along Main Street is due to be repaired later this year, although it is not clear whether the damage is due to heavyweight traffic along the street.

Trees have also in the past been damaged in Hollow Way, leading up to Main Street. Residents are at the same time worried about the risk of a large lorry blocking access for an emergency vehicle.

Main Street is a narrow lane, the main artery through the village, and is effectively a one-way street due to parked cars along one side. It is by no means suitable for accommodating large delivery lorries. The speed limit is currently 30mph (although a case could arguably be made for a reduction to 20mph, given its narrowness and blind corners).

Residents understand that a weight restriction once applied to Main Street. Would it be possible please to check if this is the case? If so, why did this lapse and could the Council consider reinstating it? If there was no such weight restriction in the past, would the Council consider imposing an appropriate such restriction on Main Street, in order to minimise the potential damage to the village by excessively large lorries?

Please accept our apologies if the weight restriction issue should be addressed to a different officer instead of yourself, and if this is the case, perhaps you could let me know.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Chair – Traffic, Transport and Footpaths
Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council
www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com