



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

MPC(21)08.08

QUIET LANES SUFFOLK

This scheme was started as a pilot in 2014/15 with support from Suffolk Highways. A previous Melton Councillor did some work on it and suggested suitable options in Melton. However they were not accepted for the trial.

Now there is a new push to build a network of Quiet Lanes, following the successful implementation. There is money going into the scheme and SCC want as many parishes as possible to achieve economies of scale.

The idea behind the Quiet Lanes is to designate some of our rural roads as safe routes for pedestrian, cyclist and equestrian usage with signs indicating that these users take priority over motorised vehicles. There would be no change to speed limits, although in the future there may be strategic discussions about lowering the National Speed Limits along all these routes.

There are two lanes nominated for this project and they have been accepted by SCC:

- Lodge Farm Lane
- St Audry's Lane

Both are popular with local walkers and cyclists and taken together they form an arc between Yarmouth Road and Saddlemakers Lane.

The Footpaths project that the Assistant Clerk is working on links with this project as the proposed route leads to several public footpaths/ bridleways, potentially forming a circular route.

There would be 4 signs required along the route at a cost of £600 each. Melton District Councillor, Rachel Smith-Lyte has offered a grant of £1200 representing 50% towards the cost of signage. CIL money can be used for this project, if agreed.

There is a mandatory consultation required with local residents. This will be via leaflets or preferably in the Melton Messenger once it is back in its printed version. Also published on the MPC website. An open meeting has to take place and this can be part of the public forum when village matters are discussed at Full Council.

Because of the need to schedule the public consultation, it is suggested that we go for the 24th May deadline rather than the earlier timescale of late January/ early February.

Photographs of key locations are appended below.

Recommendations:

MPC Full Council to determine the following:

Do we want to be part of the Quiet Lanes scheme in principle?

Are the two nominated routes acceptable to MPC?

Will MPC fund 50% of the cost of signage via CIL? Balance would be £1,200.

Cllr. Bryony Abbott, MPC, January 2021



Figure 1 Junction of Lodge lane and Saddlemakers Lane



Figure 2 Junction of St Audry's Lane and Lodge Lane



Figure 3 Junction of St Audry's Lane and Yarmouth Road