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COMMUNITY HIGHWAYS REQUEST POLICY

Policy Reference Number: XXX

Author: Town Clerk

Responsibility: Town Development & Planning Committee

Grade: Three - Low - five year review

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1. OUTLINE

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to guide Councillors in assessing requests for support from the public for Highways Improvements related to parking, speeding and the anti-social use of vehicles.
- 1.2 Somerset County Council determine which projects can move forward within the available budgets and taking into account the evidence available.
- 1.3 If the Town Council resolves to support a particular request, this is no guarantee that Somerset County Council will be able to take action after assessing the relative need and budget available. There are many competing demands across Somerset for such interventions and Somerset County Council officers will determine priorities.
- 1.4 In order for a request to be added to a Town Development & Planning Committee agenda for consideration, the following points will need to be met:

2. FORMAL STAGES SUBMITTING A REQUEST

- 2.1 The request must be made in writing (email permitted) and include the relevant information, along with a map clearly showing the area and the exact location of requested interventions.
- 2.2 Written requests must also be accompanied by the name of at least one of the local ward Town Councillors who already supports the proposal.
- 2.3 Requests without the required level of support will be returned to the requester detailing the additional information needed.

3. COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- 3.1 The scheme must be supported by a minimum of 10 named residents over the age of 18, directly affected by the requested measures. For suggested speed tables or bumps, etc, these should include the residents who live closest to the site of the tables or bumps.

For double yellow lines and other parking restrictions, the 10 should include people who live on the section of road to be affected.

- 3.2 Written requests should detail the names, addresses and contact details of the supporters, in a similar style to a traditional petition.
- 3.3 Where the scheme affects less than 10 adult residents e.g. in a road with few residential properties, the Town Clerk will determine if the request can proceed.

4. SPEED RELATED REQUEST

- 4.1 For requests regarding speed related interventions, local residents are requested to operate a community speed watch for a minimum of 6 months prior to any requests being made. Community speed watch is a proven way for the community to address local speeding issues and can bring about tangible changes in driver behaviour.
<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/apply/community-speedwatch>
- 4.2 Members should bear in mind that if the Committee resolves to support a speed related scheme and speed data is not available for that site, the cost for the data is likely to fall to the Town Council.