

BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

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D Bailey Esq
Highways Engineer
North Somerset District Council
Town Hall
Weston-Super-Mare
Somerset BS23 1SJ

For the attention of Messrs Colin Medus & James Tonkin

15th October 2020

Dear Sir

Re: Fatality – Junction of Bridgwater Road and the A370

It will not have gone unnoticed by you of yet another fatality on the A370 this time involving a young man on his motorcycle.

The residents of Bleadon know full well how challenging it is when endeavouring to exit the village either in a car or motorbike from either the Bridgwater Road or Bridge Road. In deed it is nigh on impossible at The Catherine Inn junction so much so that many with local knowledge will simply not use that junction but use Bridge Road instead albeit that also brings its own challenges.

From a survey being currently undertaken by members of the parish council and the village the potential for accidents happening numerous times a day is no exaggeration. It has been judged that you have just 3 seconds to make a decision to exit at this junction. This is because the sight line to the right is blinded by the slight bend in the road. It is also currently being exacerbated by a deep pothole near to the junction thus making drivers take a last minute adjustment in order it to be avoided.

That some 3 seconds is the limit of making a decision is certainly not helpful when tractors cross this road to gain access to Bleadon levels via Accommodation Road. Equally so for drivers who are of a more cautious nature.

When will North Somerset District Council in general and the Highways Authority in particular take recognition of the serious and urgent need for improved traffic regulations on this stretch of the highway? Drastic measures are surely needed now and not to wait until yet another fatality takes place.

The Parish Council resolved at its meeting last Monday not only to bring its concerns to your attention but also to demand for the installation of traffic lights at this dangerous junction – to include the side road of Accommodation Road. In addition that the speed limits between The Cutting and the highway into Somerset County Council administration at Lympsham is limited to 40 mph overall.

Members are of the view that the current situation is now beyond being sustainable and any “tinkering” of the road works is simply not an alternative.

Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Poole", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Bruce Poole Parish Clerk