

Highways issue at the junction of White Hart Street & Hilborough Rd

In response to concerns raised by the owner of the wood yard at the above location, that vehicles have been cutting across the grassed area in front of their property, I have investigated the issue with NCC Highways.

NCC Highways have confirmed that the area concerned is part of the highway, and I am grateful to the clerk for passing to me photographs of the restructuring of this junction that took place in 2001. NCC Highways would consider a request from the parish council for them to close off the route with wooden posts, however, they raise a couple of concerns. They are concerned about maintenance and state that they would not be willing to maintain the posts if it became apparent that their subsequent removal was a deliberate act. They also asked that the council garner the opinion of local farmers who might find it difficult to negotiate the junction with long vehicles such as a combine towing a header.

Armed with this information I spoke with the owner of the wood yard. They stated that the issue had gone away. Their concern related to one particular vehicle, a car coming from the Hillborough direction, cutting the junction at some speed. It happened for a few weeks but, at the time I spoke to them, they said they had not seen the vehicle for a couple of months. I discussed highway's suggestion of wooden posts which they didn't think was necessary.

Based on the above, my recommendation is that we do nothing more at this time, but revisit it should there be a reoccurrence and, if it again relates to a single vehicle, recommend that they get details of the vehicle and pass it to the police.

Neil

29/10/20