LYTCHETT MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

SAFE ROUTE TO LYTCHETT MINSTER SCHOOL – UPDATE 11.9.24

Background
The Parish Council resolved at the July meeting to work with DC and LMUTC with a view to making Huntick Road safe for children to travel to school by bicycle or on foot.

LMUTC
Roger Ong and Ken Morgan, together with DC Cllr Alex Brenton, were invited to present their case at a meeting of LMUTC on 23.7.24. They were generally supportive but stressed the need for hard data – speed/traffic volume surveys etc.
LMUTC hold regular quarterly liaison meetings with DC Highways. We will attend a special session of that on 26.9.24.

Dorset Highways
Alex Brenton discussed the matter with Rob Camp a while ago. His preferred solution is to encourage use of the Foxhill Road/Stafford Row Bridleway as a safe route to school. The problem with this is that there seems to be a consensus that, in terms predatory adults or child bullyinbg, that is not a 'Safe' route, at least for vulnerable children.
Alex advises that she has been trying to meet with Highways officers but is frustrated by their holiday schedules.

LMPC Informal Working Group
Following an approach from Tim Evans (local resident and Scouts) regarding bringing Beryl Bikes to Lytchett Matravers, we agreed there was not a safe route for their use. This led to a joint discussion including the Scout Leader Kate Schofield regarding a safe route to Lytchett Minster School, Both want to help push this forward. Kate usefully is a police officer and her husband is in the local neighbourhood policing team. Tim works for trading Standards in County Hall so can have 'behind the counter' access to Highways officers.
Accordingly an informal WG – Ken Morgan, Roger Ong, Andrew Huggins + Kate and Tim, met 4.9.24.
Actions – Kate to contact School for involvement. Kate to informally discuss traffic constraints with police colleagues. Andrew to arrange speed surveys. (*See Agenda Item 14).* Tim to locate Highways officers. Ken to liaise with LMUTC, MP, DC Cllrs. Agreed need to involve parents/community to ensure wide support.
Objective is to mobilise and encourage support to convince DC Highways to introduce traffic calming/speed/safety measures.
Invite rep from LMUTC and also DC Cllr to join WG.
Should WG be formally recognised by LMPC?

MP
Detailed email sent to Vikki Slade MP with request for support and invitation to meet, perhaps at PC.