

Highway Improvement Team working in Partnership with Acol Parish Council

Highway Improvement Plan

Submission Date: 02/02/2022

(Please remember that the HIP is for new initiatives/measures/schemes in your community – it is NOT to be used as a maintenance log, as these MUST be logged using the online reporting tool via this link <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>)

HIP Front Cover

HIP Version	Submitted by (Name)	HIP Date	Record Of Meeting Dates with KCC Virtual or Face to Face	Please list below the funding Opportunities/Sources for HIP initiatives/Measures		
1	Richard Steel		16/4/24 LC Virtual	Parish funding, County Member Grant		
Are you an active member of the Speed Watch Scheme?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Are you an active member of the Lorry Watch Scheme?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Name of HIP Representative	Cllr. Richard Steel	Contact Telephone Number	07770 281113	Email Address	cllrichardsteel@acolparishcouncil.org.uk	
Name of Clerk	Ms. Sara Archer	Contact Telephone Number	07712 430142	Email Address	clerk@acolparishcouncil.org.uk	
Name of Chairman	Cllr. Richard Steel	Contact Telephone Number	07770 281113	Email Address	cllrichardsteel@acolparishcouncil.org.uk	
KCC Project Manager Name	Community & Engagement Team (EAST)	Contact Telephone Number	03000 418181	Email Address	east.highwayimprovements@kent.gov.uk	

- Please note the Priority column MUST be those issues which are regarded as the most important (No 1 being your highest priority, then filtering down)
- KCC is unable to guarantee that all your requests will be deliverable, but Project Managers can investigate your top 1 or 2 priorities per year.

Live Priorities Record

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Priority	Location	Problem/Concern	What do you feel are the potential solutions?	KCC Comments (This column is to be completed by Project Manager ONLY)
1	30mph zones within the village of Acol, particularly The Street	No Paths, Narrow roads, pedestrian and Horse safety.	Reduce traffic signage speeds to 20mph on The Street. Reduce traffic signage to 50mph on Acol and Margate Hill respectively.	16/04/24 LC - to liaise with P&A to see if suitable environments on Margate Hill & Acol Hill for a speed reduction and The Street. Speed surveys will need to be carried out to ascertain feasibility of any reductions. LC to arrange.
2	Margate Hill	Acol Village signs appear to show the two cottages are not within the Village, however, they are in fact part of the Parish	Move the Acol signs towards the Parish boundary to ensure the two cottages are clearly visible to be included in Acol village.	16/4/24 LC – LC to liaise with P&A to see if the houses can be encompassed within Acol signage.
3	The Street, Acol.	Excessive and increasing traffic, including lorries/HGVs, through narrow cart track with 4 blind bends, no footpaths or pavements, many properties opening directly on to the carriageway.	Extension to Columbus Avenue to take traffic away from Acol, for which Acol has been campaigning since 1996.	02/02/22 County Member is funding surveys to gather up to date data on traffic volume and speeds. 02/02/22 KCC is progressing in the bidding process for DfT funding for improvements to the Major Road Network in Thanet, including Columbus Avenue, and will shortly be putting together an outline business case. As part of this I have been advised that there will be engagement with local Parish Councils. For further details speak to KCC planning Team 09/12/2022 – KCC have emailed APC to offer a meeting to engage with them on the bidding process for DfT funding for improvements to the Major Road Network in Thanet, including Columbus Avenue.

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				09/12/2022 -Discussed virtual footpaths – Road width does not look suitable, Virtual footpaths would possibly give pedestrians false sense of security – village has pedestrian warning signs 09/02/24 LC – I have spoken to my colleague in the Major Capital Programmes Team who has met with Acol PC before and he said that he is willing to brief you on the current status of the project.
4	Approaches to Acol along Minster Road and Acol Hill.	Build outs were obviously expensive to install but not high enough to slow traffic. APC has been advised that they cannot be raised due to insufficient lighting.	Install a solar light at each location to enable raising of the build outs to force drivers to give way to approaching traffic.	02/02/22 Street Lighting Team have advised that they would not support the use of solar powered lighting at these locations. There is also some question whether there would be sufficient sunlight to charge the assets, especially on Acol Hill where there is tree cover. 09/12/2022 – KCC to ask advise on buildout on Minster Road – possible white Lining around buildout & SLOW sign near junction warning sign 08/02/24 LC – Works due to be completed March-April '24.
5	Acol Hill and Park Lane	<i>Footpath along whole length of both roads. No public footpaths for residents to walk to Quex Park</i>	<i>Installing a footpath so residents do not have to walk across fields</i>	09/12/2022 – Would need to get landowners permission – discussed would be very costly. Added to HIP as discussed in meeting. 08/02/24 LC – Would like to keep on HIP for any future development possibilities.

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Historical Priorities Record

No	Location	Problem/Concern	What do you feel are the potential solutions?	KCC Comments
1	The Street, Acol.	Excessive and increasing traffic, including lorries/HGVs, through narrow cart track with 4 blind bends, no footpaths or pavements, many properties opening directly on to the carriageway.	7.5t weight restriction	02/02/22 We will be looking to implement a regulatory 7.5t weight restriction along The Street between Spitfire Way roundabout and Manston Road junction in the new financial year to reduce the amount of large vehicles using this road. <i>09/12/2022 - Complete</i>
	Crispe Road & Margate Hill.	Excessive through traffic along a single-track lane accessing a dangerous junction of Crispe Rd/The Street/Acol Hill/Margate Hill, which is also a narrow lane.	Narrowing of Crispe Road entrance, signs prohibiting traffic except for access, which could be achieved by extending Columbus Avenue and redirecting traffic.	02/02/22 Any adjustments will need to ensure that permitted vehicles such as agricultural vehicles, deliveries, service vehicles and emergency services can still use the road when required. The roads are already covered by a 7.5t weight limit to restrict larger unsuitable vehicles. We do not install prohibitions of motor vehicles in narrow lanes – there are many narrow single-track roads in the County and it is not practical to place restrictions of vehicles on them all.

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	Plumstone Road & The Street/Minster Road.	Excessive through traffic along a single-track lane accessing a difficult junction with The Street, which has a dangerous, blind junction on the southern section.	Strict narrowing of a wide access into Plumstone Road, with notices prohibiting traffic except for access and redirecting all traffic from Seamark Road to Manston and Columbus Avenue.	02/02/22 Any adjustments will need to ensure that permitted vehicles such as agricultural vehicles, deliveries, service vehicles and emergency services can still use the road when required. The roads are already covered by a 7.5t weight limit to restrict larger unsuitable vehicles. We do not install prohibitions of motor vehicles in narrow lanes – there are many narrow single-track roads in the County and it is not practical to place restrictions of vehicles on them.

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