

Information on Petition to improve Safety on the **A146**

Thurton Parish Councillors, supported by Ashby St Mary, Bergh Apton and Alpington with Yelverton Parish Councils, are concerned about the number of road traffic accidents that occur on the A146 between Thurton and Hellington Corner, and the difficulty for pedestrians to safely cross the road to reach bus stops, Thurton school, the George and Dragon Pub, the village hall and play ground. In light of this, and to try to prevent future serious injuries, we have petitioned Norfolk County Council to consider the following measures.

1. Reduce the current speed limits to 30 mph through Thurton Village, 40 mph at Prospect Place and 50 mph at Hellington Corner (already agreed but not implemented). These changes would fit with the Norfolk Speed Management Strategy (2023), for principal roads passing through settlements, especially those with high levels of HGV traffic.
2. Replace the pedestrian refuge in Thurton Village with a push button Pelican Crossing. The current refuge is too narrow and terrifying to use as HGVs pass in both directions at 40 mph. This is especially dangerous for parents taking children to school and older students trying to cross the road to access school bus services.
3. Prospect Place Traffic calming. It is difficult for residents to safely cross the road to reach the bus stop on the Norwich to Loddon side because of the bend in the road. In addition to reducing the speed limit, place a 'SLOW' road marking and a 'Pedestrians Crossing' sign before the bend on the approach from Hellington Corner.
4. Village Gateway Signs, with speed signs and painted speed roundels on the road, where the speed limits change at Birch Way and Prospect Place.
5. Solar powered lighting to the bus stop signs on both sides of the A146 at Manor Farm Thurton, Prospect Place and Hellington Corner to increase safety for pedestrians waiting at these stops in the dark.

If you wish to support this initiative, please follow the link to Petitions on the Norfolk County Council website

<https://norfolkcc.cmis.uk.com/norfolkcc/ePetitions.aspx> and select **Safety improvements to A146 for pedestrians and motorists on the A146 between Birch Way Thurton and Hellington Corner.**

If we are to have any success with this petition, we really need you and all adult members of your household to sign, and for you to tell your friends in other villages that use the A146. The more signatures we have, the more likely Norfolk County Council will listen to our concerns and do something to help avoid future serious accidents. Please pass information onto interested parties.

If you do not have access to the internet but would like to sign the petition please contact :-

For Thurton residents :- Karen Calderwood 01508 480600 or Patricia Black 01508 480695 and we will help with internet access

For Ashby residents:- Carol Powell 01508 480089.

Thurton, Ashby St Mary, Bergh Apton and Alpington with Yelverton Parish Councils have also written to Norfolk County Council raising concerns about the unsafe and badly managed road diversions through the 5 villages when the A146 is closed due to a burst water main or a traffic accident. We would like them to come up with a sensible alternative to the 'rat run' chaos of recent closures.

Watch this space!

This information comes from Thurton and Ashby St. Mary Parish Councils