



Ickleford

11 Road Humps

It's NOT over! Action Not Apathy!



Issue No. 1

March 2010

Dear Ickleford Resident

We are Adrian Johnson and Suzanne Roynon, residents of Ickleford and part of an ever increasing number of villagers who oppose the installation of 11 road humps in our lovely village. We thank the four residents who funded this newsletter.

The prime aim of this campaign is to ensure that unnecessary road humps are not installed, and in the event that Hertfordshire Highways proceed with the scheme, to continue to campaign for the humps to be removed.

We believe safer and cheaper "traffic calming" options exist that are

- Greener for the environment in terms of pollution and noise
- Provide a more efficient means of calming traffic
- Do not cause pain or discomfort to motorists or passengers (especially on buses)
- Do not punish safe, sensible drivers who are the majority of road users.

We are delighted to know Ickleford has a much lower road accident level than the national average, however, we recognise that some selfish and inconsiderate drivers cause alarm to residents.

We want safe roads which work for all; drivers, children, pedestrians, motorcyclists, cyclists and horse-riders. We support effective alternatives more suited to a rural village.

Some interesting facts!

Only 8 injury accidents have occurred in the village in the last three years.

Of those there was only 1 serious injury road accident. This happened on Greenfield Avenue in 2007.

The single accident in 2009 caused only slight injuries.

The average age of drivers causing injury accidents in the last three years is 40.

In the last 30 years most injury accidents have happened at the Bedford Road roundabout and Cadwell Bridge.

No pedestrians injured in last 3 years due to road traffic accidents.

No fatalities in the last 30 years.

According to the Association of British Drivers:

Road humps distract drivers who concentrate on positioning their vehicle rather than the road ahead.

A motorist living in an area with road humps **will pay approximately £250 extra** per year to repair damage & additional wear and tear to their vehicle.

Tyre, engine, & braking noise will be significantly greater than on a flat road surface.

Vehicles including **Fire Engines & Ambulances** are damaged by road humps causing high repair bills.

Research suggests **emergency vehicles are delayed** by up to 10 seconds per hump.

House values are reduced in areas of road humps.

Shock waves from road humps **can damage properties**. That's why Humps are not installed within 25m of subways, bridges and tunnels.

Road humps cause headlights to **dazzle or flash** oncoming drivers.

Frequent exposure to road humps can cause **back pain**.

People with osteoporosis, arthritis, back or neck injuries, cancers, disabilities etc. and premature infants may experience **discomfort or injury** crossing road humps.

Distress and indignity can occur when a **funeral cortege or hearse** crosses road humps.

Barnet removed 1000 road humps and **REDUCED accidents** by 14.9% in six months.

www.abd.org.uk/speed_humps.htm for more details.

Ickleford Parish Council

★ At the Ickleford Parish Council (IPC) meeting on 4 March 2010, the Parish Council acknowledged **residents were given no choice** regarding traffic calming measures. It was 'take it or leave it'.

★ IPC confirmed that the questions in the Parish Plan Questionnaire 2006 and the Traffic Proposals Survey 2008 were written **without expert advice on surveys**.

★ IPC was unclear whether **additional comments made by residents** on their response forms were recorded.

★ IPC confirmed that it was confident in the accuracy of the results from both surveys and **had relied on them in its decision making**.

★ IPC confirmed that the results of its Parish Plan Questionnaire in 2006 and Traffic Proposals Survey 2008 were **not**

independently collated and/or verified.

★ IPC stated they could not guarantee that the road humps in Ickleford would be properly maintained.

★ **The IPC Annual General Meeting takes place on Thursday 25 March 2010.**

You have a right to attend and voice your opinion.

If you believe there is a better solution than road humps but have not yet signed a petition, you can:

- Sign on the internet at www.mostsimply.com
- Sign at Pixies Florists: Mon-Fri 10am–6pm, Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-3pm
- Sign the Petition form below and post to:
Pixies at 39 Arlesey Road, Ickleford, Hitchin, SG5 3UX
- If you have further questions **call 01462 43 77 51** and speak to Georgina, Jean or Marion at Pixies who will ask us to contact you to talk to you or collect your completed form.

It is necessary to take your full name and address for validation and to prevent duplicates. We respect your privacy and assure you no names, addresses, or contact details will be disclosed to anyone. Only basic details, i.e. the number of adult residents against the road humps within each postcode, may be passed to the relevant decision makers (e.g. IPC, Hertfordshire Highways).

NOTE: If you have already signed a petition then please **DO NOT** sign again! However **every resident aged over 18 in your household can sign, even those away at university!**

✕

I disagree with the unnecessarily high number of road humps in Ickleford village

FULL NAME(S) (will be kept confidential): _____

ADDRESS (house name and/or number, and road required): _____

POSTCODE: _____ TELEPHONE (optional): _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (essential if you want to be kept informed): _____

COMMENTS (optional): _____