



Clerk Johnie Thorpe, Badgers, 1 Ponside Cottages, Graveley, Herts., SG4 7LG
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1st July 2016

Martin Wright,
Engineering Assistant.
HCC Highways,

E mail Martin.Wright1@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Dear Mr Wright,

The new road markings proposed and refreshing of existing markings will not resolve the following issues

1. Driver impatience and aggressive driving associated with long delays for traffic travelling south through Graveley due to traffic wishing to turn left at the junction down North Road towards the Lister Hospital.

It is likely drivers wishing to proceed to Junction 8 will continue to be accelerating to at least the 40mph speed limit exiting the village as they approach the junction making it more difficult for motorists exiting North Road to judge the time available to make their own manoeuvre. Secondly impatient drivers will continue to use the lane for on-coming traffic as they exit the village to go round queuing traffic waiting to turn left at the junction.

2. The configuration of the road junction will continue to restrict the visibility of the road users.

The view of drivers wishing to turn left out of North Road to travel towards Junction 8 A1(M) of vehicles approaching from Graveley village is restricted by waiting traffic wishing to turn right, particularly if a larger van or high-sided vehicle.

Likewise traffic at North Road waiting to turn right towards Graveley also restricts the sight of drivers waiting to turn left into North Road of approaching traffic from Junction 8 A1(M) intending to turn right into North Road travelling towards the Lister Hospital.

As for traffic turning right at the North Road junction towards Graveley, the old maxim look right, left and right again doesn't work given the speed of approaching traffic leaving Graveley village. This problem has been exacerbated by the heavy congestion experienced at Junction 8 A1(M), which has resulted in a significant increase in traffic from Stevenage travelling through Graveley to Hitchin via Graveley Road.

The solution to this junction is to put a proper roundabout (not a mini roundabout) in so that no car from any direction has priority. While this might increase further the congestion at Junction 8 A1(M) it should also improve road safety and reduce the number of accidents and emergency services call outs.

In the absence of a proper roundabout we believe that as a minimum the traffic speed between Graveley and Junction 8 A1(M) should be reduced to 30mph to give motorists more time to exit the North Road junction safely onto the B197 (and given the garden centre and care home facilities) and that a speed camera should be placed at the junction to enforce the speed limit.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Thorpe', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Thorpe
Clerk To Graveley Parish Council

