

Highways Improvement Request Form

Contact Details

Date:	13/10/2024
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Issue Details

Location of Issue:	Stratford-sub-Castle Village & Castle Road
Community Area:	Salisbury
Parish or Town Council:	St Francis & Stratford
Nature of Issue:	
<p>I, and my friends, live and keep our horses in Stratford sub Castle and I have done so for over 40 years. The roads are getting more dangerous, and drivers are just not slowing down for us. I wear a hat cam and on every ride I am reporting 3 or 4 drivers to the police for passing us at excessive speed or not giving us space (video footage available). We use the roads as little as possible but need to ride on them to get to the bridlepaths. We also have to cross A345 Castle Road by the Harvester to access another bridleway and this is also taking our lives in our hands to get across so some form of warning signage or crossing there. Signs would also be helpful as would signs where we have to come out of SALS97 crosses Phillips Lane as visibility is non existent for us to get across due to overgrown hedges and drivers can't see us waiting either.</p>	
How long has it been an issue?	Many, many years but getting worse!
What would you like done to resolve this issue?	
<p>I would like to apply for horse rider warning signs put up either end of the village of Stratford sub Castle, on Castle Road and the road crossing by SALS97 as mentioned above. The hedges cut down to a reasonable height where SALS97 crosses Phillips Lane so drivers can see us and we have a clear view up and down the road to cross safely. The closest crossing to the top of Castle Road is outside the Co-Op so a crossing of some description further up would benefit many people going to and from the Harvester and Hudsons Field and accessing the Country Park as we are now not allowed to ride up Hudsons Field.</p>	
Have you been in touch with your local Wiltshire Councillor? (Yes/No)	Yes

This form needs to be completed and e-mailed or sent to your local Town or Parish Council.

Town and Parish contact details are available via the link below:

<https://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/mgParishCouncilDetails.aspx>

Town or Parish Council Comments: (To be completed by Town or Parish Council only)
<p>Stratford-sub-Castle is a rural village on the outskirts of Salisbury, with a long history of horses being kept and ridden regularly on the roads through the village in order to gain access to the surrounding bridleways.</p> <p>These are not only a source of pleasure to the riders themselves but all in the locality, from children being able to see the horses in the fields and watch them being ridden to walkers who share the bridleways with them.</p> <p>Signage warning vehicles that there may be horses in the road, will heighten awareness of the drivers who should be driving through the village at a maximum speed of 30 MPH (which is already something which has been raised as a concern as drivers are often exceeding that speed) and prepare them that they will possibly need to swiftly reduce their speed to 10MPH.</p>

A crossing at the top of Castle Road from the Bridleway/Old Sarum towards the Harvester, would not only benefit the horse community, it would benefit those visiting Old Sarum who want to then go to the Harvester pub, and coming the other way, also families wanting to cross safely from one side of Castle Road to the other in order to visit the amenities such as on Hudsons field. Currently there are traffic lights on Castle Road A345 near Stratford Road (lift.acted.canny)and also near the co-op store (puzzled.bibs.cakewalk). The traffic is regularly very busy or travelling at speed both to and from Salisbury at this point on Castle Road, making it very challenging for riders to cross safely, and they are reliant on drivers giving way to them, from both directions at the same time.

The SALS97 crossing is currently very dangerous, both for riders, walkers and cyclists. It is impossible to see the oncoming traffic due to the high hedges. Drivers are unaware that there is a crossing there because the signs are very small. Having signage at this point on Phillips Lane (newsreel.trail.static)would alert drivers to the fact that more vulnerable road users may be present and ensure that they can be prepared.

By improving the signage to make all road users aware of the significant horse riding community in our area will go some way to protect them as vulnerable road users and further improve their experience of riding in the Salisbury area.

At the same time, with the proposed improvements, other vulnerable road users will also be offered a level of protection which they are not currently experiencing.

It is also of note that within the close vicinity of Salisbury there are a number of locations in which horses are kept, including Stratford-sub-Castle - 7 horses
Fisherton Farm allotments - 4 horses, Castleford Farm Livery Yard in Ford - numerous horses
Manor Farm, Ford - 2 horses, Ford village - approx 3 horses, Stockbottom Farm Livery Yard, just off London Road - numerous horses. This list is not exhaustive but includes those who are known to my resident who use some of the areas she has identified as requiring additional signage in order to keep horses, riders and car users safe.

Cllr Sharon Rideout
St. Francis and Stratford Ward
Salisbury