

## **Note of Public Meeting: Road Safety on B939**

### **Strathkinness Community Council Kemback, Pitscottie and Blebo Community Council**

**Held at Strathkinness Village Hall on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 7.30pm**

John Connell, Chair of Kemback, Pitscottie and Blebo Community Council welcomed everyone and invited Mr Willie Rennie, MSP to set out the purpose of the meeting. Mr Rennie said that this provided a valuable opportunity for local people to express their views about road safety issues on the B939 which he would then take back to Fife Council.

#### **B939 at Strathkinness Low Road Crossroads**

Mr Connell set out the two main issues of concern:

- the speed of vehicles on the B939
- restricted visibility when joining the B939.

#### Points raised by members of the public

- the Police do not record every incident and Fife Council doesn't have an accurate record of accidents
- visibility when turning left from Main Street onto the B939 is obscured by poles, vegetation and tufts of grass
- this is not a new problem, there have been accidents here since the 1960s
- the 50mph speed limit coming down the hill from Claremont doesn't make sense
- the crossroads should be staggered as at Claremont crossroads
- allow only one car at a time to access the B939 from the C4
- there should be stop signs, not give way signs.

#### Comments from the Police

- the Police can only attend what is reported to them. They have had 15 incidents reported in the last year (Fife Council has provided a figure of 5). The Police data is publicly available on request. One member of the public observed that Police data is not easy to obtain or understand
- there is not a suitable site on the B939 for the mobile speed camera; nor would Community Speed Watch be appropriate here.

#### Interim measures proposed

- improve visibility: cut back vegetation regularly, review signage, move telegraph poles into the field
- rumble strips on all four carriageways

- reduce the speed limit to 40mph or 30mph
- replace the give way signs with stop signs
- reinstate the speed-activated warning signs
- improve road marking and warning signs
- reduce access to the B939 from the C4 to one car at a time.

#### Longer-term, permanent measures proposed

- a roundabout or a staggered junction.

Public opinion is that we must press for a roundabout. Short-term solutions such as speed signs can be ignored by drivers.

Councillor Al Clark acknowledged that a long-term solution is required. Mr Steven Sellars, Fife Council's Lead Officer for Road Safety, has undertaken to put in place a number of short-term measures including rumble strips on Main Street approaching the junction southbound and reinstating the vehicle-activated speed sign northbound.

It was suggested that the two Community Councils could ask to address the North East Fife Area Committee, where the Roads service would be obliged to attend.

Mr Connell asked Mr Rennie to press for a site meeting – not office-based – with Mr Sellars, as it would appear that he is not up-to-date with the measures currently in place at the crossroads. In summary, we wish to discuss both long-term and short-term solutions.

#### **B939 at Blebo Craigs between the two access roads**

Mr Connell set out the areas of concern:

- speed of traffic
- poor visibility at the turnoff
- the bus stop is hazardous, with school children having to alight on the wrong side of the road, and poor visibility of oncoming traffic.

#### Points raised by members of the public

- damaged signs and chevrons for the double bend have not been replaced
- more signs and an anti-skid surface are needed
- not all accidents at the double bend are recorded. Two members of the public have been told to stop reporting accidents here
- the triple bends towards Pitscottie are also problematic. It is a mobile phone blackspot, so help cannot be summoned if an accident happens.

#### Measures proposed

- reduce the speed limit between the two access roads
- an anti-skid surface on the double bend
- rumble strips before each of the access roads and the double bend

- improved road markings and signage
- street lighting at the bus stop
- provision of a formal pathway to allow safe access to buses in both directions.

Mr Connell stated that the response he had received from Mr Sellars about these concerns was unclear, and again he pressed for a meeting with Mr Sellars on site. Mr Connell also wished to record the disappointment of those present that Mr Sellars had not attended this meeting.

The meeting concluded with Mr Rennie giving his commitment to raise with Fife Council the views and concerns expressed.