

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

Timber Transport. Consultation and Agreements

Dear Kevin,

Further to previous and ongoing discussions regarding timber transport, we would like to meet in order to reach final agreement with Forestry England and other relevant bodies the protocols of operation for timber haulage in the parish.

We can find no official record of any previous agreements, so we believe that it is time for all impacted parties to agree on arrangements that are positive, workable and equitable for all stakeholders. We seek to find common ground which ensures operational success with the least disruption to local citizens. Our goal is an agreement properly documented and signed by all parties to avoid any future disputes or misunderstandings.

In order to facilitate this, we would like to arrange a meeting between Forestry England (either yourself and/or your colleagues), Cumbria County Council (Highways), Councillor Arthur Lamb (Cumbria County Council), Councillor Steven Morgan (Copeland Borough Council) and myself. Jane Coltman, the clerk will attend to provide administrative assistance. If you feel that there are other relevant persons or organisations that should also be involved in the discussions, please let me know.

Some of the suggestions that the Council would be keen to see implemented as part of this agreement are:

- An effective escort vehicle system that clears the road well in advance of the lorry, stopping oncoming traffic at suitable points where vehicles may pass one another.
- Traffic light management of the route, stopping other traffic while the lorry comes through.
- Avoiding school taxi runs for the older children (current times are 07.20-08.10)
- Avoiding the village school drop-off and pick-up times (currently 08.15-09.15 & 15.15-16.00)
- Temporary speed limits to be set and signs erected. 20mph along the full route from Bowness Knott to the A5086, which would apply to the lorries and all other drivers, including local citizens.

We are appreciative of the steps that have been made so far, but feel that there are still areas to address, so request that this meeting is arranged as quickly as possible. Please let me know who will attend on behalf of Forestry England so that we can check diaries and make the necessary arrangements. Councillor Morgan has agreed to chair the meeting and I shall attend to provide administrative assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Sharpe
Chair, Ennerdale and Kinniside Parish Council

Councillor Steven Morgan
Copeland Borough Council

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