



**Decision Session – Executive Member
Transport and Planning**

10 November 2016

Report of the Corporate Director of Economy & Place

Haxby to Strensall Speed Limit Petition

Summary

1. To report the receipt of a petition requesting the reduction of the speed limit on the rural roads between Haxby and Strensall and the introduction of traffic calming measures such as chicanes.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that:
 - The petition is noted and that the issue be considered as part of the annual accident and prevention measures across the city.

Reason: To respond to residents concerns in a practical manner whilst prioritising the resources available to the reduction of injury on the highway in the authority area.

Background

3. Annex A (parts 1 to 4) includes the petition covering letter and attachments received. Annex B shows the online front page of the petition indicating 148 signatures. Annex C is a plan showing the location of the 4 injury accidents recorded by the police in the last 5 years (1 in each of 2011, 12, 13 and 14).
4. In addition to the online petition set up by the lead petitioner a “modern.gov@york.gov.uk” e-petition was set up that received no signatures.
5. The character of the roads that link Haxby to Strensall is rural with a few properties (business and residential) having direct access on to them and they are used by horse riders, cyclists and walkers. The roads are mainly long straights with good visibility linked by sharp bends where forward visibility is obviously greatly reduced.

The plan and pictures in Annex D indicates the existing traffic signs in place that are intended to warn approaching drivers, particularly those unfamiliar with the area, of the bends in the road and other potential hazards.

6. There is national guidance on the setting of speed limits and for rural roads of this type the national speed limit (60mph) is applied. It is important to note that whilst the maximum speed limit is 60mph it is the drivers duty to drive according to the prevailing road conditions, hence when the light or the weather is poor, works taking place, bends or blind summits, etc or if there are other more vulnerable road users about a driver would be expected to reduce their speed accordingly. In fact the speed that a driver chooses to travel at is greatly influenced by their surroundings rather than by a posted speed limit. Hence, reducing a speed limit without introducing something that would compel a driver to reduce their speed is very unlikely to have a significant impact on the speed of traffic. This is particularly relevant in this case where the roads link two local communities and it can reasonably be assumed that a significant number of the users are local and familiar with the roads.
7. It would be unusual to introduce traffic calming measures of the type requested in this location, but there may be other features that could be considered if further investigation is carried out and resources are available.

Options for Consideration

8. Option 1 – To take no action. This is not the recommended option.
9. Option 2 – To approve the advertising of a reduced speed limit on these roads. This is not the recommended option.
10. Option 3 – To add this to the list of areas to be investigated to determine if there are practical accident reduction measures that could be put forward for consideration. This is the recommended option.

Consultation

11. At this stage there are no consultation requirements. If this situation changes as a result of a potential accident reduction investigation details will be brought forward in due course.

Council Plan

12. The above proposal contributes to the City Council's draft Council Plan of:
 - A council that listens to residents

Implications

13. This report has the following implications:

Financial – None

Human Resources – None

Equalities – None.

Legal – None

Crime and Disorder – None

Information Technology - None

Land – None

Other – None

Risk Management

14. . None.

Contact Details

Authors:

Alistair Briggs
Traffic Management Team
Leader
Transport
(01904) 551368

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Neil Ferris
Corporate Director of Economy & Place

Date: 1 November 2016

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

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Wards Affected: Haxby and Wigginton, Strensall

For further information please contact the author of the report.

Background Papers: None.

Annexes:

Annex A Petition Covering Letter and Attachments

Annex B Online Front Page off the Petition

Annex C Injury Accident Location Plan

Annex D Existing signs

Annex A1

Petition Covering Letter and Attachments

Dear Sir / Madam

I am writing to you with concern regarding the speed limit that is along a section of road from Strensall to Haxby, called Moor Lane, Crossmoor Lane, Haxby Moor Road and Usher Lane.

These roads from Strensall to Haxby are country roads. They have two 'farms only' tracks which spur off and these have several livery businesses. There are hundreds of horses, walkers, joggers and pushbikes that use these roads on a daily basis

These sections of road are a cut through from Strensall to Haxby and therefore they are also extensively used by all forms of motorised traffic, especially cars, lorries and motorbikes.

The speed limit is set at 60mph, which is far too fast, considering the amount of horses, walkers, joggers and pushbikes sharing these roads with vehicles. The road has lots of reduced forward visibility with several blind 90 degree bends.

Many car and motorbike drivers regularly exceed this 60mph limit as they fail to observe it; especially on the straight piece of road, named as Crossmoor Lane, which goes past Haxby Sawmill and Meadow Farm. Here cars and motorbikes regularly speed in excess of 60mph whilst they share the road with other vulnerable users and animals.

Therefore I am writing to you to request the speed limit is lowered and also traffic calming measures like chicanes and curb extensions are introduced.

This will:

- Reduction in public anxiety. I have the support of all the local residents and a petition has been created. Hundreds of people have already signed. You can visit this in real time to obtain comments and the amount of signatures. This can be found at : <https://www.change.org/p/york-city-council-reduce-the-speed-limit-on-cross-moor-lane-haxby>
- To improve the country environment. Already several residents cats and dogs have been killed on these roads

Petition Covering Letter and Attachments



Network Management
West Offices, Station Rise
York YO1 6GA

Application number:



Tel: 01904 551550

Fax: 01904 551412

E-mail:

highway.regulation@york.gov.uk

APPLICATION FOR SPEED LIMITS

1 Name and Address of Applicant:

Postcode

2 Telephone

Email:

3 Proposed location/area where speed limits are required:

Please provide a plan or sketch

Moor Lane Haxby
Crossmoor Lane Haxby
Usher Lane Haxby
Haxby Moor Road

- See map of this cut through racetrack!

4

State reasons for requesting speed limits:

Because drivers go too fast on blind corners
and on the Straights.

See Letter, Petition, Map + Comments.

Important

This form will initiate an investigation. We cannot guarantee that your request will eventually be implemented.

DECLARATION

I confirm that to my best knowledge and belief, the information given above is correct and accurate, and as such will be used by the City of York Council in conditioning any permission they issue.

Signature of Applicant

Name (please print):

Date:

Petition Covering Letter and Attachments

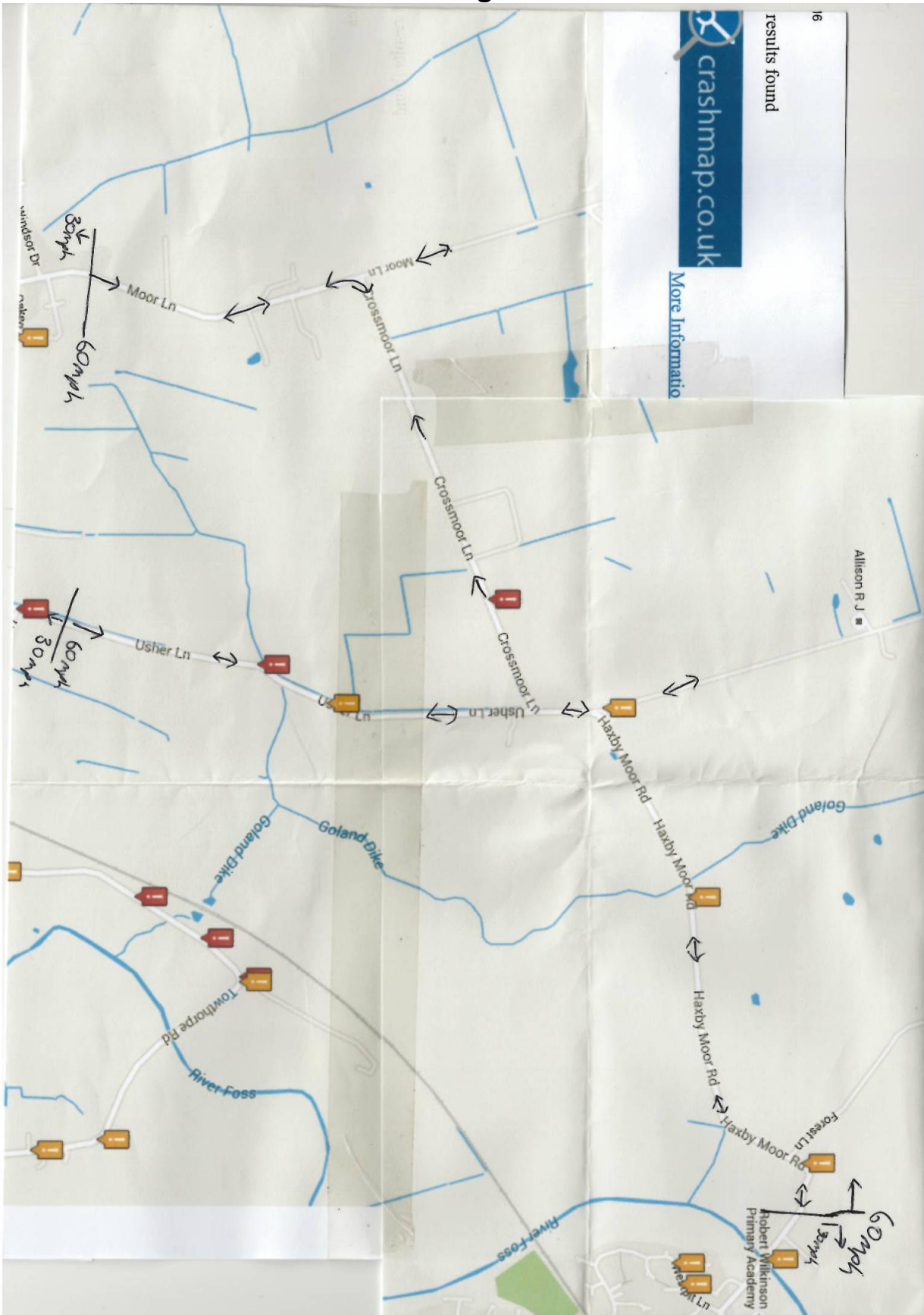
Comments from Petition

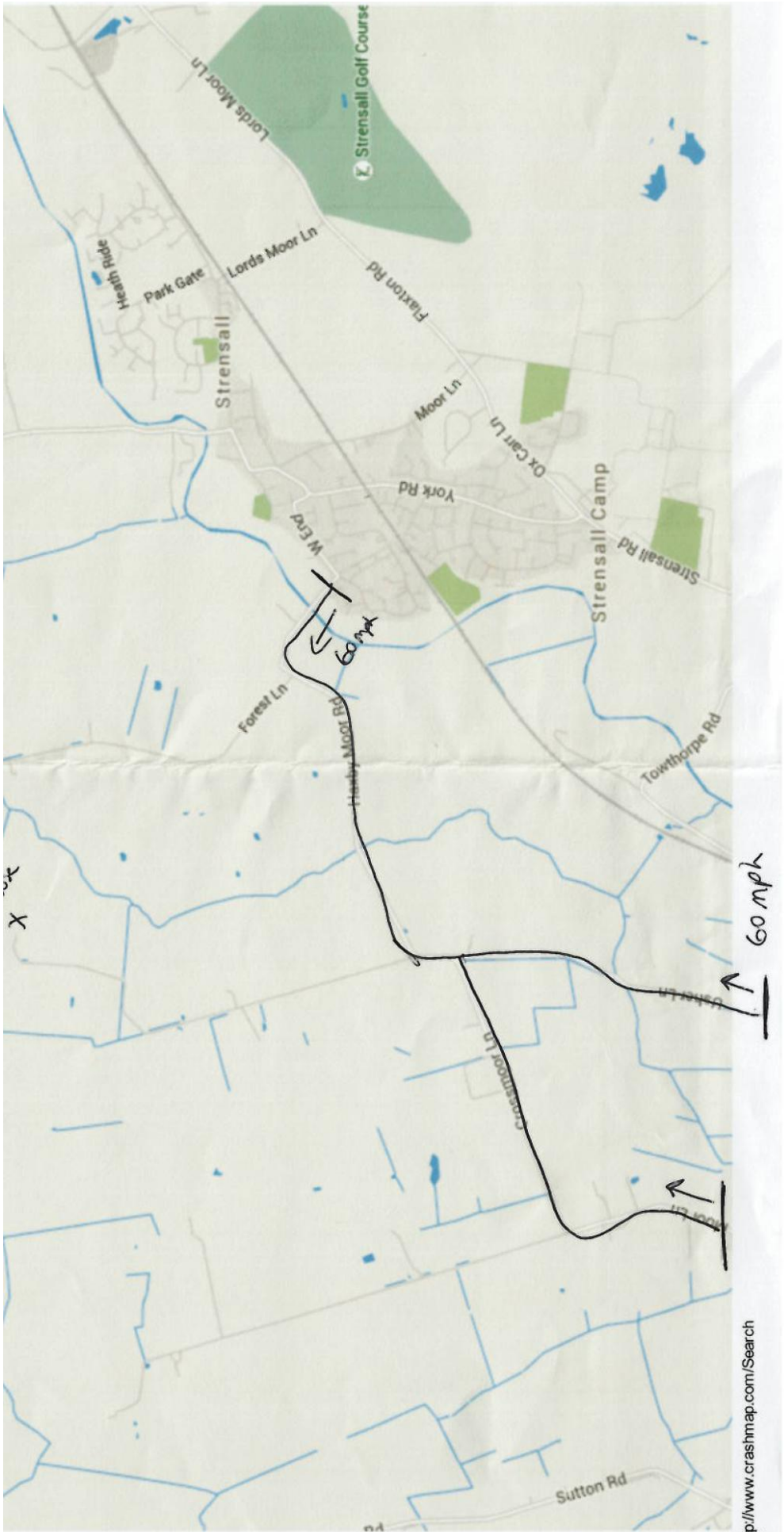
Name	Location	Date	Comment
		2016-06-30	I regularly nearly get hit by speeding cars when on my horse
		2016-06-30	I'm signing to help save lives of all users of this excessively busy and fast road
		2016-06-30	I'm sighing this because there are so many horse and bike riders on this road and there is always excessive speeding on this road
		2016-06-30	This road is used by walkers, horse riders & bike riders of all ages, there are several near misses every day.
		2016-06-30	All my animals keep getting run over because of speeding cars!!!
		2016-06-30	we have a horse that use's that road, and people need to slow down
		2016-06-30	I keep a horse in this area and regularly ride along this road. It also needs more signage warning of horse and riders.
		2016-06-30	To many speeding cars endangering people and animals.
		2016-06-30	I have been knocked off my bike with a child on the back of the bike. Also my children ride up the road regularly and every time there is a near miss with speeding cars and vans. It's scares me every time they go out.
		2016-06-30	I care
		2016-06-30	It is a must!!!! Very dangerous!
		2016-06-30	my parents go on walks and bike rides round that area, I dint want a call to say they have been involved in an accident, they often have to stop due to speeding cars. ex Haxby girl
		2016-06-30	Some baby ducklings run over outside my boyfriends farm and also his mum had a bad accident as a motorbike went way to fast past her causing her to get thrown off by her horse with serious injuries to her ankle which result in still pain and issues after 4 years!!!
		2016-06-30	This road is very dangerous not just for horses whilst on the roads that need to go on to get to any bridle paths but for riders and pedestrians alike
		2016-06-30	Safety for both horse riders, cyclist and motor car drivers!!!!
		2016-06-30	I know people with young children in this area and the speed makes it dangerous
		2016-06-30	My animals have been killed by speeding drivers, and the noise of fast cars and bikes wake us up constantly, it is unsafe
		2016-06-30	I have a horse
		2016-06-30	I used to ride my horse down this road with plenty of near misses with traffic!
		2016-06-30	I rode down this road regularly. It's hair raising to say the least !
		2016-06-30	I have friends who ride there horses on these roads and it's bloody dangerous, I've seen young teens crash there cars on this stretch of road, please make them slow down
		2016-06-30	Having kept horses along this road me and my daughters have had some near misses, on horse back and bike ð
		2016-06-30	I used to have to use this lane as I kept a horse at one of the yards and it's ridiculous how fast cars travel. down this lane. I have had some very close shaves whilst riding, cycling and walking the dog.

Date	Comment
2016-06-30	This road is so dangerous, with blind bends. More care needs to be taken.
2016-06-30	It saves more lifes and less crashes
2016-06-30	I have witnessed how fast people drive on this stretch of road. There have been many accidents and family pets killed due to excessive speed.
2016-06-30	We have had so many near misses on the road when riding our horses
2016-06-30	My granddaughter and daughter-in-law ride on the road in question and people need to be respectful of others when driving...
2016-06-30	I'm signing because I also live and ride on Cross Moor Lane and the adjoining Farms only lanes which are also used like race tracks
2016-06-30	Having had horses at livery on this road, rising out from there and cycling or jogging to from it from Haxby I've had many near misses with stupid drivers. Once being chased by motorbikes not giving a damn. Something needs to be done.
2016-06-30	i don't want the lives of people and animals endangered
2016-06-30	We visit regularly & always feel worried at the speed motorist travel along this road
2016-06-30	Sick of being scared to ride my young horse out on the road and having drivers speed past when I slow my moped down to pass other horse riders and pedestrians.
2016-06-30	I've had to stop using this road because I'm worried about the safety of my children, oncoming vehicles speed round bends encroaching into the opposite lane. I don't believe you can safely drive at 60mph because there's so many blind spots.
2016-06-30	I ride horses round this road and traffic far too fast
2016-07-01	I use this road on a daily basis and people do need to slow down.
2016-07-01	I regularly ride down this road and have many near misses with disrespectful speeding drivers.
2016-07-01	The speed limit is dangerous for other road users.
2016-07-01	People drive way too fast down this lane
2016-07-01	I keep my horse around there and its scary how fast they drive down this road
2016-07-01	The speed limit is far too high on such a country road. It is very danger par for cyclists, pedestrians & horse riders!!!
2016-07-01	I have horses and people think it's a racing track and could cause a crash or damage to the horse or the driver
2016-07-01	I used that road daily and was always convinced one day Inwould meet something like this. I now live away from York but no way should this by a 60mph road.
2016-07-01	I live in Haxby and travel this route regularly. Please reduce the speed limit, I know it's not the road it's the drivers but this could help
2016-07-01	I regularly use this road!
2016-07-01	Dangerous for horse riders and cyclists

Annex A4

Petitioners Plan Indicating Crashes from the Internet







Annex B

Online Petition (snapshot of front page 7/10/2016)

https://www.change.org/p/york-city-council-reduce-the-speed-limit-on-cross-moor-lane... Petition - York City Council...
Petitioning York City Council and 1 other

Reduce the speed limit on Cross Moor Lane, Haxby

 Deborah Gardner, York, United Kingdom



Sign this petition
148 supporters
52 needed to reach 200

First name
Last name
Email
United Kingdom
Street address
Postal code
I'm signing because... (optional)

...

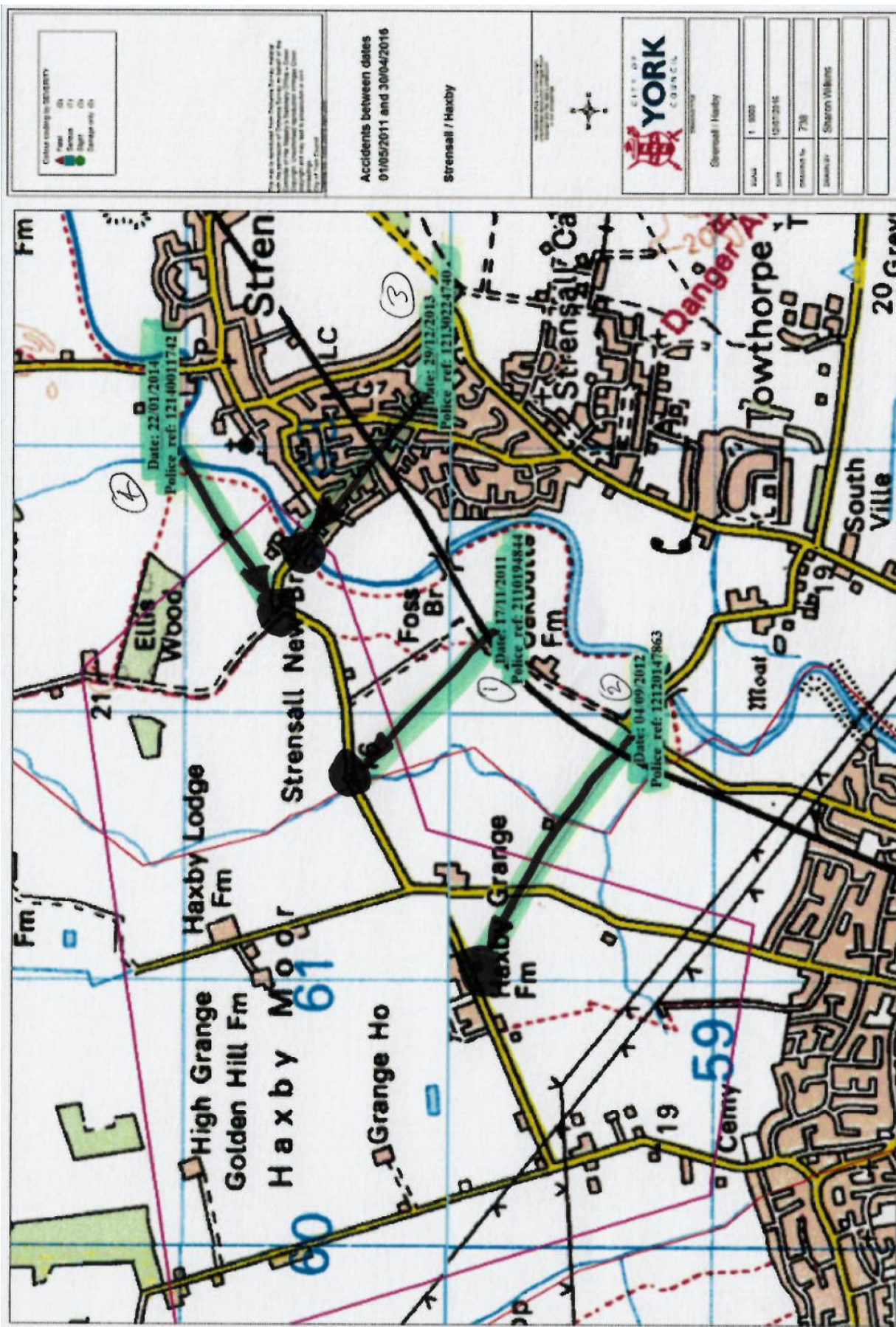
Sign

Display my name and comment on this

Cross Moor Lane is a busy back road between Strensall and Haxby. It is used daily by horse riders, walkers joggers and pushbikers but at the risk of their lives. The speed limit is the national speed limit of 60mph but reality is that most do in excess of this speed upto 80mph between Pasture Farm and Thornville Farm. With several 90 degree bends and regular accidents the speed limit needs reducing now!


Annex C

Injury Accident Location Plan



Annex D

Existing Signs

	<p>Sign 1 Pedestrians in carriageway</p>
	<p>Sign 2 x 2 Bend and ridden horses</p>
	<p>Sign 3 Bend and ridden horses</p>
	<p>Sign 4 Bend</p> <p>NOTE: This has become partially overgrown and will be re-sited on the opposite side of the carriageway to improve conspicuity.</p>

 A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road curving to the right. The word 'SLOW' is painted in large white letters on the road surface. A triangular warning sign with a black border and a white background, showing a black 'Z' symbol, is mounted on a white post on the right side of the road. The road is bordered by green grass and trees under a clear blue sky.	<p>Sign 5 x 2 Bend x 2</p>
 A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road curving to the right. The word 'SLOW' is painted in large white letters on the road surface. A triangular warning sign with a black border and a white background, showing a black 'Z' symbol, is mounted on a white post on the left side of the road. The road is bordered by green grass and trees under a blue sky with some clouds.	<p>Sign 6 Double bend</p>
 A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road curving to the right. The word 'SLOW' is painted in large white letters on the road surface. A triangular warning sign with a black border and a white background, showing a black 'Z' symbol, is mounted on a white post on the left side of the road. The road is bordered by green grass and trees under a blue sky with some clouds.	<p>Sign 7 Double bend</p>
 A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road curving to the right. The word 'SLOW' is painted in large white letters on the road surface. A triangular warning sign with a black border and a white background, showing a black 'B' symbol, is mounted on a white post on the left side of the road. The road is bordered by green grass and trees under a blue sky with some clouds.	<p>Sign 8 Bend</p>



Sign 9
Bend and road
liable to flooding



Sign 10
Double bend



Sign 11
Bend



Sign 12
Double bend and
road liable to
flooding

