East Dean & Friston
Parish Council

Date: **01 February 2024**

Title: **Report Item 17 – Road Safety at Crowlink Friston**

By: **Cllr M Bustard**

Purpose: **To receive an update from Cllr Bustard**

Recommendations: **To decide on a course of action regarding inconsiderate parking on the Crowlink slip road by Friston Pond.**

Introduction:

A resident Caroline Napier, has formally raised the following issue with Parish Council, Friston Church, Cllr. David Greaves and she has been in contact with the police.

Issue in summary:

- At Christmas, particularly inconsiderate parking on the slip road from A 259 to Church and badly parked vehicles along the verge at the edge of the pond;
- Similar parking issues during the year.

Key safety concerns:

- Drivers leaving the A259 trying to use the slipway have to reverse on the very fast A259-this is dangerous;
- Emergency vehicles might be unable to reach residents/property/visitors in Crowlink;
- Many of the churchgoers are elderly ,some with mobility challenges who need to be able to park by the Church. For them crossing the very busy Friston Crowlink junction is particularly hazardous and for some impossible,
- Once the Exceat bridge works are completed there is concern that the volume of traffic at the Crowlink/Friston junction will increase the safety risks.

Action taken so far:

- Very helpful Church Warden-David George made an announcement at Church yesterday reminding the congregation about parking safely. He has also spoken to Caroline Napier.
  (Members of the public often park by the church.)
- Michael Bustard has visited Caroline Napier who is coming to the 1.2.24 Parish Council meeting-open to the public session.
- According to Caroline Napier the police are unable to help but will ask Highways to undertake a safety audit at the top of Friston Hill.

Some possible actions by ED&F Parish Council:

- Formally ask East Sussex Highways to undertake the safety audit and press for yellow lines in the slip way and alongside the pond;

- Temporarily upgrade the Parish Council signs on the flint wall to read No Parking-Leave clear for Emergency Vehicles(this may need diocese's approval). Erect identical(revised signs on verge by the pond;

- Continue to liaise with the Church to achieve best outcome for all stakeholders.