

**Community Safety/Cllrs Meeting with Peter Aldous MP on Road Safety
16 October 2023**

In attendance: Peter Aldous MP, Cllrs Janet Craig, Jen Jones, Keith Patience, Andy Pearce, John Pitts, Deborah Ray and Taylor Williams (Committee Clerk)

The meeting was called so Lowestoft Town Council (LTC) could discuss initiatives for areas, such as St Margaret's School, which had issues with parking congestion and speeding.

With the schools becoming more populated the situation had worsened. St Margaret's Church Road and Gunton Primary School had issues of speeding and congestion.

Other schools, such as NorthField and Poplars, experienced similar issues and there was high congestion at the Ashleys school on Summerton Avenue, therefore it was agreed to consider all primary schools.

Cllr Ray noted many towns in Scotland had 20 mph speed limits and suggested that be incorporate in Lowestoft, with campaigns such as 20s Plenty that LTC could offer support to.

Cllr Patience informed the attendees that his ward reported no complaints regarding schools and a previous survey for implementation of 20 mph roads had concluded that the area did not meet the criteria for 20 mph and there was no need for it.

Peter Aldous MP confirmed issues had been previously raised regarding schools in North Lowestoft, and there was one ongoing complaint from the Ashleys school where a pupil referral unit had been moved to accommodate a new school on Saturn Close and had caused congestion.

As there was a proposal of a new entrance to the caravan park in Pakefield, it was suggested new speed limits be considered on the currently 40 mph road as the heavy traffic into the holiday park could cause issues.

Cllr Pearce reported that residents who attended the Annual General Meeting of the Gunton Resident's Association had requested a public meeting be arranged on the issue of speeding and congestion in the area.

Peter Aldous MP would raise these concerns with Cllr James Reader with a view to canvassing the schools. A follow up meeting would then be arranged with LTC to review the feedback, discuss the concerns and decide how to move forward.