

ANPR Enforcement Proposal for Baldon Lane Marsh and Toot Baldon.

Baldons Parish Council, and our residents, strongly support this initiative.

The "access only" restriction has been in place for many years and is not a new restriction. It was put in place to protect the residents and other users of our narrow, winding, and single-track road that lacks pavements or safe pedestrian zones. In recent years, there has been a significant increase in traffic through the village.

Recent traffic monitoring through ANPR pilot trials revealed that almost half of the vehicles using the village road daily, contravene and disregard this restriction, c 80 vehicles per day. These drivers use Baldon Lane as a through route and the majority of them are regularly observed speeding through the village with little or no regard for oncoming traffic or other road users such as walkers, cyclists, horse riders, and parents with toddlers and pushchairs. Multiple "near misses" have been reported to us and we fear it is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident resulting in serious injury or worse. Residents are increasingly experiencing intimidation from "cut through" drivers whilst they are driving carefully.

The volume of traffic is causing erosion of the verges of the road and in particular the Green at Marsh Baldon. We have had to employ several reinforcements to the edges of the Green in an attempt to halt this erosion at significant cost to the Parish Council.

Looking at the detailed results of the consultation, the individual responses directly from our village residents and nearby villages demonstrate a large majority support for the initiative. There are a few objections from residents, but most are expressions of concern based on a need for clarification of how the scheme would work to ensure they can go about their day to day activities and have visitors etc. With clear communication upon implementation, we are confident that these concerns can be addressed.

We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the enforcement parameters proposed with highways team, before implementation, to ensure that residents' concerns can be accounted for.

We appreciate that drivers who regularly and habitually use our village as a cut through may be slightly inconvenienced, however, the impact to their journeys will be minimal vs the much improved safety for all concerned.

Please support the proposal and approve its implementation.

Thank you

Baldons Parish Council.