

Individually addressed to all
Town & Parish Councils
cc Local Members

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Your Ref:

Date: 27th June 2017

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From the Chairman of the County Council's Environment, Development & Transport Committee

Dear Sir/Madam

Delivering local highway improvements in partnership with Town and Parish Councils

I am delighted to inform you that due to the success of working in partnership with Parish/Town Councils for the last six years the Parish Partnership Scheme Initiative will again be repeated in the financial year 2018/19. Further supporting information, including possible funding sources for your share of the bid, is available on our website (click on [this link](#)).

The County Council has again allocated £300,000 on a 50/50 basis to fund schemes put forward by Town and Parish Councils to deliver projects that are priorities for local communities. We are particularly keen to encourage and support first-time bids.

This letter provides more information on the process, invites you to submit bids, and explains how the County Council can support you in developing your ideas. The closing date will be 11 December 2017. If you need any advice in developing your ideas, especially around the practicalities and cost estimates, please consult your local Highway Engineers based at your local Area Office.

Once all bids have been received we will assess them and inform you of our decision in March 2018.

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To encourage bids from Town and Parish Councils with annual incomes (precepts plus any another income) below £2,000, we are offering the following support;

- 75% County Council contribution
- £5,000 maximum bid value
- Offer available only once to any bidder

We will also accept bids from unparished County Council wards. Such wards can always opt to become a formal parish council, but otherwise we are offering support on the basis that the ward raises the required 50% funding. Kings Lynn Borough Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council and Norwich City Council have kindly indicated their willingness to consider proposed schemes and potential funding for them. Further details are in the relevant committee report on our website (click on [this link](#)).

What sort of schemes would be acceptable?

- Small lengths of formal footway
- Trods (a simplified and low cost footway),
- Improved crossing facilities
- Improvements to Public Rights of Way.
- Flashing signs to tackle speeding. We would encourage you to consider Speed Awareness Mobile Signs (SAM2) - which flash up the driver's actual speed rather than fixed signs (VAS) - which flash up the speed limit. The number of VAS in Norfolk has grown, and checks show that speed reduction benefits can be minimal. Whilst we will still consider bids for fixed VAS, we will need to be satisfied that they will be effective in reducing speed. We consider that SAM2 mobile signs, which are moved around on an agreed rota, are better at reducing speed; **SAM2 can be jointly purchased with neighbouring Parishes, and would be owned and maintained by the Parish/Town Council**
- Part-time 20mph signs with flashing warning lights, outside schools. The County Council trialled these in 2008/9, and generally had a favourable community response, with some moderate reductions in average speeds during peak times. Whilst the County Council supports the aspiration to have part-time 20mph speed limits outside each school in Norfolk, to do this would cost in the region of £3.75 million pounds

School Keep Clear carriageway markings outside schools. **This type of improvement is being included within the Parish Partnership Initiative for the first time.** Applications will be considered for either new school keep clear carriageway markings (which must be supported by the local school) or making existing school keep clear markings enforceable. However, in both cases and depending on the location, it may not always be practicable for Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) Officers to undertake enforcement and this may happen only where it is operationally convenient to do so (i.e. when officers are in the area engaged on other enforcement work). To be enforceable, school keep clear markings need to comply with specific regulations and this could mean that existing

school keep clear markings may need amending (your Highway Engineer can advise)

New Bus Shelter. A copy of Norfolk County Councils guidance for new bus shelters is available on our web site (click on [this link](#)). **Any new shelter would be owned and maintained by the Parish/Town Council.**

Schemes can be within or off the highway provided they are linked to the highway. If they are off highway the future responsibility for the maintenance will fall to the Parish or Town Council.

Schemes should be self-contained and not require other schemes or works to make them effective.

Schemes that support the Local Transport Plan (LTP) objectives will have a higher priority for funding. The LTP can be found on our website (click on [this link](#)).

With the County Council's agreement Parishes can employ private contractors to deliver schemes. Any works on the highway would be subject to an agreed programme, inspection on completion, and the contractor having £10m public liability insurance.

What schemes will not be considered?

- Bids for minor traffic management changes such as speed limits or waiting restrictions will not qualify.
- Bids for installation of low-energy LED lighting in streetlights to help cut energy bills and maintenance.

What information should you include in your bid?

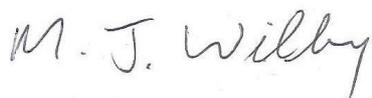
- Details of the scheme, its cost and your contribution.
- Who, and how many people will benefit.
- How it supports the objectives of the Local Transport Plan.
- Local support, particularly from your local Member, frontagers and land owners.
- For 'off highway' schemes, your proposals for future maintenance.

Please find a simple bid application form attached to this letter. When assessing your bid we will consider the points above, but also:

- The potential for casualty reduction.
- Any ongoing maintenance costs for the County Council.

Your bids should be emailed to ppschemes@norfolk.gov.uk (or posted for the attention of the Capital Programme Manager, Paul Donnachie, at the above address). If you need further information on the bid process please contact Paul, by email or by phoning 01603 223097. For advice on the scheme practicalities and/or likely costs, please contact your local Highway Engineer.

Yours sincerely



Martin Wilby
Chairman of Environment, Development and Transport Committee

Parish Partnership bid application form

Fund applied for:	Parish Partnership Fund		
Applicant details:			
Submitted by/contact:			
Sum applied for:			
Total project cost:			
Project title:			
Project detail:			
Proposed start date:			
Proposed completion date:			
Any other funding:			
Parish Income:	Precept	Other Income	Total Yearly Income
Reason for works:			
Any relevant supporting documents (e.g. supportive correspondence) :			
Discussed with:			