

ITEM 10 – BARROW HILL ROAD STREET SIGN REFURBISHMENT/REPLACEMENT

BACKGROUND

The Barrow Hill Road street sign opposite the Empress of Blandings has become faded as shown in Figure 1. It is a traditional metal sign. NFDC were asked by the Clerk if they were willing to refurbish the old metal sign or - if not - would they be willing to provide a new Barrow Hill Road sign (which would sit higher above the ground) but leave the old one in situ. The Parish Council could then look to remove the old sign for a bit of gentle restoration and put it back in place next to/under the new one.

The NFDC response was that they would be willing to replace the metal sign with a recycled plastic sign that requires no maintenance but this would mean the removal of the existing metal sign. They had no objection to the existing sign being refurbished as an alternative.



Figure 1. Existing Barrow Hill Road Sign

CONSULTATION PROCESS

A questionnaire was drawn up by the Clerk and I doorstepped all properties on 30/09/2023 (bar four due to lengthy farm tracks and the two Parish Councillor properties) to canvass the residents views. The questionnaire is shown as Appendix 1.

A copy of the questionnaire was delivered if there was no answer.

I read through the leaflet with the residents and recorded the verbal responses.

It was also explained that individual responses or personal data would not be published.

CONSULTATION – RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

32 properties were visited. There were 20 face-to-face consultations and leaflets delivered to properties with no answer. Two e-mail responses have since been received by the Clerk.

Results from the consultations are:-

No of Votes	Option
1	Replace the recycled signed supplied by NFDC similar to the Copythorne Crescent sign across the road.
16	Repaint the existing sign
1	Leave the sign as it is
4	Leave decision to Parish Council.

12 of the Repaint answers were from residents nearest the sign before the sharp bend.

3 of the Leave Decision to Parish Council were from residents after the sharp bend.

We are still awaiting votes from 12 of the properties where a leaflet was delivered.

PROPOSAL

It is clear from the responses received that the preference of the residents of Barrow Hill Road is to see the existing sign repainted. This response accounts for 73% of the responses. Only one resident has said replace with a new plastic sign and one other has said do nothing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Parish Council arrange for the temporary removal; re-painting; and re-installation of the existing Barrow Hill Road.
2. That a temporary replacement street sign is provided using the existing backboard whilst the work is undertaken.
3. That a sum of up to £100 (taken from the "Contingency" line of the budget) is allowed for this work.

CLLR. SHERRI JOHNSTONE

October 2nd 2023



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To Residents of Barrow Hill Road

Dear Resident

Consultation with Barrow Hill Road Residents about street sign outside Empress of Blandings

The current sign is faded and has been brought to our attention.



We are exploring the following options with residents:-

1. Replace with recycled plastic sign supplied by NFDC similar to the Copythorne Crescent sign across the road.



2. Repaint the existing metal sign.
3. Leave the sign as it is.
4. Leave the decision to the Parish Council.

Please contact the Parish Clerk by phone or e-mail (details above) with your preferred option.

David Rigby
Clerk to Copythorne Parish Council