Earls Barton and Grendon Parish Councils

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xx October 2024

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Dear 'enter recipient',

The Parish Councils of Earls Barton and Grendon would like to bring to your attention, 'enter role', the increasingly poor condition of Station Road, from Pastures Farm to White Mills Marina most specifically. The combination of:

- high numbers of heavy transport lorries,
- increased flooding and
- growing numbers of commuter vehicles using this road as a result of surrounding closures has led to a failing road surface leading to concerns being raised around the growing number and size of potholes which in turn is seen to be leading to an increase in the chances of accidents, loss or injury to motorists, cyclists and vehicles.

This road surface was never constructed for the axle loading it is currently asked to take from loaded aggregate lorries; coupled with the number of them that it takes, and has now taken for many years, along with the general increase in traffic parts of this road have been irreparably damaged as evidenced by the short life of temporary repairs.

The possible addition of extremely heavy traffic resulting from planned or potential future developments, for example the Green Hill Solar Farm, will only increase the damage. This would be the primary route for construction vehicles to the Grendon Road sub-station where the storage facility will be located but the road does not have the capacity to sustain greater numbers of HGV's.

It is now apparent that a degree of full depth reconstruction is necessary especially on the bends, where the turning stress of the HGV's is greatest, in addition to the resurfacing of the less damaged parts now being a matter of urgency.

We would be grateful if you would advise the councils of the current strategy to address this problem and request a full investigation to identify any underlying issues with the stability of the road. Once confirmed, please prioritise the full resurfacing of this road as "extremely urgent" and advise on the timescale within which it will be remedied.

Yours Sincerely,

Chairs of Earls Barton and Grendon Parish Councils