

Press Release

**From Councillor Barry Stamp
Stafford Borough Councillor
Church Eaton Ward**

Date : 16th January 2006

Use: Immediate

Council Praised For Road Safety Improvement Work

A leading campaigner for road safety improvements on the A518 to the west of Stafford has this week welcomed the start of work, which when completed in a few weeks time, will see two pedestrian crossings installed on the road.

Stafford Borough Councillor Barry Stamp said that the recent decision by Staffordshire County Council to carryout the work followed years of campaigning by local residents.

“Crossing the busy A518 in both Haughton and Gnosall has been a real danger for local people. Over the past few years myself, residents, both Parish Councils, and the A518 Action Group have campaigned tirelessly to get something done to improve the situation. The A518 is an extremely busy road which divides both villages. In Haughton’s case pedestrians are forced to cross the road to get to the shops, while in Gnosall many parents and children have cross to get to the school and new library. With many vehicles travelling well above the speed limit everyone takes their life in their hands when making these journeys. However in the last few weeks the County Council have acknowledged there is a problem and have reacted quickly to get the crossing installed. In both Villages there will be some major work needed including realigning the footpaths, putting in dropped kerbs, providing a central reservations and installing the lights and advanced warning signs. Residents of both Villages are now delighted that work has now started and are looking forward to the lights being finally installed in a couple of weeks time,” said Barry Stamp.

“The County Council really must be applauded for the speed in getting the crossings in both villages installed even if it did take them years to admit the road was dangerous,” added Cllr Stamp.

Further details from: Councillor Barry Stamp
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Notes to editors:

- i) A photograph can be arranged with Cllr Barry Stamp and a representative of the A518 Action Group alongside the road works in Haughton.
- ii) The new pedestrian controlled crossing in Haughton is being installed near the village shops and war memorial in the centre of the Village.
- iii) The new pedestrian controlled crossing in Gnosall is being installed near the Memorial Hall on the corner of Lowfield Lane. The crossing will provide a safe crossing point for children and parents going to a from St. Lawrence Primary School and Gnosall's new library.
- iv) The need to install the pedestrian crossing was agreed by the County Council late last year with the final designs for the crossings being drawn up just before Christmas.