COUNTY COUNCIL: 17TH OCTOBER 2023

Agenda Item No. 11c) – Motion from Councillor Steve Criswell –

Proposed by Councillor Beckett Seconded by Councillor Dupré

Additions in bold and deletions shown in strikethrough

Core purpose: For the Council to embark on an immediate multi-point plan of action, to address the poor and failing condition of peat soil affected roads in Cambridgeshire.

This Council recognises that the condition of peat soil affected roads across parts of rural Cambridgeshire is a serious safety issue and that doing nothing and allowing delay is not an option.

This Council therefore welcomes the significant work carried out to date to understand the scale of the problem, identify the roads in question, draw up short term measures to manage the problem where possible, and engage neighbouring councils in joint discussions with the Department for Transport about the need for the Government to fund the very large sums required to rebuild these roads.

The Council therefore further resolves to ask the Highways and Transport Committee to prepare a clear plan for publication, this calendar year following consultation with parish councils which is already in progress, detailing the delivery of:

- emergency repair work to immediately identify and correct high-risk faults, particularly near waterways and steep banks, where this can be done within budgets accessible by the Council.
- the short-term road safety measures already identified to reduce the risk of road accidents as and when appropriate. These could include the temporary lowering of speed limits or introduction of weight restrictions.
- a medium-term programme, **dependent on Government funding**, to identify and systematically rebuild the worst sections of road that residents and businesses rely on to safely travel every day.
- the estimated <del>cost and forward plan for the</del> capital investment required to undertake this essential work **and forward plan to lobby Government to secure the necessary funding**.