**Norfolk County Council**

**(Castle Acre/Newton By Castle Acre, Newton Mill Bridge (TF81101),**

**Mill Common and St James Road) (2.0 Metre (6.6”)) Width Restriction)**

 **Experimental Order Modification (2) 2023** .

**STATEMENT OF EFFECT AND REASON FOR MODIFYING THE ORDER**

The lengths of road subject to the restriction set out in Norfolk County Council Castle Acre/Newton By Castle Acre, Newton Mill Bridge (TF81101), Mill Common and St James Road) (2.0 Metre (6’6”)) Width Restriction) Experimental Order 2023 dated 24th April 2023, included lengths of road approaching the narrow bridge as well as the narrow bridge itself. It was anticipated that the inclusion of the lengths of roads approaching the bridge may be necessary to prevent wide vehicles progressing along those approach roads, reaching the narrow bridge and finding that it is not possible to cross the narrow bridge and that there is, insufficient space to turn round and return the way they came.

As a result of the continued monitoring it appears that the anticipated problem with lack of turning space has not arisen and it is therefore considered appropriate to limit the width restriction to the length of the narrow bridge only. The reduction in the restriction will enable wide vehicles to access properties around the narrow bridge without having to rely on the exemption provided by the previous modification order. This will enable the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic to those properties with greater clarity and certainty than reliance on an exemption. It is also not in the interests of road users to have restricted use of the highway where is it found to be unnecessary; in this case the inclusion of the approach roads is unnecessary to ensure wide vehicles are not using the narrow bridge. In order to support this more detailed advance signage is to be put in place. The removal of the width restriction negates the need for the exemption of access and egress to properties set out in The Norfolk County Council (Castle Acre/Newton By Castle Acre, Newton Mill Bridge (Tf81101), Mill Common and St James Road) (2.0 Metre (6.6”)) Width Restriction) Experimental Order Modification 2023 dated 22nd June 2023 and that Order is revoked by this new Modification Order.

The decision has been made by the Norfolk County Council’s Interim Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services, in pursuance of section 10(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to modify the above-named experimental traffic order.

The reason for the modification is it appears to the Interim Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services to be essential in the interests of the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic.