

## **Hedgehog Signs**

It has been reported that Hedgehog Signs, as well as protecting hedgehogs and other small animals, can have an impact on vehicle speeds as drivers slow down to avoid accidents. However, the main purpose of such signs is to reduce small animal casualties, which the Parish Council would support.

The attached note from the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) and The British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) provides the background and gives helpful guidance on the location of signs.

The Committee will need to consider whether, in principle, it wants to take this further and, if so, what would be the next steps. It has been suggested that the school could be involved as a pupil project. This would involve parents as well and would help raise awareness of the threat posed by traffic to small animals. The attached guidance could form the basis of a project to identify appropriate locations for signs for example.

Changes made by the Department for Transport (DfT) last year relax the rules relating to small wildlife warning signs making it easier for local authorities to put up signs where they are needed, rather than having to apply to DfT on a case-by-case basis.